

The Journal of the

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S



ROYAL REGIMENT

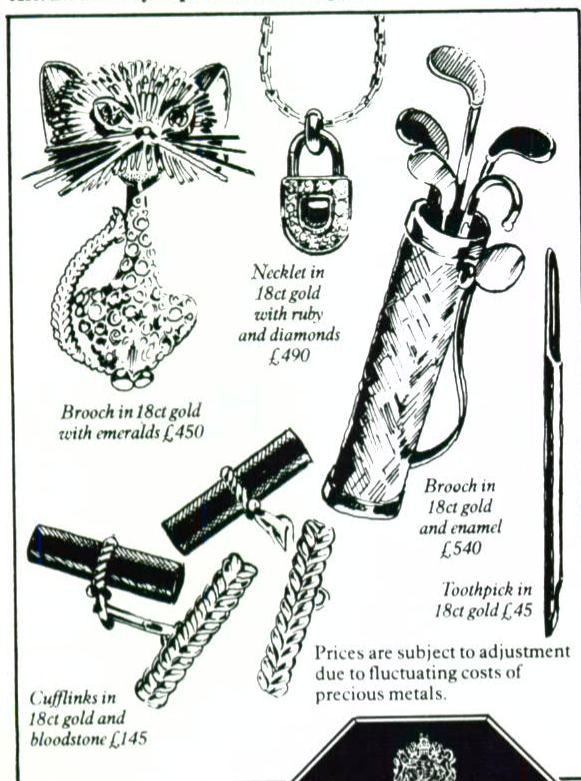
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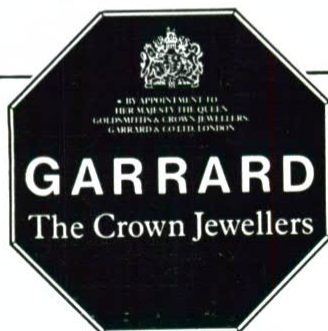
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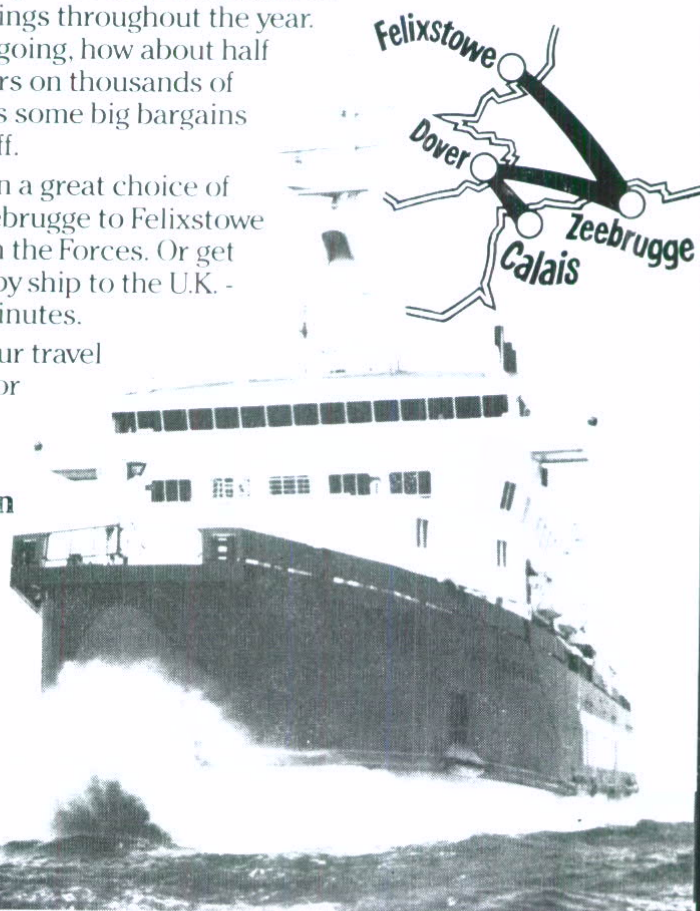
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The Journal of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment

(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", "Flers-Courcelette", "Morval", "Thiepval", "Le Transloy", "Ancre Heights", "Ancre 1916, 1918", "Arras 1917, 1918", "Scarpe 1917, 1918", "Arleux", "Pilkem", "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", "Epéhy", "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", "Ngakyedauk Pass", "Kohima", "Mao Sonasane", "Shwebo", "Kyaungmaung Bridgehead", "Mandalay", "Fort Dufferin", "Rangoon Road", "Toungoo", "Burma 1942-1945".

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

Badge: A Dragon within two coils of rope surmounted by a Royal Coronet and superimposed upon a Cross Pattee.

Alliances:

Canadian Armed Forces—

The Algonquin Regiment.

The Lincoln and Welland Regiment

The New Zealand Army—

7th Battalion (Wellington (CWO) and Hawkes Bay), Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment.

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 Officer: Lt.-Colonel G. Coxon, M.B.E.	OSNABRUCK
--	-----------

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 B. J. Tristram	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, The Wardrobe, The Close,
Salisbury, SP1 2EX.

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.

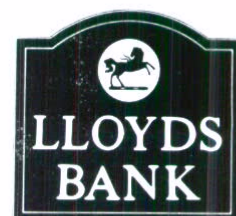
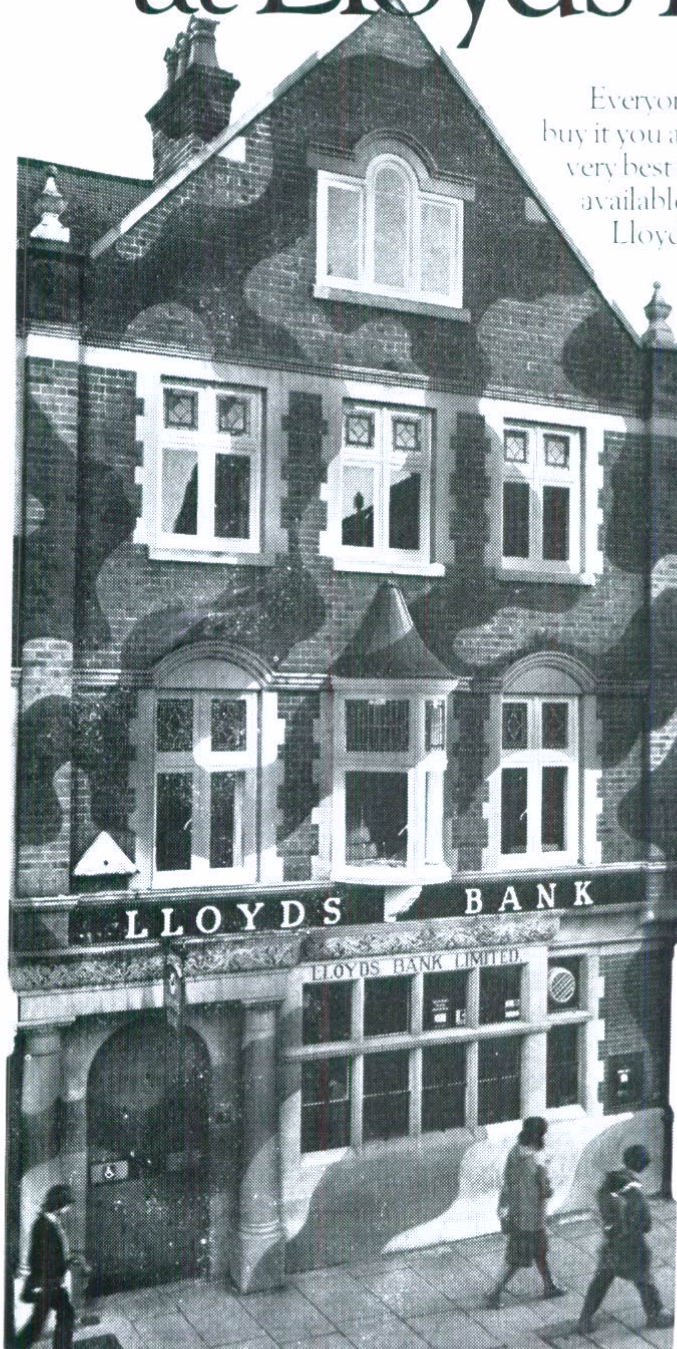
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Aspect from the entrance to Regimental Headquarters.

EDITORIAL

LAST year I wrote that work on The Wardrobe should be completed by mid-Summer and that it was unlikely that the Museum would open before August at the earliest.

In the event, it was October before the workmen finally moved out having done the complete job and even then provision of the showcases had not been authorised. It needed visits from an architect and a financier from The Ministry before the atmosphere changed and we got a sympathetic hearing. This was encouraged by a new Director of Personal Services who has overall responsibility for Army museums. Eventually agreement was obtained from The Treasury last January and an order was quickly placed for the thirty-seven cases we require. We have been promised completion of delivery by June and every effort will be made to finish the considerable work of mounting the selected items in them in the following month.

By then the tourist season will be half-way through, but July should be a bumper month for visitors in view of the Royal Wedding and there is no doubt that the house itself will be a tourist attraction, particularly after all the work that has been done on it. This emphasises the need to open in July to make financial capital from it.

As regards finance, inflation continued to take its toll while work progressed last year whereas little was received in additional donations apart from the results of some sterling fund-raising activities by the 1st Battalion. We are still seriously short of our remaining requirement and The Colonel of The Regiment has again appealed for help from members of The Regiment as well as seeking assistance from without.

I had hoped to write "The Saga of The Wardrobe" in The Journal, it is quite a story and will tell those who follow us how our Headquarters came to be in this lovely setting. However I find I cannot do it yet as the end, though in sight, is not yet with us. I hope the next Journal will contain it.

This brings me to the fact that this is my last Editorial, as even now I am living on borrowed time as Regimental Secretary and have to give up in June.

I have stuck to the same format for the Journal since I started in 1973, and I hope my successor will be able to maintain it, if for no other reason than because it makes it easy to refer to items particularly for research purposes. As I wrote in my first Editorial, The Journal forms a valuable historical record.

I wish to sincerely thank the many contributors to the last fifteen Issues, our Printers: Reliance Printing Works of Halesowen and our Advertising Agents: Combined Services Publications Ltd. for their co-operation.

To those who follow me I wish good fortune in a worth-while endeavour.

K.C.-G.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

HONOURS AND AWARDS

We congratulate **Lieutenant Colonel (rtd.) G. T. L. M. Graham** on being made an Officer of The Order of The British Empire and **Major (Q.M.) J. A. Barrow** on being made a Member of the same Order.

Congratulations also to the following on being mentioned in Despatches for distinguished service in Northern Ireland:

Colonel D. A. Jones.

Major S. W. J. Saunders.

Captain A. P. B. Lake.

To the following on earning a G.O.C.'s Commendation on service in Northern Ireland.

Warrant Officer 1 D. T. Wiggins.

Colour Sergeant J. C. Long.

Corporal B. McIntyre.

Corporal J. M. Barber.

To the following on the award of The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal:

Colour Sergeant P. P. W. Keegan.

Colour Sergeant R. F. Hollister.

Corporal M. C. Browne.

Finally to **Lieutenant Colonel V. H. Ridley**, W.F.R. (late D.E.R.R.) on the award of The Queen's Gallantry Medal for service in Rhodesia.

PROMOTIONS

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

Major General D. T. Crabtree.

Colonel W. G. R. Turner.

Colonel D. A. Jones.

Lieutenant Colonel W. A. Mackereth.

Lieutenant Colonel A. J. Rose.

Major R. K. Titley.

Major A. E. G. Westlake.

Major D. J. A. Stone.

Major S. W. J. Saunders.

Major M. J. Cornwell.

Captain D. J. I. Leadbetter.

Lieutenant N. M. Smith.

Lieutenant J. M. C. Rylands.

Lieutenant K. T. Haugh.

Lieutenant G. P. Barlow.

Lieutenant T. J. Carr.

Lieutenant J. C. Wort.

Lieutenant P. J. King.

APPOINTMENTS

Major General D. T. Crabtree as Director General of Weapons (Army) in August 1980.

Brigadier T. A. Gibson as an Aide de Camp to The Queen.

Colonel D. A. Jones as Deputy Commandant, Ghana Staff College in March 1981.

Colonel W. G. R. Turner as A.A.G., P.S.4 M.O.D. (A) in September 1980.

Lieutenant Colonel W. A. Mackereth as G.S.O.1 Intelligence Co-ordination, Belize in November 1980.

Lieutenant Colonel A. J. Rose as C.R.L.S., H.Q. S.E. District in December.

Lieutenant Colonel M. R. Vernon-Powell as G.S.O.1 Army Aviation, National Defence College in April 1981.

Major D. C. Murray as G.S.O.2, Directorate Army Management Services in July 1980.

POSTINGS

Lieutenant Colonel A. J. Rose to Depot Lichfield (H.S.) in January 1981.

Major T. M. A. Daly to 1 D.E.R.R. in January 1981.

Major P. Bradley to 1 D.E.R.R. in October 1980 and to 1 Wessex (V) in January 1982.

Major (Q.M.) P. Martin to Depot, Lichfield in January 1981.

Major R. K. Titley to 1 D.E.R.R. in May 1981.

Major S. W. J. Saunders to The Staff College in January 1981.

COMMISSIONS

We welcome the following:

Lieutenant T. R. Freelove and **2nd Lieutenant C. G. Higgs** on Short Service Commissions.

2nd Lieutenant J. Marsh on a University Cadetship.

CHANGES OF COMMISSION

Captain (A/Major) W. V. Holmes from Short Service to Special Regular Commission.

Lieutenant K. T. Haugh from Short Service to Regular Commission.

TRANSFER

Captain (D. of M.) R. J. Parker to The Royal Army Ordnance Corps on appointment as Director of Music R.A.O.C. Staff Band in March 1981.

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 T. A. Gibson (28.4.81).

Lieutenant Colonel G. T. L. M. Graham.

Lieutenant D. M. Irving.

2nd Lieutenant R. E. Howman.

LOCATION LIST — OFFICERS

Major General

D. T. Crabtree Director General of Weapons (A), MOD

Colonels

D. W. Fladgate, M.B.E. Comdt Cdt Trg Centre
D. C. Munn Col GS (W) NATO SAA Comm
W. G. R. Turner, M.B.E. AAG PS4 MOD(A)
D. A. Jones Dep Comdt, Ghana Staff College

Lieutenant Colonels

L. C. Tremellen GSO1 (Indiv Trg) HQ UKLF
B. R. Hobbs, O.B.E. (S.L.) Trg Offr RCB (for Regtl Secy Jun 81)
M. R. Vernon-Powell GSO1 Army Aviation, NDC
J. D. Redding AA & QMG (Ops/Plans) HQ 1 (BR) Corps
G. Coxon, M.B.E. CO 1 DERR
W. A. Mackereth GSO 1 Int Co-ord, Belize
A. J. Rose Depot, Lichfield (HS)

Majors

D. A. Parks OC HQ AODO MOD
R. T. E. W. Welsh Div RO WESSEX
J. B. Hyslop ASLO SWDist
J. P. Ward GSO2 (W) DOAE
D. C. Murray GSO2 D A Man S
C. G. P. Aylin IO Interpreter HQ BAOR
R. M. C. Wilson Team Offr A Man SG (WS)
P. Bradley Coy Comd1 DERR
T. M. A. Daly 2 i/c DERR
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
R. K. Titley GSO3 Int/Sy HQ OSNABRUCK Gar
(For 1 DERR May 81)
A. E. G. Westlake, M.B.E. OC JS Coy, Depot, Lichfield
D. J. A. Stone GSO2 Int HQ 1 (BR) Corps
S. W. J. Saunders Student Staff College
M. J. Cornwell Coy Comd 1 DERR

Captains

A. Briard SC AQ HQ OSNABRUCK Gar
R. B. Paddison Coy Comd JSB TAUNTON. A/Maj
A. P. B. Lake Adj1 1 MERCIAN
B. R. F. Franklin 1 DERR
N. J. Walker Adj1 1 DERR
P. E. O'R-B. Davidson-Houston Adj1 1 WESSEX (RV)
A. N. Coates 1 DERR
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 Depot, LICHFIELD

J. M. C. Rylands	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
N. M. Smith	...	...	...	...	...	University
K. T. Haugh	...	...	...	...	...	IJLB SHORNCLIFFE
P. J. King	...	...	...	...	...	University
S.R.C.						
Captains						
W. V. Holmes	...	...	...	...	...	OC Trg Coy, Depot LICHFIELD. A/Maj
A. F. R. Steevenson	...	...	...	...	...	Instr, Sch of Inf
J. L. Silvester	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
2nd Lieutenants						
J. J. Edmonds	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
S.S.C.						
Captains						
D. J. I. Leadbetter	...	...	...	...	...	QM Tech 1 DERR
Lieutenants						
J. C. Wort	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
P. D. Stacey	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR. A Capt.
S. A. Durant	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR. A/Capt
G. P. Barlow	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
T. J. Carr	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
T. R. Freelove	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
2nd Lieutenants						
R. Davis	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
C. G. Higgs	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
Quartermasters						
Major (Q.M.) P. Martin	...	...	...	...	...	QM Depot LICHFIELD
Major (Q.M.) J. A. Barrow, M.B.E.	...	...	...	...	...	QM JSB TAUNTON
Major (Q.M.) J. H. Peters	...	...	...	...	...	QM 1 DERR
Captain (Q.M.) G. J. Pinchen	...	...	...	...	...	QM Tech, Sch of Inf
Captain (Q.M.) W. R. Stafford	...	...	...	...	...	QM2 1 GLOSTERS
University Cadets						
R. Allen	...	...	...	...	...	London Sch of Economics
J. Marsh	...	...	...	...	...	Exeter University
Attached Officers — 1 D.E.R.R.						
Captain K. L. F. Beale, B.E.M., R.A.P.C.	...	...	...	...	...	Pmr
Captain L. Bryan, R.A.Ch.D.	...	...	...	...	...	Padre
Captain S. McDonald, R.A.M.C.	...	...	...	...	...	RMO
Captain A. J. M. Day, R.E.M.E.	...	...	...	...	...	EME

LOCATION LIST — WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS

W.O.1						
W.O.1 Millard	...	...	...	...	...	HQ Infantry, Sennelager Trg Centre
W.O.1 Venus	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
W.O.1 Nother	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR (Bandmaster)
W.O.1 Wiggins	...	...	...	...	...	1 WESSEX (RV)
W.O.1 Hicks	...	...	...	...	...	2 WESSEX (V)
W.O.2						
W.O.2 Habgood	...	...	...	...	...	1 WESSEX (RV)
W.O.2 Smart	...	...	...	...	...	2 MERCIAN (V)
W.O.2 Johnson	...	...	...	...	...	Sch Inf (Sp Wpns Wg)
W.O.2 Haynes	...	...	...	...	...	1 WESSEX (RV)
W.O.2 Hayden	...	...	...	...	...	Sch Inf (Warminster)
W.O.2 Green	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
W.O.2 Carter	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
W.O.2 Swift	...	...	...	...	...	2 MERCIAN (V)
W.O.2 Bailey	...	...	...	...	...	Depot, Lichfield
W.O.2 Hobbs	...	...	...	...	...	1 WESSEX (RV)

W.O.2	Mallows	...	...	...	...	1	MERCIAN (V)
W.O.2	Mullings	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
W.O.2	Luckwell	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
W.O.2	Sherman	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
W.O.2	Perkins	...	...	...	...		Special Recruiter
W.O.2	Flay	...	...	...	...		Depot, Crickhowell
W.O.2	Minty	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
W.O.2	Cole	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
W.O.2	Turner	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
W.O.2	Fielding	...	...	...	...		Jnr Soldrs Bn Taunton
W.O.2	Long	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
W.O.2	Morgan	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
W.O.2	Calladine	...	...	...	...	1	DERR

C/SGTS.

C/Sgt.	Mortimer	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Turaga	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Johnson	...	...	...	...		Depot, Lichfield
C/Sgt.	Bryant	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Smith	...	...	...	...	1	WESSEX (RV)
C/Sgt.	Hollister	...	...	...	...		Depot, Lichfield
C/Sgt.	Mehrlich	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Pearce	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Coleman	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Fedrick	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Pinnell	...	...	...	...		Inf Demo Bn
C/Sgt.	Lawrence	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Beet	...	...	...	...	2	WESSEX (V)
C/Sgt.	Keegan	...	...	...	...	4	UDR
C/Sgt.	Fielding	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Brame	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Hoare	...	...	...	...	1	WESSEX (RV)
C/Sgt.	Cox	...	...	...	...	2	WESSEX (V)
C/Sgt.	Paz	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Godwin	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Haines	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Baker	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Baleimatuku	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
C/Sgt.	Hiscock	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
S/Sgt.	Merritt	...	...	...	...	1	DERR

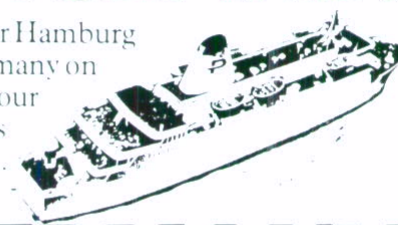
SGTS.

Sgt.	Smith	...	...	...	...	1	WESSEX (RV)
Sgt.	McPherson	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Jones 3711	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Trench	...	...	...	...		BR Contingent UNFICYP (Sp Regt)
Sgt.	Scully	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Navarro	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Coupland	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Ravu	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Waters	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Carpenter	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Dobie	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Choules	...	...	...	...	2	WESSEX (V)
Sgt.	White	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Baines	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Kerr	...	...	...	...	1	WESSEX (RV)
Sgt.	Walters	...	...	...	...	2	WESSEX (V)
Sgt.	Gardner	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Luker	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Jones 3426	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Searie	...	...	...	...		Depot, Lichfield
Sgt.	Griffin	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	North	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Dean	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Le-Strange	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Williams	...	...	...	...	1	DERR RLT
Sgt.	Watts 037	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Mellers	...	...	...	...	1	DERR
Sgt.	Collier	...	...	...	...	1	DERR

Sgt. Povey	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	ACIO Reading
Sgt. Nimmo	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	ACIO Gloucester
Sgt. Samson	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Curtin	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	RSC
Sgt. Rose	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Pomeroy	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	HQ Munster Garrison
Sgt. Gardiner	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Evans	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Burlow	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	ACIO Bournemouth
Sgt. Fennell	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 WESSEX (RV)
Sgt. Watts 821	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Harrill	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Chitty	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	2 WESSEX (V)
Sgt. McLeod	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	17 CCT
Sgt. Tadhunter	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Inr Sldrs Bn Taunton
Sgt. Chapman	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. McIntyre	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	SNCO TAC Wg Brecon
Sgt. Davison	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Wilmot	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Duran	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 RWF
Sgt. Latham	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	HQ P of W Div
Sgt. Moloney	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Coyle	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Depot, Lichfield
Sgt. Ficke	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 R HAMPS
Sgt. Traveller	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Trappe	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Snee	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. Bungay	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR
Sgt. McIntyre	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	1 DERR

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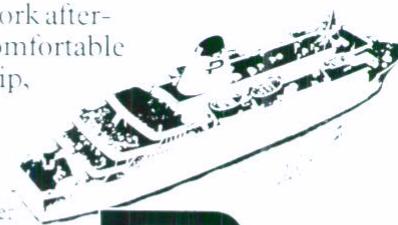
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PRINS FERRIES

REGIMENTAL NOTES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Regimental Golf Meeting—Tidworth, 21st–22nd May.

Regimental Association Reunion—Salisbury, 23rd May.

Wiltshire Regiment O.C.A. Reunion — Devizes 13th–14th June.

Royal Berkshire Regiment O.C.A. Reunion — Reading, 25th–26th July.

Officers' Regimental Dinner—Oxford, 4th September.

Officers' Regimental Party — Salisbury, date not fixed when going to print.

THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh visited the 1st Battalion in Osnabruck in July during the Association Reunion there. Accounts are to be found elsewhere in this Journal. As always, the Colonel-in-Chief gave the greatest pleasure to those present.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES

Congratulations from "Dad's Army", as he once called us, to Prince Charles on his engagement to Lady Diana Spencer. We wish them all happiness and long life together.

MAJOR GENERAL B. A. COAD. C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L.

Some readers may not have heard that Major General Coad, who was Colonel of The Regiment from 1954 to 1964, died in March 1980. An Obituary appears in this Journal.

THE 1st BATTALION

The Battalion has enhanced its high reputation in B.A.O.R. during the past year. To give just two of the results it achieved: After the large exercise "Spearpoint" The Division Commander said "Your Battle Group was excellent, I was immensely impressed, well done The Dukes".

In the field of sport, the Battalion Ski Team won the Infantry Nordic Trophy as the best placed Infantry Team in the Army for the 1980/81 Season. This with a very high standard of competition.

THE REGIMENTAL DINNER

The 1980 Dinner was held at Wadham College, Oxford on 5th September. Forty-six sat down and

replies to Greetings to H.M. The Queen and The Colonel-in-Chief were read. The **Colonel of The Regiment**, presided and **Captain S. K. Sutherland, R.N.**, was Regimental Guest. The following also attended: **Major General D. T. Crabtree**, **Brigadiers D. E. Ballantine, H. M. A. Hunter**, **Colonels R. B. G. Bromhead, K. G. Comerford-Green, J. E. Gabain, J. L. R. Metcalf, D. I. M. Robins, W. G. R. Turner**. **Lieutenant Colonels J. Awdry, D. C. Gilson, G. T. L. M. Graham, B. R. Hobbs, L. H. Wood, G. F. Woolnough**. **Majors J. A. Barrow, R. J. F. Bennett, P. Bradley, S. F. Browne, W. G. La T. Cockcraft, A. M. Everett, R. F. Groves, T. C. S. Jennings, W. A. Mackereth, R. B. Paddison, M. E. H. Pardoe, A. D. Parsons, C. G. Rendle, D. J. Savill, J. C. Wilder, R. C. Wilkins, R. M. C. Wilson**. **Captains P. E. O'R-B. Davidson-Houston, A. P. B. Lake, R. J. Parker, P. W. A. Petty, G. P. Savill**, **Lieutenant J. M. C. Rylands**, **2nd Lieutenants T. J. Carr, J. J. Edmonds, J. Marsh, T. O'Hare, R. Davis**. **Private Guests: Lieutenant Colonel G. Buffey, Captain P. Stephens**.

2nd WILTSHIRES WARTIME OFFICERS' REUNION

Another successful reunion was held on 16th August, this time at the home of **Lieutenant Colonel John Peers** at Hindhead, Surrey. The next reunion is planned for 22nd August at **Major Ralph Davies's** house, also in Hindhead. The list of those officers qualified, held by the Organiser, **Lieutenant Colonel George Woolnough**, numbers just over thirty, plus wives and several widows.

THE 68 CLUB

The Club whose members are officers who were in action with the 1st Bn Royal Berkshire Regiment during the last war held its 34th annual Dinner at The Ship Hotel, Reading on 1st November. The following were present: **Andy Borrell, Frankie Boshell, Michael Barton, Ivor Davies, Phillip de Gruchy, John Foster, Norman Golledge, John Metcalf, Geoff Williams, Dickie Cooke and John Briscoe**.

K.A.P.E. TOUR 1981

For the uninitiated "K.A.P.E." stands for "Keeping the Army in the Public Eye". The 1st Battalion is again sending a detachment over from Germany during the first two weeks of July to do this in Berkshire and Wiltshire. It will have some

of the most modern equipment on show and it is hoped, bring in some recruits to the Regiment.

The Team will visit most major towns in the two Counties, and there will be advance publicity. So if you live in the vicinity and can make contact, please do, such a welcome is always encouraging.

REGIMENTAL GOLFING SOCIETY

The Twenty-first Annual Meeting was held at Tidworth in May in very good weather. For various reasons the number attending was slightly lower than in recent years, the main absentees being the 1st Battalion contingent whose training commitments had to take priority.

The winners were:

Stableford Singles (James Cup)	Major Ingles
Stableford Twosomes	Major Casserley Major Edwards
Scratch Medal (Gillson Trophy)	Mr. Mills
Handicap Medal (Gillson Bowl)	Q.M.S.I. Wayne
Education Cup	Major Edwards

ANNUAL DINNER

1st BN THE WILTSHIRE REGIMENT (DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S)

Officers who served together in the Arakan in Burma in 1944 met for their Annual Reunion Dinner at The Red Lion, Salisbury on Saturday, 15th November. The Dinner has been a regular event for over 35 years. **Colonel J. Houghton-Brown, D.S.O., T.D.**, who commanded the Battalion in action against the Japanese in the Arakan was unable to attend because of ill health. He has hardly missed a Reunion in the past and his absence was keenly felt. Members and guests joined in sending him best wishes. **Major J. O. S. Redman, M.B.E.**, took the Chair. Members and guests attending were: **Colonel K. G. Comerford-Green, C.B.E.**, **Lieut. Colonel G. F. Woolnough, M.C.**, **Majors H. V. Avery, S. F. Browne, J. L. Cain, A. K. Falcon, N. G. Motion, M.C., G. W. L. Richardson, D. Weatherup, Captain P. G. Bryer-Ash, Doctor J. E. Tinne, Mr. B. J. Haines.**

The next Annual Dinner will be held at Red Lion Hotel in Salisbury on Saturday, 14th November, 1981. The Secretary is Major J. L. Cain. The Malt House, Benson, Oxon.

THE WILTSHIRE REGIMENT 4th & 5th BATTALIONS OFFICERS' DINNER CLUB

The 1980 dinner was held at the Red Lion, Salisbury, on Saturday, 27th September. In the absence, due to illness, of the President, **Colonel J. Houghton Brown, D.S.O., T.D.**, the Chair was taken by **Major A. S. P. Jeans, T.D.** **Brigadier J. R. Roden, C.B.E.**, was a guest and in addition to the Chairman, the following officers dined: **Colonel G. G. Drew, O.B.E., T.D.**; **Lt. Colonels G. T. L. M. Graham, O.B.E.**; **D. I. M. Robbins, O.B.E., M.C.**; **Majors P. A. J. Brown, T.D.**; **R. G. Coleman, T.D.**; **R. F. Groves, J. F. Harrison, T.D.**, **R. G. Hoare, T.D.**, **D. Hart**; **Sir Torquhil Matheson**; **H. M. Newton-Clare, C.B.E., M.C.**; **M. A. R. Oakley, T.D.**; **A. D. Parsons, M.B.E., M.C.**; **G. R. A. Pickford, T.D.**; **C. R. W. Stone, T.D.**; **R. C. Wilkins, M.B.E., T.D.**; **Captains M. C. Coupland, T.D.**; **R. J. Gouldsworthy, T.D.**; **P. Spencer-Moore and M. C. Copp, Esquire.**

Apologies were received from over 50 members to whom should be added the name of **Major W. A. Hill**, who was unavoidably prevented from attending. Messages of good wishes were received from such distinguished nonagenarians as **Majors Bob Lyne (96)** and **Gurney Hoare (92)**, and a special message from **Sir Noel Arkell (88)** and many others to Major Tim Wilkins, who on this occasion was the recipient of a gift of Waterford glasses (six of which were "gimlet" size) subscribed for by over 100 members of the Club.

Lunch on Sunday was attended by some 19 officers and their ladies, amongst whom it was a great pleasure to find **Colonel Neville Awdry** and **Joan** and as guests **Colonel Laurence Wood** and **Joan**. The Club has decided that widows of members shall in future have the right to attend the lunch if they so wish rather than being dependent upon the private invitation of a member.

The 1981 dinner will be at the Red Lion, Salisbury, on Saturday, 26th September with lunch on 27th.

ST. THOMAS'S GARRISON CHURCH, MADRAS

In November the 150th Anniversary of St. Thomas's Garrison Church was celebrated. Members of The Wiltshire Regiment used this Church when stationed in The Garrison in the past. An Appeal towards the cost of repairs and renovations was sent out earlier last year and The Colonel contributed on behalf of the Regiment. An appreciative letter of thanks was received with the news that the response had been excellent and that much had been done.



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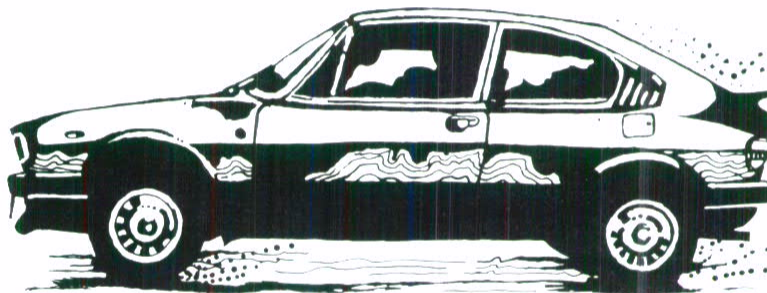


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THE WARDROBE APPEAL

The last two issues of the Journal gave the names of those who responded to the Colonel of the Regiment's Appeal up to the beginning of February 1980. Below is the list of those who have made donations since. Names of members of the three Associations who have contributed are published in the Association Reports.

The Duke of Edinburgh.

1 D.E.R.R., Capt. P. G. Bryer-Ash, Col. H. N. Hoare, M.V.O., Mrs. M. F. Preece, Mrs. S. G. Francis, Lt. Col. J. M. Greany, Maj. C. A. Shaw-Stewart, T.D., Maj. E. McClintock, Maj. A. C. Kenway (2nd donation), T. J. Carr, Esq. (3rd donation), Maj. D. S. B. Skene, Mr. W. G. Moreton, Maj. N. G. Motion, M.C. (3rd donation), Lt. Col. E. P. Allen, Mrs. M. E. Oldfield, Maj. R. B. Waymouth, Major Sir Torquil Matheson of Matheson, Maj. N. R. West, Mrs. P. B. Russell (2nd donation).

In addition 1 D.E.R.R. have raised money by the following activities: a Fete, a sponsored walk, a sponsored bicycle ride, an auction and carol singing. The Battalion has also contributed con-

siderable sums of money from fruit machine takings and the Commanding Officer is still investigating other ways of contributing.

Other Sources

The Counties Appeal produced disappointing results, somewhat under £6,000 being raised after expenses. Mention should be made of a very generous donation from Lord Congleton.

Separate donations have been made by the Wolfson Foundation, the Hedley Foundation, Lloyds Bank Ltd. and a second one by the Salisbury Diocesan Board for H.M. Forces.

THE NEW MUSEUM

All going well, it is planned that the Museum in The Wardrobe, Salisbury Cathedral Close, will open next July.

SMALL BORE SHOOTING

Major (Q.M.) Peter Martin is to be congratulated on the distinction of being chosen to shoot for Great Britain in this year's World Championships in Mexico.

MAIWAND 1980

MAIWAND 1980

By a lucky coincidence it was possible to celebrate the centenary of Maiwand on the very day and between the very hours that the battle took place and to combine the celebrations with the annual reunion of the **Royal Berkshire Old Comrades' Association**. It became a fairly mammoth undertaking and all credit is due to the enlarged committee which, with negligible resources but great imagination and enthusiasm, organized a memorable day.

In order to be sure of our ground a good deal of research went into verifying the facts of the battle and it can be said, without fear of contradiction, that Petrie's account in Vol. I of his history of the Royal Berkshire Regiment is correct. Thus encouraged the committee made contact with the organizations of the regiments and corps which shared the day with the 66th, and tracked down as many people as possible whose forebears took part in the battle. These were invited as regimental guests. In addition it was particularly gratifying to welcome **Lady Wheeler** who, but for the Russians, would have organized by now the establishment of a memorial to the 66th actually at Maiwand, and also **Sardar and Sardar Khanum Afzal Khan**. The **Sardar**, a retired Lieutenant

Colonel of the old Indian Army who gained a Military Cross at Alamein, is the grandson of Ayub Khan, commander of the Afghan army at Maiwand.

Amongst the other guests were:

Relatives:

Commander and Mrs. Henry Brooke (grandson of Brig. Gen. H. F. Brooke), **Mrs. Rupert Mayne, Group Captain and Mrs. Blackwood, Major General and Mrs. Younger.**

Indian Army:

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt, Bombay Grenadiers.
Lt. Col. and Mrs. Wildish, Jacobs Rifles.
Lt. Col. and Mrs. Swetenham, Bombay Sappers & Miners.
Capt. and Mrs. Barnes, Scinde Horse.
Colonel and Mrs. Wakefield, Poona Horse (3rd Cavalry).

Royal Artillery:

Colonel and Mrs. Harvey, Colonel Leigh Maxwell (Author of "My God—Maiwand").

Balsa:

Sir John and Lady Cotton, Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson.



The scene around the Maiwand Memorial.

The proceedings began with a well organized and well attended service at the Maiwand memorial in the Forbury Gardens at Reading. This was conducted by the **Rev. John Lewis**, sometime Padre to the 1st Battalion in Burma, assisted by the **Rev. David Evans**, of St. George's, Tilehurst. Music was by the **Alanbrooke Band of the Royal Artillery**. There followed a march past of the O.C.A. and their guests at which the salute was taken by **Brigadier A. P. Aveline**, and finally a buffet lunch in the Town Hall.

For a fortnight covering the day **Mr. Colin Sizer** and the staff of Reading Museum organized, with great skill and sympathy, an exhibition of Mai-

wand material. This consisted of the Regimental Collection supplemented by items kindly lent by the National Army Museum and by the Royal Artillery and proved very popular both with the general public and with members and guests.

Signals were exchanged between the Director, Royal Artillery and the Colonel of the Regiment as follows:

"From DRA. 115 (MAIWAND) Bty, successors to E/B Bty RHA, is alas in suspended animation but on behalf of all Gunners I send greetings to the successors of the 66th Foot who fought so valiantly with E/B Bty at Maiwand".



The 'Young' and the 'Old' at the Maiwand Parade in Reading.

"From Colonel of the Regiment. Thank you for greetings on centenary of Battle of Maiwand. Occasion when some forty of our predecessors served with distinction as gunners with E/B Bty RHA is one of the proud moments in our history. I send greetings to all Gunners."

The Royal Berkshire O.C.A. is now planning for the centenary of Tofrek.

AN ACCOUNT OF MAIWAND

Many readers will find great interest in the following extracts from an appreciation of Brigadier General Henry Brooke, commanding 2nd Infantry Brigade Kandahar Field Force in 1880. It was written by Commander Henry Brooke, M.B.E., D.S.C., R.N. (retd.), his grandson, who has kindly given us exclusive permission to print. —Ed.

On 28th March 1880 Henry Brooke was appointed Brigadier General commanding 2nd Infantry Brigade, Kandahar Field Force. He arrived in Kandahar on 22nd April and at once assumed command of the Garrison, holding this additional appointment until 18th May and again from 3rd July until after the Battle of Maiwand.

The troops at Kandahar consisted of:

- (a) Three Batteries of Artillery —
E-B, R.H.A., C-2nd R.A. and 5/11 R.A.
- (b) Two Native Cavalry Regiments —
3rd Light Cavalry and Poona Horse.
(3rd Scind Horse also mentioned).
- (c) Two British Infantry Regiments —
2/7 Royal Fusiliers and 66th Foot.
(59th Foot also mentioned).
- (d) Three Native Infantry Regiments —
1st N.I. Grenadiers, 19th Regiment N.I.
and 28th Regiment N.I.
- (e) Sappers and Miners — No. 2 Company.

Most of what now follows consists of extracts from my grandfather's Private Journal, in which he stated that by 18th June he had visited every inch of country within 12 to 15 miles of Kandahar and knew every part of it thoroughly. The heat was very great, and on one occasion, the temperature in the shade rose to 124°F but the average maximum was 114°F and minimum 65°F.

In the previous month a durbar was held at the Palace of the Governor, in the City, at which the letter appointing Shere Ali Khan Governor of the Province of Kandahar was read. On 29th May a great Parade for the Queen's Birthday was held.

On 29th June information was received that Ayoub Khan with his army was actually on the

march from Herat towards Kandahar, and preparations were at once put in hand to equip a force for despatch to Girishk, to prevent his entrance into the Province of Kandahar.

The distance from Herat to Girishk is 280 miles and the road, like all other roads in that country, is extremely bad, and very little water to be found along it once the valley of the Helmund is left.

The Wali (Governor) of Kandahar was at Girishk, with part of his force across the Helmund in Zamindalwur, and on hearing of Ayoub Khan's movements appealed to the British Forces for assistance. Reference, of course, had to be made to the Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief at Simla, but, in the meantime, preparations for a move went on. The Force to go out would be a Brigade of Infantry under General Burrows and a Brigade of Cavalry under General Nuttall, the command of the Garrison once again devolving on my grandfather, as already mentioned.

On 15th July information was received that the whole of the Wali's army was mutinous, but the situation was somewhat restored two days later by General Burrows' force.

My grandfather initiated a system of cavalry patrols and reconnaissances and, while with one of these with his Brigade Major, was shot at in error by a native sentry but, fortunately without any ill effect. On 21st July, while making a reconnaissance in the Kotal-i-Murcha Pass area, my grandfather and his staff were fired on by a party among the rocks above them, but, fortunately, their shots only killed one of the sowar's (native troops) horses.

The following day information was received from the Government of India that Abdul Rahman was to be proclaimed Amir of Kabul forthwith by Sir Donald Stewart. My grandfather recorded "I cannot think this a wise step, but the desire to get out of the war at any cost is, I think, blinding the Government to the many weak points in the arrangement".

Thus affairs went on until the approach of the Ayoub Khan's army began to arouse the turbulent spirits among the population.

Information of the Battle of Maiwand on 27th July was received in Kandahar at 0130 the next day, when my grandfather was awakened by Colonel La Touche, of the Cavalry, who came to report that a great battle had been fought on the previous day about noon and that after holding out for five hours under a terrible fire our force had been broken up and made to retire.

At Maiwand General Burrows' force had re-

ceived a serious defeat by the Ayoub Khan's army. In order to try and mitigate this disaster, my grandfather requested permission to take a small force of all arms and move out in the direction of Kokeran, to cover the last few miles of the retreat.

This was approved and my grandfather set out at 0530 with 40 Sabres Native Cavalry, two Guns R.A., 70 of the 7th Fusiliers and 100 of the 28th Native Infantry, in the first instance. He recorded "as we left the camp we began to meet the first of the long string of fugitives who continued afterwards to pass until we reached Kokeran — a more terrible sight I have never witnessed — all appearances of organisation and discipline gone; each man, whether European or Native, was fighting, as it were, for his own life. All were wearied and harrassed and many unable to move one foot before the other, as indeed may be appreciated when it is realised that since 4 p.m. the previous day they had been marching with a cruel enemy on all sides of them, shooting and stabbing every man who, too wearied to drag on, sat down for a moment's rest. To add to the horrors of the march they had in the whole distance of over 50 miles, found water only twice, and what this means no-one who has not lived and worked in this climate can tell, but there had been some marvellous instances of self-denial and bravery — men giving up their last drop of water, which was more than their lives to them, to men more feeble than themselves, and, apparently, none equalled or exceeded in this respect Captain Slade of the Horse Artillery, as noble a soldier as ever lived. Officers and men have since told me of his heroic efforts to save his guns, to give assistance and to sacrifice his life, or deny himself to save or help anyone. All also join in saying General Burrows' conduct was splendid. Once he got off his horse, put two wounded officers on it and led it himself for three miles, with a howling crowd of savages following him, anxious for his life. I had never seen the retreat of a panic-stricken military force before, and I trust I may never do so again."

The following extracts from an Indian Paper reveal what a gallant and determined stand was made by the 66th Regiment at Maiwand. A Colonel of Artillery of Ayoub Khan's army, who was present at the time, stated that a party of the 66th, estimated to number 100 officers and men, made a great and most determined stand when surrounded by the whole Afghan army fighting on until only eleven men were left and inflicting enormous losses on the enemy. These eleven charged out of a garden fighting to the death. Such was the nature of their charge and the grandeur

of their bearing that, although the whole of the Ghazis were assembled around them, not one dared to approach to cut them down.

My grandfather goes on to recall that he had hardly got his little force in column of route outside the Barrack gates, when the enemy commenced a desultory and harmless fire on them from behind the walls of the neighbouring gardens. He states "I at once sent forward some skirmishers to the front, and a cavalry picquet to the extreme right and left, and was glad to see the spirit with which all advanced, which at once told on the rabble opposed to us, who gave up their positions and ran for their lives, several being killed as they ran.

In this way, pressing on steadily, I cleared the gardens and the village of Abasabad and was able to bring my guns and remainder of my column through that extremely awkward position. On the other side of the village the skirmishers had advanced, driving the enemy before them, till the more open ground was reached. Here I formed up my column once more, preparatory to pushing on for Korkoran.

On the range of high hills which ran along the left of the road, at about three hundred yards off, were small bodies of the enemy, as also in the strongly placed villages on my left. Before advancing I had to send out small parties on either flank to dislodge these people, which they did with greatest ease. My way was again clear, and I advanced without opposition for about a mile, when, on a low hill, about 2,000 yards to my right front, I saw a considerable force posted, which was being increased every moment by contingents from the villages in the rear of the hill, from which we could see people hurrying in great numbers. Seeing a good position about 1,000 yards ahead, I pushed on to it rapidly and getting my guns into action threw forward the cavalry to threaten the left flank, while the infantry moved slowly to the front.

And so the march proceeded for 14 miles, every inch of which had to be contested or defended. After this no regular opposition was offered until Kokeran was reached. This was a large village with a fortified enclosure in its midst which was full of the enemy who had been ill-treating the stragglers of General Burrows' Force all morning.

Knowing the ground well, I at once selected my position and was quickly placed to command the whole of the country round. I was just going to give the order for the guns to come into action, when, to my delight, at about half a mile off at the spot where I knew was the ford of the Argan-

dab, where the road from Girishk crossed the river, I saw a mass of men which I at once recognised as what remained of General Burrows' Force.

I decided, therefore, before hammering Kokeran, to communicate with them and sent some cavalry to make a circuit to the right and join General Burrows, informing him that I was clearing his way, and that he might, I felt sure, advance in 20 minutes, by which time I would have his way open.

The cavalry had hardly started before I recognised that the enemy seeing that the position I had taken up had rendered Kokeran untenable, had suddenly evacuated that place and taken up an extremely strong position on my right flank, from which, without delay, they opened a heavy fire on us. A few shells and a rapid demonstration, for it never reached a hand-to-hand fight, soon, however, did their business, and, to my great satisfaction, I found myself able to ask General Burrows to come on along a perfectly safe road.

There is little doubt that the Relief Force saved many valuable lives, and that large bodies of the country people, who had collected on either side of the route, dispersed rapidly on its approach.

Later on the 28th July, measures were taken for the evacuation of the Cantonments and for the safe conduct of all the troops into the Citadel of Kandahar, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles distant. My grandfather stated "at last all was safely sent in except the baggage of the 66th Foot, which was one of the regiments of General Burrows' brigade who, when going out to Girishk, had left some tons of things in an unpacked condition. I put on big Working Parties and saved as much as I could, until called into the Citadel for the third or fourth time. At 6.15 p.m. I paraded my force, which consisted of

4th Native Infantry, 28th Native Infantry, C/2 Royal Artillery, 7th Fusiliers, Poona Horse, Detachments of 3rd Light Cavalry and of 3rd Sind Horse, and in this order commenced my mournful and humiliating march. When every man had left the large Barrack square I returned to it myself and made my staff and escort, who were with me, pass out before me, so that I might have the melancholy satisfaction of being the last man in the place. At 7 p.m. I followed the last man of the Force into the Citadel and shut the gates, and so began a fresh act of this extremely painful drama."

Commander Brooke adds: It was with great interest that my elder son (Captain Michael Henry Hastings Brooke, R.E.) and I read the recent book by Colonel Leigh Maxwell entitled "My God, Maiwand"—Operations of the South Afghanistan Field Force 1878–80, in which my grandfather is mentioned several times.

I so appreciated having had the privilege of being invited by the President and Members of the Old Comrades' Association, the Royal Berkshire Regiment (formerly the 66th Regiment of Foot which became 2nd Battalion the Berkshire Regiment) to attend their Maiwand Centenary Service on 27th July 1980 in front of the War Memorial in Forbury Gardens, Reading. It was particularly nice for me that one of the first people I met was Colonel Leigh Maxwell, whose kind interest and assistance have been much appreciated.

After the Service, at the Reunion Reception in the Old Town Hall, it was a fascinating experience to be introduced to the grandson of Ayoub Khan, Lt. Colonel Sirdar M. Afzah Khan, M.C., who said "You see, I changed sides and came over to you!" Indeed, he had served in the 1/2 Punjab Regiment at Alamein and was subsequently Officer Commanding Guides Infantry.

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

The past year has been a busy one for us, mainly because the setting up of The Wardrobe has given us work beyond what we would normally expect and at the same time we have had a staff of six as against the eight full-time and one part-time members to which we are entitled. The first half of the year was also enlivened by work going on around us on the unfinished portion of the building accompanied by dust, transistor radios and all the paraphernalia of the building world.

This ended in late September when work on the building was completed, but our worries were not over as we had to wait until last February before we got Treasury approval for the showcases we needed for the Museum to be provided and then had to work on a fresh appeal for financial help towards paying the bills for The Wardrobe.

The Wardrobe Trustees—**Brigadier Ballantine, Colonel Comerford-Green, Major Myatt and Major Everett** who are nominated Trustees and

the Colonel of the Regiment and C.O. 1st Battalion who are ex-officio — have been much exercised in these matters and have met several times.

We have also had meetings of other groups of Trustees who, between them control the various Trusts which exist within the Regiment, and of which most people know nothing about. For example there are Regimental Trustees who are responsible not only for the greater part of Regimental Funds but also for our property, mostly silver. The bulk of this is on loan to the 1st Battalion. As regards Funds, the Investment Subcommittee consisting of Brigadier Ballantine, **Colonel Turner** and Major Everett, assisted by our Stockbroker and an advisor from Lloyds Bank, meet periodically to review our investments. They have been very successful and have significantly increased the value of our portfolio. Until a few years ago, our investments were handled by the United Services Trustee, which though safe, produced limited results. We are now fortunate in the expertise of those who have agreed to conduct our investment activities.

As anticipated, our being located in Salisbury, in a building which most readers now well know of, has resulted in many visits from members of the Regiment, and indeed, others. We are delighted to see them, particularly those who have contri-

buted financially, although with so many names involved, we do not always remember that they have done so.

Changes in the staff here continue. **Mr. Daniell** has left on promotion to return to H.Q. U.K.L.F. We thank him for his work here over the past fifteen months and hope he will call in occasionally to see us. We welcome **Mrs. Ball** in his place and hope she will be very happy.

All going well, **Major (Q.M.) Jack Price** (retd.) will come as the Museum Curator before long. We are eagerly awaiting his arrival. He will have a major task to undertake, running what should be a real tourist attraction.

Mr. Holden-White leaves at the end of March with our very best wishes. He has led a lonely life back in Devizes looking after our Museum Collection and we are most grateful to him for the dedicated way in which he did so. The name of his successor must await the next issue of the Journal.

Lastly **Colonel Kensey Comerford-Green**, the Regimental Secretary, leaves at the beginning of June. As the writer of these Notes he cannot very well say "Thank God" or anything else, but can at least welcome his successor **Lieutenant Colonel Basil Hobbs** and wish him the best of luck in what is a delightful and privileged job.

1st BATTALION

INTRODUCTION BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER

1980 has been a busy year. But I suppose all Commanding Officers for many years past have claimed that Army life is always busy. I am therefore no exception.

Following a highly successful tour in Londonderry the Battalion returned to Osnabruck in late 1979 ready to come to grips with its B.A.O.R. role. Unarguably, 1980 has been the year when the Battalion has been given the opportunity to develop its skills as a mechanised battalion. The tour as Demonstration Battalion in Warminster was clearly most valuable in establishing much basic expertise in the maintenance and handling of the tried and trusted A.P.C.'s (A.F. V. 432). The year has therefore been relatively painless and we have reaped much reward from the careful planning of my predecessor.

As one would expect, training has been progressive and centred on the Battle Group trip to Suffield, Canada in May. The Battle Group (B.G.),

rather an ad hoc force, comprised of B.G. H.Q., A and B Echelons, support weapons and a mechanised company (B Coy) from our Battalion, two squadrons of Chieftain tanks from 4 R.T.R., our affiliated artillery battery and a host of other detachments (including an engineer field troop, Close Recce troop, Swingfire troop, Blowpipe detachment and an aviation squadron of liaison and anti-armour helicopters). On arrival in Canada we also assumed command of a mechanised company of the French-Canadian 22nd Regiment. A motley force numbering some 1,000 men and comparable in size, though superior in firepower, to a World War II battalion.

The "coming together" of the B.G. was effected through a week long session in the B.G. Trainer at Sennelager. Throughout the week we fought simulated battles on map boards and telephones, and in the comfort of classroom accommodation. Following a Study Period in Osnabruck — superbly organised by **Majors Mackereth** and **West** — we moved to field training at Soltau with both B.G. and Task Force (the old brigade headquarters) exercises. The Brigade Commander was probably well pleased with the overall performance — at least he passed us fit for the Suffield training period. Doubtless Suffield will be covered in more detail elsewhere in the Journal but, to my mind, it was the finest training experience of my Army career. The B.G. worked extremely hard and was not unsuccessful.

The return from Canada heralded the highlight of the year — the visit of the Old Comrades and our Colonel-in-Chief. Fortunately I was able to stay well clear of the preparations. On the one occasion I tried to interfere and asked for a rehearsal I arrived on the Battalion Square — full of pomp and high expectations — to be met by two soldiers kicking an empty coke tin and a rain-swept but otherwise quite empty scene. I am a quick learner and swiftly realised therefore that my presence was neither expected nor required. My assistance, in terms of pearls of advice and wisdom, was clearly not the least bit important. But as a participator rather than as a contributor I can report that the Regimental Weekend embraced 48 of the most happy hours imaginable. I wish that particular weekend could have lasted a year. Rainy weather ruled out the outdoor Church Parade but the march past of our "older and bolder" brethren was a joy to behold. We will do well to emulate the straight backs, awareness and



No! No! I'll do anything — but don't suck your pipe!
(2IC firmly under command).

general bearing on our Ferozeshah parade later this month. The presence of our Colonel-in-Chief undoubtedly made our weekend and gave us all so many incidents to be treasured for the rest of our days.

The culmination of the training year was Exercise Spearpoint, the largest British military exercise to be staged since the end of World War II. Again I believe the Battalion was not found lacking and I have heard from numerous sources that our Battalion was probably the busiest Battalion/B.G. throughout the Corps. Since the end of this Exercise the Battalion has ground to a temporary halt and we have taken time out to relax and pay attention to the sporting side of life. Many people have worked hard at improving our sporting skills and I am delighted to report a great deal of success in league and cup competitions. Our Rugby and boxing teams are poised to reach the B.A.O.R. quarter-final stages of the respective competitions; the soccer and hockey teams are well placed to make an impact on the closing stages of the Infantry Cup competitions and we have a very fine ski team (Langlauf and Downhill) under training.

1980 has been a good year and we face 1981 with a great deal of confidence. I have a suspicion that this optimism is not ill-founded.

'STEALTHY' A COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS OF 1980

With a new boss it was obvious that the image of 'A' Coy would inevitably have to change from 'Shiny' to 'Stealthy'. This accounts not only for the chameleon-like way each man now blends into the countryside (or barrack room!) but the unorthodox yet successful way the whole company trains and operates. It has been a good year and has had its highlights. The first comes under the heading "Military".

Rent a Fant. For reasons which should be obvious to most, one of the subjects 'A' Coy have become specialists in is Combat Survival. During the year four J.N.C.O.'s, **L/Cpls. Alden, McIntyre, Evans and Hopgood** attended a Battlefield Survival Course at the brand new International Long Range Recce Patrol School at Weingarten, S. Germany. **2/Lt. Carr** and **Sgt. White** jointly attended the 'real' thing; the Army Combat Survival Instructors' Course run by 22 S.A.S. at Hereford. Their experiences are related elsewhere in the journal. Suffice to say their qualifications added to both the existing talent and keenness for this unusual (and sadly neglected) aspect of warfare within the company. 'Stealthy A' quickly gained a reputation — first in the Garrison and

then spreading further afield, in 2 Armd Div. — as 'Rent a Fant'. We were distinctly the odd company who loved being Fantazian enemy; dressing and equipping like them, acting like them (in all senses of the word) and worse, using those horrible Fantazian techniques to counter Escape and Evasion. Two companies of 1 D. & D. were the first guinea pigs to place themselves in the not so tender care of 'A' Coy, 2nd Bn 63 Motor Rifle Regiment ('A' Coys assumed Fantazian identity). Ex 'Final Fling' in late March saw the D. & D. swede bashers trying unsuccessfully to escape and evade the clutches of the Fantazian Farmers Boys along the Teutoberger Ridge near Osnabruck. A famous visitor to 1 D. & D. was **General Farrar-Hockley**, Colonel Commandant of the Prince of Wales's Division, who watched the exercise. As an ex-P.W. in Korea (captured as Adj. of 1 Glosters) he was impressed with both the realism and obvious enthusiasm that the soldiers of 'A' Coy — in particular 3 Pl, the P.W. Guard Force, were showing. Let's face it — we all want to play the baddies occasionally!

Latterly 'Rent a Fant' were at it again. This time at Achmer during the first snowy weekend (7th–9th November) this year. The snow lent extra realism to 'Ex Striped Chance' but made it extremely unpleasant for the evaders. They were the potential N.C.O.'s taking part in a 1 R.T.R. Cadre. **Lt. R. Jammes**, until lately our very own Battle Group Close Recce Troop Commander was running the Cadre for his C.O. and quite understandably hired the stars of 'Rent a Fant'. Apart from making interesting training again for the whole of 'A' Coy and attachments (the L.A.D. under **S/Sgt. 'Vladimir' Donovan** really getting carried away as P.W. escort and collecting Section!) during a militarily fallow period, the 1 R.T.R. instructors and D.S. had a very good chance to assess their potential N.C.O.'s under arduous conditions, against a realistic and aggressive enemy and in captivity. It is moments like these which make **C/Sgt. Arthur (you WILL tell me all I want to know!) Brame's** life worth living.

In between these two important exercises the company has maintained its internal training in Combat/Battlefield Survival but has not, with reluctance, demonstrated these skills and the 'Rent a Fant' syndrome to both **H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh** and **G.O.C. 2 Armd Div.** on their respective visits, 18th July and 10th September. Both were fascinated by the wildly dressed 'Survivors' demonstrating their animal and fish killing and cooking skills yet slightly dubious about the Fantazian Guard platoon 'processing' simulated N.A.T.O. P.W. Both went away convinced that



"Didn't we do well!"
Capt. Brian Franklin and Maj. Alan Kenway after
Ex 'Surprise' trying to look rugged.

there was an urgent need for more of this type of training which builds a soldier's confidence in himself and prepares him, in a small way, for all the more unpleasant aspects of Survival on the future Battlefield. H.R.H. was amused most of all when **L/Cpl. Boris ('Snares') Alden** was giving his prepared spiel while demonstrating various traps and snare mechanisms. The official photographer showed his best demonstrating ability when, to get an unusual photo angle he accidentally tripped the biggest trap of all—a weighted spear suspended in a tree—which thudded sickeningly into the ground having missed him by millimetres! H.R.H. moved, still chuckling, to the 'cooking' demonstration where he immediately looked slightly squeamish as **Pte. Garner** proceeded to kill, gut and cook a fresh trout before his eyes. H.R.H. asked where the local trout rivers were. Our quick-witted survivor replied "Oh we didn't get it from no river Sir—the O.C. bought it from the local trout farm this morning!" (Groans and blushes from O.C.).

April in Haltern. Included in other conventional military highlights must be the escapades and events during Field Firing training at Haltern in early April. Memories linger of the disproportionate number of A.P.C. breakdowns (and the amazing capacity and hard work of our great little L.A.D. "grease monkeys" to get the beasts going again!) and **Pte. 'Clutch' Roller** who, as his nickname implies duly burnt out our 1 tonner clutch despite the number of gears and differentials to choose from. **2/Lt. 'Percy' (lovely boy) King** will wish to be reminded, as he sojourns in the Halls of Learning at "Exeketer" University, of amusing little 'cockups' of his which helped to make our lives bearable and his platoon to roll around laughing. Like the time he got lost (again) and

drove innocently across the Ranges trying to get his bearings. He managed this by working out the location of L37 firers by the direction of the tracer rounds that were passing 6 in. over his commander's hatch! Or when attempting to fire the L37 himself and not getting any success he asked his Pl. Sgt. (**Sgt. 'I eat Subbies for breakfast' Samson**) what he was doing wrong. That dour N.C.O. replied in his inimitable (and most patient) manner, "If you tried pulling the trigger of the gun instead of the windscreen wiper Sir, you just might kill some enemy!" And who led his platoon—in A.P.C.'s—via Munster town itself on the way back to Osnabruck? (We all wish you the best of luck with your studies and disco roller skating but it is amazing how dedicated you are to 'A' Coy. You keep on returning to see us for weekends?!).

Surprise! Surprise! Haltern training not long over (cut short in its prime by an outbreak of chicken pox!) the C.O. sprang his Ace Card on 'A'. Oh no . . . not . . . Ex Surprise!!? Gosh it was. And Surprised us all (a little). As the Company had built most of the new improved "Howman" assault course it was our honour to go over it first, albeit a dubious one.

With full kit and weapons, after an 8-mile speed Bash (of course), and finishing with a shoot on the 30m range, this in fact provided us with a neat little inter-section competition. The only reason Coy H.Q. lost the competition outright was that the C.O. insisted on deducting points because **C/Sgt. (now W.O.2) Morgan** was missing a nut from a lamp H.P.P. spare parts kit.

Aquatics. During the field firing training phase at Sennelager the Company again attracted the C.O.'s attention by its aquatic capabilities. Yes, folks Tactical River Crossing had made its impact certainly on the non-swimmers. Yes, they had to do it as well! Soon the whole Battalion was at it.



"Little man you've had a busy day."
Lt. King gently sleeping on his APC during an
"Active Edge" callout.

No stretch of water could be passed by without a 1 D.E.R.R. soldier suddenly stripping off to his trousers and boots, producing the magic 18 in. 'floatation stick' and after bundling his kit in his poncho swimming across from bank to bank. 'B' Coy even had a better idea. They decided to add a dash of excitement to their crossing to get the C.O.'s adrenalin coursing through his veins (as he was proudly watching O.C. 'B' Coy at the time). Drama was caused by a non-swimmer who pretended to panic and dropped his rifle into the lake. The C.O. was seen to suck his pipe — hard — and walk off tension mounted as relays of officers, clad only in 'shreddies' unsuccessfully dived into the freezing murky lake to feel with bare hands in the thick primeval ooze for the missing S.L.R. It is not difficult to imagine the joy (and we will never forget the expression on his little face), of O.C. 'B', **Major 'there's no answer to that Sir' Wakelin**, as he himself heroically came up spluttering and saying 'Eureka': 'I've found it!'

The Ultimate in Exercises. Despite many other military highlights of the year for 'Stealthy A' which would fill this journal (groans) the things which of course *must* be recorded for posterity were the fantastic exploits of this multitalented company on Ex 'Spearpoint' (more groans). However the reader will be delighted to know they are not mentioned here (cheers) but as a separate article (many more groans). And strictly in no order of priority is the next subject — "Social".

The (Last) Post. During his short but energetic and imaginative tour as Acting C.S.M., **Sgt. 'I hate pads' McIntyre** (now you know which McIntyre) achieved at least one 'highlight'. That was, from an original idea (his) to build an exclusive Barbeque area behind our Lines. Single and married stalwarts set to and within a few days 'The Post' was complete. It had a Western Stockade and entrance,



"Yes, I am rather pleased with myself."
A happy though dirty Lt. Barney Haugh after the
Battle of Nettlingen, Ex Spearpoint.



"I know I'm going to win this funny hat competition."
Sgt. Gardner during Ex Spearpoint.

dance floor, hitching rails for wives, natural wood seats and tables, covered bar, barbeque area, coloured lights and original earth floor. The C.O. and the Q.M. then inspected it and pointed out 2,000 good reasons why we could not have it. One was called encroachment. We arrived on the 10th of October at the Hartenstein Hotel, once the battle H.Q. of **Gen. Urquhart** and now the Pegasus Museum. Of all military museums this is a 'must' to see. The content and layout are terrific and very realistic. Having traced the routes and fights of 1 and 3 Para from D.Z. to Bridge we lunched in Arnhem by courtesy of the Dutch Air Force. It may interest old 'Malta and Libya' veterans — serving and Old Comrades — that the then **Lt. Col. 'Jack' Frost**, who so gallantly held the bridge, was our G.O.C. in Malta and Libya.

After lunch the Airborne cemetery was visited to locate the sprinkling of Wiltshire Regiment soldiers' graves there. This beautifully kept cemetery did not fail to move or impress all the Company.

The evening was spent in Nimegan where the townspeople had, on realising the impending visit of 'Stealthy A', hired numerous fairs and side-shows for our enjoyment. It was easily the biggest fair any of us had seen and covered many acres. However, some soldiers' enjoyment inevitably did not end there. **L/Cpl. 'See me when I'm roused' Hopgood** decided to amuse himself by 'borrowing' a bike and riding back to camp. He ended up, predictably in the 'nick' and rejoined us in Mercer Barracks quite a few days later. **Cpl. Kershaw**, our tame Australian, decided that navigating his way back to camp was too difficult, so lay under a hedge for a kip. The local police, who found and apprehended him, were so confounded by being told he was Australian that they released him!

The final, and impending, social event will be

the company 'Tramps and Bums Christmas Party' to be held on 10th December. As the title implies, no-one comes unless he or she is suitably dressed. That should not be too difficult for a few members of the Company!

'Stealthy A' have been no laggards in helping out Garrison H.Q. on occasions. So this will be the next subject. We are possibly contacted because of the strong representation of 1 D.E.R.R. in the H.Q. by our spies there. **Major Richard 'I haf vays of making you talk' Titley** (look out Delta — he is being let loose on you!) and **Capt. Tony 'It's all too difficult' Briard** are there. Our services have been required to lay on the main part of military tests as part of the Garrison Commander's Annual Report on a Unit (A.R.U.) for eight 'Skins' and 2 A.D.O.C. as well as providing infantry instructors for 2 A.D.E.R. However the real assistance 'highlight' was the organising and production of the Main Arena Event of the Garrison Open Day on Saturday, 28th June. This was a mammoth though satisfying task for the company and other helpers and included erecting stands for 6,000 spectators and getting a series of 'acts' together at extremely short notice. Luckily it was all 'okay' on the day. Our show went on. Bands of 5 Innis. D.G. and 1 Kings splendidly started the lavish spectacular closely followed by 'Scottish Flavour' by 1 K.O.S.B. band. Four simultaneous comedy unarmed combat displays came next with the extremely sexy looking "girls" throwing the baddies all over the place. Disaster struck next when the next display came on. It was the only unrehearsed, unseen act and was embarrassing to the organiser yet luckily amusing in a way (?) Everyone expected, as the programme indicated, a dance group of Drum Majorettes (yes with hat, short skirts, boots and twirling sticks, etc.). These were to be provided by a local German girls'



"You left it in the Osterwald??"
Sgt. Samson asks L/Cpls. McIntyre and Sumner where his APC is.



"Say again over."
Sgt. White not believing what he heard.
Ex Spearpoint.

youth club. Instead a very mixed assortment of German ladies of varying ages and very mixed shapes and sizes skipped into the arena dressed in white tights and leotards! They then proceeded to give a demonstration of how not to dance in a sort of 'keep fit' fashion to music. To the show's rescue came the super Tug-o-War demonstration and competition followed closely in the same vein by kiddies' go-cart and Novelty bicycle races.

The crowd, especially the children, loved all of this. **Herr Fritz Rasch**, a local well-known dog trainer, gave a professional performance of dog training and handling using his own Club Members, equipment and dogs. The military put the penultimate ceremonial touch to the whole event. After the laying of a bridge by A.V.L.B. at the entrance to the square a Musical Cavalcade was presented. This displayed all aspects of army life past, present, and future, and showed soldiers on foot, in vehicles, and in various forms of dress coming over the bridge — doing a mini demonstration of their skills or job, then exiting stage front. Naturally it was all completed to appropriate military music from the three bands. A Free Fall display by the 5 Innis. D.G. team completed the two-hour performance. (It was with sighs of relief that we learnt that 1 K.O.S.B. are responsible for the Open Day in 1981!)

So these were just a few of the "Highlights" of 'Stealthy A' Company in 1980. 1981 looks promising already!

'B' COMPANY

Coy Clerk: "Sir, There's a letter here from the Bn 2IC saying magazine notes are needed in by December. Who's going to write them?"

C.S.M.: "O.C. of course".

Coy Clerk: "Which one?"



2/Lt. Tim O'Hare and Pte. Keane defending a river crossing in Soltau.

Maj. Wakelin: "Captain Proctor can, it will teach him not to ask for major's pay when I've gone".

Capt. Proctor: "I heard that, and anyway what have we done over the last year?"

M.W.: "Come into the office and we'll go over a few events you can pen lines on. Beau get down! Wait a minute while I light my pipe".

C.P.: "That Gold Block stinks!"

M.W.: "Just jot the headings down as we go along. In the diary we've been fairly busy. There was . . .

In January we had the potential N.C.O.'s Cadre with **Corporals McIntyre** (now Sergeant) and **Cox** instructing while **Ptes. Burgess, King, Egan, Bancroft** and **Crawford** all listened intently. Their efforts have paid off and now all of them walk around the Battalion with a stripe on their arm. A notable success was **Pte.** (now L/Cpl.) **Adam** who came top of the Admin. N.C.O.'s Cadre.

In February we managed to send away 26 soldiers to Wertach for the Battalion Ski Hut, then under the guidance of **Lt. John Rylands**. **Pte. Wright** has penned a few words on the subject:

"After a very early rise we set off to Bielefeld where we were to meet the coaches which were to take us to Bavaria. On reaching Bavaria some of us who had been last year had a pleasant surprise at our accommodation which was to be a guest house in the village of Wertach. After a hearty meal everybody retired to bed looking forward to the first day on the slopes.

The first thing to be done once we reached the slopes was to be split up into three groups. These were to be those who had tried skiing before like myself, those who had done a little and the complete beginners.

While my group were having a break I watched the beginners and found **Pte. Winfield** (Winne) trying to ski backwards and **Pte. Watson** (Jasper) in the slalom position but going nowhere.

By the end of the day everyone agreed they were going to have a great time on the course.

By the end of the fourth day the instructors thought it would be safe to take us to the Grunten. When the beginners saw the slopes many worried expressions appeared on their faces. After a few mishaps on the T-Bar we finally got everyone up to the top of the lower slopes. It was on one of the days that we were on the Grunten that **Pte. (Ken) Vickery** lost control and broke his leg which put an abrupt end to his skiing days. Legs were not the only things broken as **Pte. Skinner** managed to get through three pairs of skis before he was forced to buy his own.

The highlight of the two weeks was the day we spent on the slopes of the Fellhorn where we also ski-ed into Austria. Unfortunately the day was spoilt by a blizzard. In the evening we spent most of our time down the local disco where the gang of Ptes. (Winne) Winfield, (Jasper) Watson, (Ginger) Fawcett, (Hugo) Wills and myself, sipped wine and conversed with the local ladies! Other free days were spent going to see the world trick skiing championships.

By the time the course drew to an end we had some budding world class skiers amongst us".

March brought about another Exercise Kings Ride with D.O.A.E. and was set this time in the rolling fields of Soltau and the surrounding countryside. The Company's commitment was not excessive. 5 Pl under Lt. Rylands and **Sgt. Luker** took the brunt of the work as a defensive platoon being attacked in various situations and conditions by 'D' Company and tanks from 4 R.T.R. in the



L/Cpl. Elliott and L/Cpl. Bancroft in Soltau.

disguise of Orange Forces. The purpose of the exercise was to assess the effectiveness of weapons held at combat team level using the Simfire system. This entailed each man and vehicle being kitted with receivers which either set off a smoke canister or 'bleeped'. Co-ordinating the continuous setting up and running of equipment was a mixed band of boffins and military whose lack of fieldcraft would usually give away a well dug in position. **Major Wakelin** and **Major Foster** (on loan from the Battalion to D.O.A.E.) would take turns to recce an area and then give detailed orders for the position. At this stage the digging teams under **L/Cpl. Webb** and **L/Cpl. Pethick** would move in and dig the location hopefully with the help of an R.E. trench digger which **S/Sgt. Tunney** (Lad! fitter sect) just managed to repair each evening.

The Company obviously enjoyed the opportunity to kill off 'D' Company in large numbers, especially as we won most of the battles. From a training point of view we are now well versed in fighting in woods and gullies and understand the need for camouflage and depth in defence. **Kings Ride IIB** offered the Company the chance to play the baddies but unfortunately a character by the name of Moratorium stepped in and cancelled the November exercise.

In April the Company started the work for the trip to BATUS. Firstly the higher echelons disappeared to Sennelager for B.A.G.T.T. for three days. This is a Battlegroup Trainer which meant all the elements of the Battlegroup going to Canada could operate around an enormous map-board and play Wargames against a computer while passing information back to Battalion Head-



4 Pl. discussing their O.C.s future.
Pte. Goss, Cpl. Callcut, Pte. Heatherwick, 2/Lt. Davis, Pte. Adcock, Pte. Hanson, Pte. Drever, Pte. Peake, Pte. Tollifield.



"Won't someone talk to me — even 9-ER!"
Cpl. Harris and Capt. Coates on Ex Spearpoint.

quarters who worked in mock up A.P.C.'s in a separate room.

Major Wakelin succeeded in destroying T62's with 'reloaded' 66mm while **2/Lt. Davis** became an expert in moving markers unseen by the directing staff. Two weeks in Soltau followed immediately in weather which varied from snow to rain and mud and finally glorious sunshine. What does anyone do on Soltau except roll up and down in one's A.P.C.'s, dig in a great deal, carry out a bridge crossing on the tank bridge and long and laborious minefield breaches and bridge demolitions.

2/Lt. O'Hare learnt that you must remove the fuel pipes from the back of an A.P.C. before moving off. This turned a normal one hour task into a very cold two hour chore. **C/Sgt. Paz** who was seen being pulled off the back of the vehicle, was asked his opinion of the event but unfortunately his comments cannot be reproduced.

In May the Company split and while the advance party left for Canada the remainder of the Company went again to Sennelager for a two-week field firing exercise. In glorious weather each section carried out basic battle drills in a live firing environment in preparation for Canada. The only major mishap was when **Pte. Edwards** lost his rifle in the water during the river crossing. **Major Wakelin** was then seen grasping a muddy and wet S.L.R. while trying to keep his head above water shouting, "I've got it . . . glug glug!"

Meanwhile on the prairies of Alberta the advance party was acclimatising to a heat wave while endeavouring to take over a combat team's worth of vehicles from the Royal Anglians at Suffield.

Over a four-day period the C.Q.M.S. took over a multitude of accommodation and stores while

the fitter section worked through 25 A.P.C.'s, two Ferrets and a mixture of 4 tonners and Landrovers which were then checked and signed for by **Sgt. Austin** and the Corporals. As a reward for the hard work in an exceedingly hot climate three extra days' leave was available prior to the main party arriving. These were spent either in Medicine Hat, Calgary or Edmonton.

As the planes arrived in Calgary National Airport the outgoing Battlegroup trooped off the air-conditioned buses as the Company trooped on for the three-hour journey to Ralston village and the small but comfortable one-storey camp at BATUS. Due to the delay in some flights we found 6 Platoon travelling virtually non-stop from Gutersloh to Flejavik in Iceland to Calgary and then via the camp to collect weapons and straight into their A.P.C.'s for the first phase of the two-week exercises.

The first three days were used solely to acclimatise, zero the weapons, practice dismounting drills under live firing conditions and carrying out short exercises.

Ex Porcupine involved an advance to contact including two long gullies which forced sections to continually overlap as they destroyed targets on either side. A small cardboard village had to be taken and as 5 Pl Commander found out 1 thunderflash v 1 building = total disintegration. Ex Kit Fox was a set piece night anti-tank ambush. The novelty of this exercise was the use of speakers to simulate tank noises as they moved across the front of the position. The following day Ex Prairie Hare was a daytime fighting withdrawal. For the first time this involved lengthy digging and the requirement to stay out of mine-fields as things had the habit of exploding!

It was at this stage that Lt. Rylands met his first Rattlesnake which had unfortunately lost its head but still managed to crawl into O.C. 5 Platoons sleeping bag. No culprit was found but Lt. Rylands' sleeping bag had a very definite pungent odour for the rest of the exercise.

Ex Night Hawk was the final Company exercise involving a night occupation of a defensive position. Applause must go to **Cpl. Eley** who managed to hit two targets in a row with Law 66mm.

Then followed a succession of exercises called Gopher, involving troop and platoon live attacks; Pronghorn, combat team attacks and finally Chinook, a Battlegroup advance to contact. Three days were spent in defence on Ex Malplaquet and four days on the advance in Ex Talavera. Incidents were too numerous to mention but **Ptes. Brown** and **Gorrod** will always remember the

thirty-foot hole they drove into while in the assault; Lt. Rylands and 5 Platoon crossing the class 80 bridge in front of the commanding officer at 30 m.p.h., or finding that "dried up" lakes can still be soggy and quickly swallow up a platoon and **Cpl. Davies** and **Pte. Heatherwick** burning out their engine and using 35 fire extinguishers to control the blaze.

Ex Spearpoint

September saw the arrival of Ex Spearpoint, Crusader 80 or just another exercise. We are now well informed that we were one of the lucky units on the exercise as we had a lot of work — and enemy to deal with. The Company during the first week split up and the Headquarters and 5 Platoon worked with two Troops of tanks from 5 Innis D.G. defending the village of Bettrum while 4 and 6 Platoon joined 5 Innis. D.G. Combat team.

Everyone enjoyed the Battle once we were in contact. Our own Combat team being killed off twice and carrying out a very successful counter attack in support of 'A' and 'C' Company all in one day. **Pte. Watson** was the only man to have a personal contact with the subversion forces when he was captured, ground, dumped and tied up (with his trousers down) to be found by the Commanding Officer.

Then followed a lengthy tactical move to the Osterwald for the Op Goodwood phase of the exercise. This was quite uneventful except for 122A under **Cpl. West** who left their silencer and exhaust on the side of a tank. Fortunately no-one was hurt although 122A was never again to roll across the open fields of battle (they spent a comfortable time as guests of A2 Echelon waiting for repairs — or so we are told!)

The Battle on the Osterwald turned into a light vendetta against 15 Parachute Regt. (V). While



Pte. Charlie Brown and Pte. Leafman fixing 123A again.



Fte. Adcock, L/Cpls. Perkins and Lymath.

Swingfire and Milan guarded by 5 Pl made easy meat of the German armoured units in the open ground to the east of the woods 4 and 6 Platoons patrolled, killed, captured and set free numerous groups of roaming paras.

The Company 2IC, with the help of **Cpl. Hole** and **L/Cpl. Tuckwell** in the Ferret, died for six hours after an unsuccessful attack on what they found to be a dug-in Company of the 5 Para Regt. (V). The only major accident at this stage was **Pte. Cook** who received a flare in the eye. He has now recovered and is now trying to become a P.T.I. At this stage **Ptes. Watson, Langdon** and **Moyes** knew their way in 129F to the Doctor's location after numerous visits with exercise training casualties.

Change of phases brought a change of transport to the majority of the Battalion, A.P.C. one minute, Heliborne assaults the next. The Company did practice on the ground for its new role but only 5 Pl made it into the air—we blame the cooks and compo! Instead we became 'Rent a Combat team' and on the last day started with 1 D.E.R.R. Battle group, joined 1 R.T.R. and carried out numerous Royal Engineer bridge crossing and route clearance tasks before finally being loaned to 5 Innis D.G. to lead the way for the last few hours.

General News

An eventful year also included a number of one-off situations. Sgt. Luker and **L/Cpl. Wardall** represented the Battalion at Bisley. 2/Lt. O'Hare and 2/Lt. Davis having passed P.C.D. at Warminster are now qualified to command a platoon (keep your heads down now!). We were visited by **2/Lt. John Marsh**, potential officer, University Student and part-time comedian who everyone took to their hearts.

We unfortunately said goodbye to Major Crighton Wakelin and his wife Trish who departed for Camberley (no, not retraining) as G2 in the big house. Also gone is **W.O.2 (C.S.M.) A. Flay** and his family to Crickhowell (rumour has it he volunteered!). **W.O.2 Morgan** arrived on promotion and **Major West** will no doubt arrive one day in February 198? via the Battalion 2IC's office where he has spent time attempting to edit and re-write (mostly re-write) 'B' Coy journal efforts!

C/SP COMPANY

Since the last journal notes the Company has grown in numbers and would appear to continue the movement, with of course the regulation pauses . . . Two . . . Three.

Having returned from Exercise "Medicine Man II", the Corps of Drums joined the Company to swell our numbers. More will be heard from them on their own account.

The Company has taken an active share in the Battalion life. The Maiwand week-end celebrations were well received, and our share in the carnival spirit was the organisation of the Battalion and Old Comrades' Association Dance. Suffice to say a great time was had by everyone.

Partly due to the wealth of talent, the Company sponsored and organised the Battalion Tug-of-War Competition. However there is no truth in the rumour that this fact enabled the Company to win one of the weight division titles.

Other Sporting news is that the Company won the Inter Company Football competition which finished in March 1980. Other successful results were runners-up in the Basketball and the Hockey competitions. In May whilst the Sennelager training was being carried out, a composite platoon of Milan and Mortars won the Battalion Inter Platoon competition.

Militarily the highlight for the Company was the formation of the Composite Platoon for the Divisional Commander's Post Exercise and, that by now familiar exercise, Exercise Crusader. Commanded by **C/Sgt. Turaga**, with **Sgt. Jones** as his platoon sergeant, the manpower came from the Regimental Cooks, the Officers' and W.O.'s and S.N.C.O.'s Messes, the M.T. Platoon and wait . . . believe it or not **Cpl. Jones** from the P.R.I. Shop. Working hard and endearing themselves to the Commanding Officer he nicknamed them DAD's ARMY. The exercise over the manpower from Dad's Army left the Company to return to their various comfortable niches around the Battalion.

Training Wing is another element of the Company that appears to be growing. **C/Sgt. Bryant**

has returned to the Battalion and joined the wing in lieu of **C/Sgt. Godwin**. Sgt. Jones has settled in, as has **L/Cpl. Johnson** who will shortly take over from **L/Cpl. "Noddy" Martin**. Noddy Martin, a singular character, has been with the Battalion for years. He is shortly leaving the Battalion to become a U.K. based civilian employed with the P.S.A. in Osnabruck. It was 16 years after he joined the Battalion that he became an N.C.O. and because of his loyal service he was nominated by the Battalion to be one of the recipients of the Queen's Jubilee Medal. From all of us in C/SP Company we wish L/Cpl. Martin all the best in his future employment.

Other members who have departed are: **Pte. Lewis** who has been C Company Arms Kote Storeman since Shoburness day; **Major Saunders** who has gone to Staff College (more affectionately known as the College of Knowledge) no doubt we will see him again. The Company wishes him every success and hope that the German course will be rewarded with a Staff job in Germany.

New arrivals into the Company H.Q.'s are **L/Cpl. Maggs** who takes over from **L/Cpl. Goodman** as Company Clerk. The latter now works in the Gymnasium under **S.S.I. Finch's** careful eyes. **Pte. "Benny" Cross** has taken over as Company Arms Kote Storeman, whilst **Major Cornwell** has taken over as the Battalion Left Winger as Hockey vice Major Saunders.

STOP PRESS. Due to the editor's deadline, the news of the Training Wing is now old hat, as that Department resides with **W.O.2 Carter** and H.Q. Company.

The Corps of Drums

Since the last publication of the Regimental journal, the Corps of Drums has undergone some



L/Cpl. Towner, Ptes. Missenden and Davies at the Language School.



The Mortar Platoon Section exercise in Canada.

dramatic changes. The major innovation is that the platoon has moved from "B" Company to C/Sp. Company. Whilst the main objective was that the Corps of Drums should be able to concentrate more on their musical training, "B" Company are convinced it was a move to sabotage their Boxing Team. Be that as it may, with regular music training the Corps of Drums are now achieving a higher musical standard.

During the last few months, members of the Battalion may have noticed either a lone soldier or a brace, wearing complete No. 2 Dress and putting a strange shaped object to their mouths. This motion is then followed by a stranger phenomenon; the soldier filling his lungs and puffing into the object. Result, no it is not the secret opium smoker but the Battalion Duty Drummer. More of the newer members of the Corps of Drums are learning the different calls that make up the repertoire and shortly all the Duty Drummers will be solo duties.

The military training we have endured over the past year has been quite intense, especially during our last six months with 'B' Company, as we were training for and taking part in, Exercise "Medicine Man II". In September, like everyone, we were involved in Ex "Crusader". The Corps of Drums or "Rent a Platoon" worked extremely hard and would like to express their appreciation to our stand-in Platoon Commander, **Lt. Smurf Smith**. One afternote from Exercise "Crusader", during the actual exercise **Dmr. Woolford**, alias "Robert Redford" received a war wound to the lower portion of his anatomy, he spent the next three weeks in hospital. Happily Woolford has returned to the fold and is currently engrossed in writing the "Confessions of a Hospital Bed Peg Leg".

In the sporting field the Corps of Drums have been very active. In the C Sp. Company internal volleyball competition the Corps of Drums ran out winners and then went forward to represent



Sgt. Evans and Cpl. Fisher doing some off duty prospecting.

the Company in the Inter Company Competition. Despite being beaten in the semi-finals by the eventual winners, we had the satisfaction of playing in the best and closest fought game. As has already been mentioned, our move from "B" to C/Sp. Company was a gain for C/Sp. Company Boxing Team. **Dmrs. Marginson, Tollafield 16, Tollafield 32, Hanson and L/Cpl. Bridgwater** were all members of the Company team. Bridgwater and Tollafield 16 managed to reach the finals of their respective weights, Bridgwater winning his particular final.

The Mortar Platoon

As the year is drawing to its close we can look back on an extremely busy twelve months. The year began in the usual way with our annual Mortar Cadre, during which the newcomers to the platoon were initiated into the mortaring fraternity.

This cadre was extremely important for both the new and the not so new platoon members, after the months spent in Northern Ireland. The training continued until mid-March and then our working time-table became really busy.

Our first period of field firing was in support of 1 Royal Tank Regiment providing illumination of their night-firing. This was a very successful venture especially as we were able to use the facilities to further our own training.

Immediately following this, half the platoon went to assist 4 Royal Tank Regiment on their annual shooting camp. This was a particular bonus as it gave the platoon the opportunity to work with the two squadrons we were to support some weeks later in Canada.

Our next operation was to support 40 Field Regiment R.A., in particular "Java" Battery, who we later accompanied to Canada. Obviously

the R.A. and Mortars work hand-in-glove and it was important to establish a good relationship with them and practice all procedures necessary to provide good fire support. During this exercise we were fortunate to have the opportunity of using our range-finding equipment.

Next, we went to Sennelager where we practised evading mortar-locating radar and we think they are still looking for **Sgt. Chippy Carpenter's** section. Also, while we were there we proved ourselves able riflemen by winning the inter-platoon competition.

Without pausing for breath we went straight into our pre-Canada training at Soltau. Heavily involved in this training was 2 Section commanded by **Sgt. Spanish Navarro**. When the battle group assembled it was like a reunion for us as we again met the other units with whom we had trained the month before.

The last week in May saw the platoon en route to Canada. After a few days spent settling in and sampling the delights of Medicine Hat we launched into the two-week training period with vengeance. Each day on average, we fired a hundred rounds of H.E. and on some days many more. Although we did not have our complete platoon with us, our numbers were supplemented by two sections of French Canadian Mortars from the 22nd Regiment. With careful planning we were able to include them in most of our operations and both they and us enjoyed the experience. The fire orders especially were in many respects unique and **L/Cpl. Merv Towner** and **Pte. Plug Davies** are now capable of doing elevations and bearings in English, Spanish and French.

The Mortar Fire Controllers are not to be forgotten in Canada especially as they were required at times to send their fire orders in French. The opportunities afforded to practice map reading



The Mortar Platoon older and wiser after exercise. Note the Moustache competition.

were second to none as **Cpl. Taffy Fisher** will confirm. As a whole, the platoon had a very successful exercise in Canada proving that they are capable of producing quick and accurate fire support.

Once the exercise was finished we all looked forward to our hard-earned R. & R. which was spent in many diverse locations, some the censor forbids us to mention here. Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely but even then did not forget those left behind. It was very thoughtful of **I/Cpl. Frenchie Faulkner** and friends to send a postcard to the Commanding Officer from Alcatraz expressing the sentiment 'wish you were here'.

We left Canada during the last week of June and the following week saw us in Hohne for our platoon annual firing camp. During this we practised procedures ready for Exercise Spearpoint. One fact that was established whilst we were there was that the Platoon Commander and S.N.C.O.'s were not very good at dice. They were definitely not loaded in their favour. After camp the platoon went on leave and assembled again at the end of August, ready for Exercise Spearpoint.

There are many stories about Exercise Spearpoint, too many to relate here. Suffice to say the platoon was exercised in all phases of war and although the M.F.C.'s were "Killed-off" during the early stages of the battle, the mortar-line survived long enough to deploy next to a quarry which was a popular haunt for nude bathers. There is no



Callsign 72A on Exercise Kings Ride.



*Malcolm Allison can you manage this team?
C/Sp Football Team.
Winners Inter Company League 1980.*

truth in the rumour that **Sgt. Pete Maynard** has suffered premanent damage to his eyes using the high-powered binoculars. Another incident to be mentioned where a trooper from the Honourable Artillery Company — the enemy — woke up to find that he was about to be captured by that gentle and peaceful person **Sgt. Dennis Moloney**. Happily, we can now report that **W.O.2 Jim Long** is now regaining his lost weight after his enforced diet on Spearpoint. It was unfortunate that the C.Q.M.S. could not penetrate enemy lines to resupply him.

After Spearpoint we returned to camp to prepare for the mortar concentration. Unfortunately as a result of the present economic situation, this was cancelled. Alternatively, we held examinations for annual classification in camp. These were conducted by the mortar platoon of the Kings Regiment. At the same time the inter-section competition was held and the champions for the second consecutive year were 3 Section led by **Sgt. Dennis Mo'oney**. The overall standard of the result was most heartening and everyone had obviously worked hard.

The platoon has nearly completed a full cycle and are now preparing for their Christmas Party at the Niedersachsenhof and after leave we will be holding our annual cadre. We can only hope that next year will be as varied and interesting as this year has been.

Milan Platoon

1980 has seen several changes and achievements in the Milan Platoon.

C/Sgt. Hiscock having been with the platoon since it was formed left and was replaced by **C/Sgt. Lawrence** fresh from the recruiting world and retaining fond memories of steam age anti

tank platoons equipped with Wombat. After a year he is a convert to the superiority of Milan.

Cpl. Gibbs found his services as an instructor in demand in Zambabwe with the British Military Advisory and Training Team. A recent letter from him tells of his familiarity with all small arms of Warsaw Pact origin manufactured since the Second World War.

Both **Sgt. Bartlett** and **L/Cpl. Ball** served temporary attachments with BATUS in Canada. **Pte. Dodd** went to the Yacht Club in Kiel as barman and came back teetotal.

The Sporting World has seen several notable individual achievements. **Cpls. Reading** and **Tucker**, **Ptes. Ledgister**, **Stetchfield** and **Harris** regularly play for the Battalion 1st or 2nd XV rugby teams in addition **Cpl. Reading** and **Pte. Ledgister** have played for the Battalion soccer team. **L/Cpl. Scott** runs for the Battalion in the cross-country team. **C/Sgt. Lawrence**, **Cpl. Shead**, **Ptes. Gunning** and **Hodgkinson** are members of the Battalion Tug of War team. **Cpl. Ellis** went to Bisley with the shooting team and **Pte. Parker** was in the Battalion boxing team. **Sgt. Waters** in addition to playing for the Battalion Hockey team gained a distinction pass on his Milan course as did **Cpls. Mallinson** and **Ellis** on theirs. These and all the other members of the platoon who succeeded in some endeavour both at Battalion Company or individual level are to be congratulated.

Exercise Spearpoint provided the first opportunity we have had to operate as a complete platoon in the field. Normally we provide individual sections to their respective companies as happened with Callsign 72 on Exercise King's Ride earlier in the year and Callsign 72's trip to Canada with 'B' Company. Spearpoint saw the Battlegroup anti-armour siting coming to fruition with three sections of the platoon dug-in and playing a key role in the overall anti-armour battle, alongside Swingfire, Wombat and Mobats of our attached sub-units. The exercise provided us with a unique opportunity to experience the effect of mass armour attacking our positions.

Finally, as this is being written we have a Milan cadre in progress training for our future. After nearly four years in the Anti-Tank/Milan platoon we find that **Captain Steevenson** has finally decided to let someone else have a chance to be Watchkeeper in Battlegroup H.Q. and has elected **Lt. Tomlinson** to succeed him — providing **Lt. Tomlinson** can be located (last seen speeding downhill on skis in Austria, Switzerland, Bavaria . . .

'D' COMPANY

Last year's journal notes concluded by saying how we were looking forward to the exercises of 1980, well we've certainly had our fair share of them even though our Canada Exercise was cancelled. It hasn't however all been exercises as these notes will show.

Parades

"D" Company, much to the delight of **C.S.M. Hicks**, were selected as the R.S.M.'s Company on last year's Ferozeshah Parade, very fitting as the C.S.M. was to hand over to **W.O.2 Sherman** in the middle of 1980 and it was his last Ferozeshah Parade as a C.S.M. Perhaps his next will be as R.S.M.! Probably as a result of being R.S.M.'s Company but more likely because everyone else had gone to Canada, "D" Company were to provide the Guard representing the Battalion at the Freedom of Osnabruck Parade. It was an interesting parade, made more interesting by the rehearsals under the Garrison R.S.M. The Garrison Commander commended the Guard on their excellent performance and for helping to make the parade a fitting occasion for the granting of the Freedom of the City. Perhaps we can continue in our high standard of drill and be R.S.M.'s Company again this year, but there are three other C.S.M.'s determined they will have that honour this year.

Sport

Sport has continued to feature very highly on our list of priorities. It was noted that, during one Company Conference, we in "D" Company virtually run the Battalion's Sport. C.S.M. Sherman manages the Football Team, **Lt. Wort** runs Battalion Rugby, **Lt. Barlow** runs basketball and is 2i/c Cross Country, **C/Sgt. Fedrick** is the Hockey King, **Sgt. North** helps run Boxing, the O.C. runs the Squash and our L.A.D. S/Sgt. runs the L.A.D. Football Team. Our successes throughout the year have included runner-up in 1979 and winners in 1980 of the Battalion Boxing, winning both Battalion Rugby and Hockey, and runners-up in the Football. Our six-a-side Cricket team was runner-up in Task Force Delta's Summer Sports Day and the Hockey Team reached the semi-finals in the Winter Sports Day. We provide virtually the complete Battalion 2nd Hockey XI thanks to the enthusiasm and skill of **C/Sgt. Fedrick** and thanks to the enthusiasm but perhaps lack of skill at the moment of such stalwarts as **White 66**, **Begley** and **L/Cpl. Lawrence**, for example. **Pte. Hamilton** and **Cpl. Shervington** regularly playing for the First XI.

Coupled with sport its skiing, throughout 1980 we have sent virtually half the Company on Ex



"They issue soggy maps these days."
Capt. Coates and Maj. Parslow on Ex Spearpoint.

Snow Queen or on Ski courses at Silberhutte. Already five members of the Company are training with the Ski Team for 1981. Our expertise on the snow slopes was illustrated when we took the Company for a day's skiing in the Harz. Most of us really looked quite professional. We were however let down by the O.C. whose skis often went down the hill minus the O.C. and the C/Sgt. whose black jacket, jeans and corduroy hat were not quite St. Moritz.

We have also sent people away to Norway or the Harz in the summer pot holing, Canoeing and climbing. The Platoons all went off for a week and their activities are described by Lt. Wort later. We will certainly continue sending as many on Ex "Snow Queen" as possible this year and with a bit of luck even the O.C. might make it.

Exercises

The year started off with Ex "King's Ride" when with a platoon of "B" Company we went off to Soltau and Uelzen to take part in the D.O.A.E. trial which is described in detail elsewhere in these notes. The D.O.A.E. in their report did acknowledge the "training standard, enthusiasm and motivation in the success of the trial", even though we were the enemy! The platoon commanders were certainly enthusiastic volunteering to carry the G.P.M.G.'s but I wonder if the D.O.A.E. scientists were quite so enthusiastic when we insisted on them blacking their faces and wearing steel helmets.

The next Exercise was to Soltau again, this time for the Battalion's pre Batus training. One platoon, 12 Pl, under Lt. Wort and Sgt. Watts went to the Battle Group to give the C.O. the flexibility of having four platoons (3 of 'B' Coy and 12 Pl.) for both his exercise and the Task Force Commander's Exercise. After a couple of day's training we were to be enemy on both the set exercises. Perhaps the highlight of the exercises was the

bouncing of 'B' Company's Reserve Demolition. Has O.C. 'B' Company ever forgiven us?

It was then 'D' Company's turn when yet again we went to Soltau with 5 Innis. D.G. to do our own Battle Group Pre-Batus training. No-one will ever forget the sheer ferocity of the rain during our time there, Soltau was literally turned into a large lake, and it always rained harder when we had to dismount or when we had to take orders, even chinagraph was washed off talc. Few of us infantrymen have experienced the speed of movement of an Armoured Battle Group, never enough time to prepare positions properly, never enough time to eat or sleep. More Compo was returned on this exercise than ever before, the main and only meal of the day consisted of sausage sandwiches eaten usually in the copola. It was then that we realised that cavalrymen have no real appreciation of the problems of us poor infantrymen. They could never understand our digging of 'holes' or why it took so long for us to mount our A.P.C.'s carrying all our kit often up to our knees in mud! The Task Force Commander's Exercise was held at Hohne which for those who have never been there is a real nightmare of an area. All this training however was to no avail; we learnt on our return that "Medicine Man 7" had been cancelled to save money.

Finally, Exercise "Spearpoint", the first phase of which we again came under command of 5 Innis. D.G. We were responsible for the defence of two villages in the main defensive battle, Odelum and Garmissen, fortunately with so much Engineer support available we were able to turn both villages into formidable defensive positions, digging so many "holes" that enemy artillery never knew which position we were in fact occupying. Our defence of the villages were summed up by the Battle Group Commander who said "Your heroic and defiant defence of Garmissen incensed



Can I exchange this canoe Staff?
Lt. Wort.

the Americans as much as it gratified all of us". After the "Battle of the Villages" and frustrating the smoothness of the Orange Forces advance, we moved back to under command of the Battalion in the wooded feature — the Osterwald. There we spent a considerable amount of time chasing what was left of 15 Para after 'A' and 'B' Company had "savaged" them. The exercise finished as it began on a high note, along with 'C' Company we were helicoptered in advance of the main Blue Forces to secure a route through another wooded feature. Apart from the initial Army Air Corps nonsense of landing us in a well-defended L.Z., that is well defended by the enemy, our running battles with the Americans proved to be interesting and eventually successful.

It would be unfair after this description of the exercise not to give a vote of thanks to these non-regimental members of the Company, the L.A.D. Section. Throughout all these exercises they worked long hours to keep us all on the road. They succeeded and we are grateful to them.

The Future

1981 will again be an interesting year. We will be going to Canada in April even though it means yet another trip to the Battle Group Trainer at Sennelager and to Soltau for pre-Batus training.

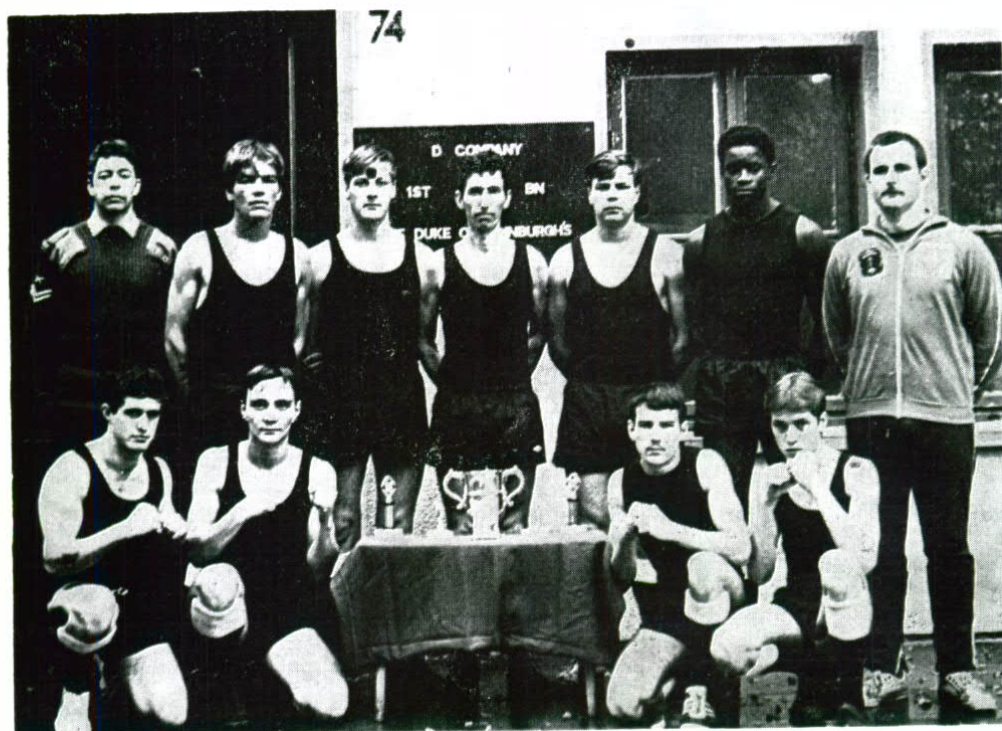
We really thought we'd seen the last of the infamous tank bridge or Giant Viper demonstrations. During the next year we will be losing some 'D' Company stalwarts: **Sgt. North** and **Sgt. Watts** go, **Cpl. Batty**, **L/Cpl. Probets**, and **L/Cpl. Wolfenden** are also due off, the second in command will probably leave us and so will the O.C.

'D' Company Adventure Training

Dextrous Delta Do It Again! Delta Company managed to send all three platoons away on Adventurous Training in what has been a very hard year for the Company, with all its Soltau commitments and "Crusader 80".

The idea of platoon adventure training was that it would be a good chance for each platoon to get away for a week at a time with either the platoon commander, or platoon sergeant as custodian, with the view to a break in military activity and the chance to do some outdoor pursuits (and some indoor ones as well). Each platoon managed to take up to 23 people away at any one time. 10 Platoon and 12 Platoon both went to the Hartz Mountains on the border between East and West Germany approximately 100 Km South East of Hanover, whilst 11 Platoon managed a trip to Albis in Bavaria to a hut owned by 40 Fd. Regt. R.A.

A good time was had by all and a week to be



*D. Company, winners of the Inter Company Boxing.
Cpt. Batty, Pte. Raeburn, Pte. Smart, L/Cpl. Grant, Pte. McFarlane, Pte. Bryan, Sgt. North.
In front: Pte. Eddy, Cpl. Hillsdon, Pte. Etheridge, Pte. White 14.*

remembered was the most frequently heard comment, although there were others with the view of going absent and spending a further week pursuing the local frauleins and sampling the delights of the local hostelrys.

Other more adventurous activities included walking, climbing, canoeing, swimming, and pot-holing, and even some windsurfing. Despite the boast that "windsurfers do it standing up" **Pte. "Ted" Heath** found it easier to do it sitting on his surf board being towed by an obliging local in his speedboat. Canoeing was probably the most popular pastime and by the end of the week almost everybody had mastered the art of canoeing in a straight line and staying upright except for 12 Platoon Commander who spent more time emptying his canoe of water and climbing back into it. The reports that he had a self-capsizing canoe which was built upside down were not true. After a hard day's activities it was found that the local beer keller was the best place to go for a massage (an alcoholic rub from the inside).

The evenings saw everyone "tarting" themselves up for a night on the town, and despite the tightness of **Sgt. North's** walking out inspections most people managed to get out most nights, and without exceptions were all back by the next day.

The general consensus of opinion was that a good time was had by all and that we should go back next year which hopefully we will be able to depending upon our exercise commitments.

REGIMENTAL BAND

What is a Band? The Oxford Dictionary of Music defines it as "a body of wind-instrument players". I would take that statement a step further. A Band is a group of musicians formed under one Cap Badge who are charged to give dedication to duty at all times. The functions of a present-day Band are twofold, the primary role being musical and its secondary role medical.

The Band is the absolute epitome of its Regiment having emblazoned on its drums the Colours, it is also the finest ambassador any Regiment could wish for, being called on to "show the flag" in front of other Regiments and even other countries. During this past year our Regimental Band has been called upon to supply the following musical combinations: Marching Band, Concert Band, Large Dance Orchestra, Ten-piece Bavarian Band, Fanfare Trumpets, Seven-piece Beat Group, Five-piece Brass Ensemble, Folk Trio and even a Male Voice Choir. We have taken these combinations to many countries and being ambassadors

have returned leaving happy memories of a fine Regiment behind us, for it is the name of the Regiment that we represent when on parade. Of the Medical side suffice to say the Band acquitted itself on Exercise "Spearpoint" with flying colours being attached to 223 Volunteer Field Ambulance and assisting Main Dressing Station Charlie in two locations. Its greatest achievement was winning the Osnabruck Garrison Band Medical Competition. Not only did we produce the best all-round result by winning five out of the six rounds outright, but also had the best syndicate.



The Winning Syndicate.

Band members come and go and two are worthy of mention. The B.S.M. position was vacated by **W.O.2 Tony Durcan**, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, in September who has left the Band for his last six months in U.K., we wish him "Dabo I Chwat". He has been succeeded by **W.O.2 Dave Calladine** who has served with the Band since just after its formation in 1959. This year we bid farewell to **Bandmaster Nigel Borlase** who leaves the Army for civvy street after eight memorable years with the Regiment and we wish him every success with his chosen career. To take up the position of third Bandmaster in the amalgamated Regiment just before its Twenty-first year we welcome **Bandmaster Bob Nother** to whom we extend a true Farmer's Boy welcome in the hope that his will be a long and memorable stay.

There is no doubt that the Regimental Band goes from strength to strength and their ability to both "blow" and "bandage" increases daily. 1980 has seen a busy year and one which has brought a particularly gratifying amount of success in both our musical and military fields. We know one thing — it will take a good Band to topple us in the Medical Competition next year — so the opposition had better start training now!

BISLEY 1980

The Battalion continued the tradition of the past few years and entered a team in the Regular Army Skill at Arms Meeting.

This year we started training in mid-March, but soon found that B.A.O.R. is not tuned to any form of full bore competition shooting. So, in April we decided to move to the U.K. to find more favourable conditions returning only for the 2 Armd Div. Meeting in order to qualify for the Bisley Meeting.

At 2 Armd Div. we were successful in retaining the G.P.M.G. Cup, with all three gun pairs in the top five places, **C/Sgt. Les Turaga** and **Sgt. Luker** were narrowly beaten into second place. Our overall position in the meeting was second, but we were only just pipped in the rifle and S.M.G. matches.

At the Bisley Meeting we were placed 17th out of 62 Major Units, which was a respectable outcome particularly as we had included some inexperienced newcomers in the team to acquire experience. We were most successful in the team matches. Results from the Meeting were:

Rifle Match — 31st

S.M.G. Match —

14th **Pte. Clay** 45th out of 500 plus firers (Medal plus Bar)

S.M.G. (Para Cup) — 5th

L.M.G./G.P.M.G. Match —

14th **W.O.2 Minty/Sgt. Luker** 11th out of 250 gun teams (Medal and Bars)

Section Match — 17th

Team Snap — 14th

Shooting, especially Small Bore, has long been a strong sport in the Battalion. We have the talent to do as well at Full Bore, but more new blood is needed to replace the old and bold. So anyone interested step forward and give it a try.

MAIWAND CELEBRATIONS 1980 OR T.W.T.W.T.W.

(THAT WAS THE WEEKEND THAT WAS!)

Surely the highlight of the year was the Maiwand celebrations which occurred over the period 17th–20th July 1980 when the Battalion not only celebrated the 21st occasion of Maiwand since amalgamation, but also hosted the Colonel-in-Chief, the Colonel of the Regiment and some 70 members of the Old Comrades' Association and their wives.

The weekend started with the arrival of the Old Comrades by coach late in the evening on the 17th July. A quick refreshing drink — and placing of duty-free orders — followed by a briefing on the programme to be undertaken — for those whose



"I'm sure it went that way!"
The Colonel-in-Chief with (L-R) Cpl. Mallinson,
Cpl. Scott, Maj. Wakelin.

eyes still remained open — and then the visitors were whisked away by their hosts to catch some sleep before starting their whirlwind programme with a visit to Osnabruck town centre at 9.00 a.m.

Returning to the Dining Hall at mid-day the Old Comrades watched the official opening of the newly-constructed Hawkins Restaurant by **Lt. Col. G. F. Woolnough**. The splendid Restaurant was designed, prepared and constructed by **Cpl. Hawkins** of the Battalion Domestic Pioneer Section, and it was fitting for Lt. Col. Woolnough, as the very first Commanding Officer of the Regiment, to open the Restaurant for use by the soldiers. The opening was followed by the Old Comrades having lunch with the present young soldiers; an event much enjoyed by everyone and a novel way to break the ice — only those at the lunch could re-count the number of times the new lamps were swung!



Opening of Hawkins Restaurant.
(L-R) Cpl. Hawkins, R.Q.M.S. Green, Mrs. Muir
(Restaurant Manageress), S.Q.M.S. Smallridge
with Lt.-Col. Woolnough.



The Colonel-in-Chief viewing Survival Training.

The afternoon gave an opportunity for the Battalion to show itself off "at work" in the form of a series of stands and demonstrations and it was during this period that the Colonel-in-Chief joined our festivities and saw many facets of B.A.O.R. life. From that moment the speed and variety of hosting, entertainment and organisation really began to get under way with photographs of the Colonel-in-Chief with the Old Comrades, W.O.'s and Sgts., and Cpls. Perhaps the most delightful event was reserved for the children who, in attempting to obtain close views of the Colonel-in-Chief, suddenly found themselves invited by His Royal Highness to have their photograph taken as well—an invitation instantly accepted and a thrill which will doubtless remain with the children all their lives.

An evening of entertainment followed in the respective Messes with the Colonel-in-Chief opening the new Corporals' Club, then proceeding to drinks in the W.O.'s and Sgts. Mess before finally having supper in the Officers' Mess where the evening's entertainment was rounded off by an interesting mediaeval musical soiree.

Saturday dawned with the Old Comrades being mustered at the P.R.I. Shop to purchase souvenirs and a collection of vast quantities of "attractive" items to return to U.K. with at the end of the visit. We are reliably informed that the Channel was not the only place "awash" on their return!

The Drum Head Service which was to have followed on the Battalion Square was unfortunately diverted to the Church due to the heavens opening and participation was necessarily restricted to the capacity of the Church. The Service was followed by the Old Comrades marching past the Colonel-in-Chief and then the Regimental Association meeting commenced in H.Q. Coy Club, attended by well over 100 people.

Those who were anticipating entering the magnificent Maiwand Games in the afternoon and managed to avoid the pitfalls of leaning on the Bar proceeded to the Sports Pitch where each Company in turn hosted the Colonel-in-Chief for a particular part of lunch. Despite the weather, which was appalling, there were smiles everywhere and a determined attempt by all was made to really enjoy the afternoon's activities.

The "Star Games" were appropriately opened by the Colonel-in-Chief with the setting off of **L/Cpl. Martin** and **Ptes. Wetherall** and **Parsons** on a sponsored bicycle ride from Osnabruck to Salisbury where the team presented a letter of greetings to the Mayor of Salisbury. The event raised the magnificent sum of £600 which was equally divided between the Wardrobe Appeal Fund and Save the Children Fund—a magnificent effort. The serious business of the Games followed—along with the rain! The Colonel-in-Chief spent the afternoon watching events, and talking to everyone, particularly the children, and trying his hand at the sideshows—including throwing sponges at **Major Kenway's** face protruding from that well-known piece of toiletry equipment! We are told that Major Kenway was somewhat "flushed" with success at making the Royal Visitor miss!

A hectic afternoon's sports, children's games and side-shows came to an end after the old soldiers' race in which the Commanding Officer **Lieutenant Colonel Coxon** was well "nobbled" by **Major West** close to the finish with a flying tackle—well, he was in danger of beating the Old Comrades! We then regrettably had to bid farewell to the Colonel-in-Chief but not before he presented the prizes to all the winners of the afternoon's events. The children again featured heavily and experienced great delight we are sure at receiving their prizes from the Colonel-in-Chief. Three



The start of the Great Noddy Martin Bicycle Ride. (L-R) Ptes. Wetherall, Parsons and L/Cpl. Martin.

rousing cheers from everyone concluded the afternoon as the Colonel-in-Chief departed.

Sad as we were to see the Colonel-in-Chief depart, the pace of the activity was to continue — if not intensify — with an All Ranks Dance being held in the evening and which turned out to be an unqualified success with the Regimental Band's Bavarian Section providing traditional music whilst the more active of the audience sampled the frenzied activity of Skeleton Order Disco — by courtesy of **Sgt. Le Strange** and **Cpl. Wright**. The evening ended at — well we are not quite sure of the time — but we are able to report that by 10 a.m. the following morning we had managed to locate, revive, feed and collect together all the Old Comrades proceeding back to U.K. by coach! What an emotional time the farewell turned out to be with genuine regret shown all round that such a lovely weekend had to come to an end. Amidst much emotion we bade farewell to our comrades and, although we sighed a sigh of relief, it was a sigh of regret at watching so many friends depart and comfort in the knowledge that the weekend really had been T.W.T.W.T.W. We look forward to a similar visit before long!

A VISIT TO H.M.S. VERNON or "A RUN ASHORE"

In July a party of some 25 Officers, Warrant Officers, Sergeants and Soldiers, together with a number of wives, spent a delightful long weekend visit as guests of H.M.S. Vernon, our affiliated Naval Establishment.

The party travelled, in the main, by coach from Osnabruck on Thursday, 3rd July and arrived at tea-time to be met by a most welcome "Cuppa" and old friends and faces from the visit of H.M.S. Vernon to the Battalion in 1979. Drinking our tea on the run a mad scramble took place in order to prepare for the Beating Retreat at 1630 hrs. The Regimental Band, who were in England for the K.A.P.E. tour, performed the ceremony. The ending of the Beating Retreat heralded the start of the serious business of the visit and parties disappeared to various messes to renew old acquaintances and commence a rate of hospitality — and a flow of liquids — that took two weeks to fully recover from.

On the Friday we were treated to visits to the various departments of H.M.S. Vernon to see how the establishment functioned and we nearly managed to "lose" the party leader, **Major W. A. Mackereth** in the underwater helicopter escape trainer — he survived nevertheless and even re-

ceived a certificate — but we all disapproved of the colour of his underwear!! the visit was followed by the Officers attending the Summer Ball, the Sergeants a Country and Western Night, and the soldiers visiting Portsmouth with their hosts (it's simply not true that Portsmouth ran dry or that **L/Cpl. Fitzgerald** subsequently suffered Gout!). The Officers in the meantime were treated to magnificent hospitality during the Summer Ball and the sight of that well-known actor **Oliver Reed**, resplendent in Highland Dress, performing hand-stands at the table!

Having "steered" ourselves into the early hours successfully still standing, we found that an early start on Saturday was required to tour H.M.S. Victory, a tour of the R.N. Museum, a boat tour of the harbour including a view of H.M.S. Invincible (which was due for commissioning the following Friday by H.M. The Queen) and yet again more liquid refreshment at lunch-time.

A welcome respite in the afternoon gave everyone a chance to "dry out" somewhat and close one's eyes for much-needed sleep. Saturday evening saw the Officers visiting the White Horse Inn at Droxford, the Sergeants at a Disco and the junior ranks living it up at Horsea Island beach where a barbeque and disco resulted in many wet soldiers and sailors!

Sunday morning arrived much too quickly and



W.O.1 (Bm) **R. Nother** with Fleet C.P.O.
T. Caldicott.



More to this than meets the ear!
Wren Lorraine Steel with Bdsms Finlay (L) and
Bdsms Dunford (R).

we reluctantly prised ourselves away from comfortable beds and "braced" ourselves for the next round! A delightful Church Service in the Ship's Church was followed by preparations by the Officers to sail to Osborne House on the Isle of Wight where a barbeque and a visit to the house had been arranged. Unfortunately the weather failed us shortly after arrival and the heavens opened just as the barbeque began. Not to be outdone, however, the garden party continued with everyone ignoring the torrents that descended whilst trying to come to grips with chicken legs, strawberries and cream. We are convinced **Majors West and Wakelyn** were responsible for the disappearance of most of these attractive items! Meanwhile the stalwarts ignored the rain and continued eating whilst sat in puddles which formed in the chairs (one wife reporting that dye from her jeans even gave her a "woad" look upon changing later that day!) and watched the antics of two Officers, who shall remain nameless, who persisted in attempting to water-ski, using a baking dish in lieu of a ski, direct from the beach — theory was good but practical application disastrous! An interesting visit to Osborne House in the afternoon followed and allowed people to dry out a little before returning to the beach to start the journey back to Portsmouth only to find that the Captain's launch had broken down! Lots of red faces but everyone was in such good spirits that our eventual return to Portsmouth via the Isle of Wight-Portsmouth ferry turned out to be a festive occasion in itself!

Early on Monday morning the party set out for Germany on the bus again and it really was sad to leave the hospitality and friendship of everyone

at H.M.S. Vernon. It was a most memorable occasion and cemented further our association with H.M.S. Vernon. Our sincere thanks go to Capt. Sutherland, Captain of H.M.S. Vernon, Commander Bill Alexander, Lieutenant Commander Lawrence Jay, Lieutenant Commander "Salem All" Barlow and Lieutenant Commander Edmunds and their ladies for giving everyone such a happy and worthwhile "Run Ashore". A final note — we hope to host visitors from H.M.S. Vernon again in Osnabruck in 1981.

THE HAWKINS RESTAURANT

The need to do something to improve the general appearance and facilities of the soldiers' dining hall was very apparent with the battalion's arrival in Osnabruck. With inadequate funds only minor efforts were attempted during the first year, but it became obvious that this was not going to be enough, and a greater effort was going to be needed to reach anything like the standard required.

The battalion's tour in Northern Ireland enabled a start to be made in the form of complete redecoration and provision of new curtains, this being the only work undertaken with public funds. New retractable lamps were also added at this stage. The new Commanding Officer, on his arrival, quickly gave approval for the funds needed, and set a date for completion. The whole project was to be completed in time for the Regimental Association visit in July 1980.

Various schemes were discussed as to the best way to approach the project, but in the end it was decided to go for a simple cubicle effect at the sides of the dining hall with the centre area divided by low wooden partitions enabling tables etc. to be moved for functions. A raised stage at one end provided a suitable area for a band or disco, with a cabin type salad bar complete with tropical fish tank at the other end, which could also double as a drinks bar if needed.

At this stage **Cpl. Hawkins** was brought in to transfer the ideas into reality, which as many association members have seen he has done with remarkable effect. New tools in the form of a heavy duty planer, and bench saws was provided by unit funds, together with large quantities of timber. Corporal Hawkins, assisted by **Pte. Keel**, completed the project on time, and naturally it was thereafter to be known as the Hawkins Restaurant.

The restaurant was duly opened by the first Commanding Officer of the battalion; **Lt. Col. G. F. Woolnough, M.C.**, on the occasion of the association's visit, and has been a great success ever since.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S ROYAL REGIMENT

OFFICERS' REGIMENTAL COCKTAIL PARTY

It had been hoped to combine this Party with the official opening of The Wardrobe by The Colonel-in-Chief.

Since the latter is not likely to take place until April 1982, a Party will be held on Friday 17th July at Regimental Headquarters. This will allow officers and their wives to inspect the new Museum, The Regimental Room and other places of interest.

TIME: 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

CHARGE: £2.50 per person.

APPLICATION: On the form below by Friday 3rd July **at the latest.**

To: RHQ The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment,
The Wardrobe, 58 The Close, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2EX.

I wish to attend the Cocktail Party on Friday 17th July, 1981.

Name (Block capitals).....

Rank.....

Address.....

.....

.....

The following will accompany me:—

.....

.....

.....

I enclose a cheque for £.....

Payable to DERR Officers' Subscription Fund.

Signature.....

FOR RECEIPT BY 3rd JULY

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S ROYAL REGIMENT (BERKSHIRE AND WILTSHIRE)

REGIMENTAL DINNER

The 1981 Officers' Regimental Dinner will take place at WADHAM COLLEGE, OXFORD, on Friday, 4th September at 7.15 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.

Dinner Charge

For drinks before dinner and a four course dinner with wines including port:

Subscribers £11.00

Non-subscribers £16.50

(inclusive of service and V.A.T.)

Officers of other Regiments/Corps who have served or are serving with our 1st Battalion pay the lower rate providing they are subscribers of their own Regiments/Corps.

Dress

Dinner Jacket. No medals.

Accommodation.

Available in Students' rooms in The College. Allocation will be in the Porter's Office at the main entrance.

Charge £5.25 (inclusive of service and V.A.T.) for bed and breakfast.

Parking

None in the College. Limited in streets around. Otherwise public car parks in the City.

Attendance

Notification is required by 24th August **at the latest** on the attached pro forma. Those wishing to sit with a particular person or persons should so indicate on the form.

To: Regimental Headquarters, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment,
(Berkshire and Wiltshire), The Wardrobe, 58 The Close, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2EX.

I will attend the Regimental Dinner on Friday, 4th September, 1981.

I would like to sit with.....

I require / do not require bed and breakfast at £5.25

I enclose a cheque for £.....payable to the DERR Subscription Fund

Name (Block capitals).....

Rank.....

Decorations.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Signature.....

As most people know it is one thing to create a project, and it is quite another to keep the momentum going. We are most fortunate in having a superb chargehand in **Mrs. Catherine Muir**, who keeps things very firmly under control; she now has a new washing machine, rotary ironer and a large rotary polisher, again all purchased with unit funds, to assist her to keep the restaurant looking as new.

The restaurant has proved very popular for functions, etc. We have even had an Officers' Mess ladies' night in it, whilst the Officers' Mess was being revamped, which was a great success. April 1981 will see a similar project completed for the Corporals in the other wing of the complex. Whoever takes over from us will indeed be a very fortunate battalion—as ever.

BATTLEGROUP ADVENTURE TRAINING IN CANADA

Adventure training is an integral part of the Medicine Man training package run by BATUS. Each battlegroup is allowed to use the opportunities offered by Canada's geography for two weeks at the end of each Medicine Man exercise.

Preparations were well under way when we arrived in Suffield and met the BATUS adventure training officer, **Capt. Ron Reilly**, and his staff. We opted for the Cline River Package which gave the maximum opportunities to the greatest number of Battlegroup personnel. **S.S.I Finch**, **Sgt. Mellers** and **Pte. Lohan** were fully employed checking and loading the specialised stores, rations, tentage and equipment necessary for over ninety men taking part in a variety of activities for two weeks.

Eventually the adventure training participants were gathered from the four corners of North



I.R.G. Commander — always got through with the supplies.



Sgt. Irwin — only here for the beer.

America fresh from R. & R. leave, placed on two Greyhound type buses and taken to the base camp in the Rockies.

The base camp was situated on the shores of Lake Abraham, seventy-five miles from the nearest town; Rocky Mountain House, itself no bigger than many English villages. We were lucky to secure the services of three highly-trained instructors from a Battalion training in Wainwright at the same time. We had just enough instructors to run five totally separate activities which were: rock climbing, canoeing, pot holing, pony trekking, snow and ice climbing and trekking. The eighty-six participants were divided into six groups each with a young officer as group leader.

Each group spent two days on the allotted activities with two days spent in camp administrative duties.

Sgt. Irwin, assisted by **L/Cpl. Kinnersley**, had the daunting task of controlling the adventure training stores. Beer though rationed was available, even in the midst of the Canadian brewers' strike! **Cpl. Flowers** and **Pte. Harrison** managed to cook some memorable meals in less than perfect conditions. Freshly-caught trout and mountain whitefish proved a popular supplement to compo rations.

Personal hygiene was assured by the use of the one shower in the grandiosely named David Thompson Resort. **C/Sgt. Brame** and **Cpl. "Radar" Strong** provided medical back-up. Our medics services were in considerable demand from the large numbers of tourists in the area, for whom a cut requiring stitches, could have entailed a round trip of one hundred and fifty miles to the nearest doctor.

Surrounded by an abundance of wildlife, we

had special camp rules. The local rubbish pit was known as the Bear Pit and trips to it had to be regulated to avoid mishap. Trekking parties avoided animal trails in the foothills though several animals took a good deal of interest in our activities. Ample proof of the strength and appetite of a bear was provided by a grizzly sow and her cub who visited our rock-climbing hut. Her tally was several pounds of margarine, jam, honey, tinned meat, bread and tinned peaches. She opened the tins herself in pursuit of her culinary ambitions.

The tragedy of the death of **2/Lt. Patrick Bills** of 40 Field Regiment provided its own lessons. He fell into the Siffleur Waterfalls as he was photographing a rainbow created by the spray. His death reinforced the sense of unity of all of us in the party.

The benefits of adventure training are well documented, and for many this was their first ever trip adventure training. The benefits to the Battle-group are less obvious but just as real. In summary individuals from many sub-units in our Battle group were brought together in activities which ensured very close co-operation. Many new friendships were created and the opportunity to participate was extended to as many as possible.

MESS NOTES

Officers' Mess

1980 has been the year we have been lucky on two accounts. Firstly we were privileged to have the **Colonel-in-Chief** to visit us during the Old Comrades' Maiwand weekend in July and secondly through the untiring efforts of the Q.M., **Major John Peters** and the **Commanding Officer** we now have an Officers' Mess we can all be proud of.

The first of our "highlights", the Colonel-in-Chief's visit, coincided with the visit of the Old Comrades to the Battalion during the period 18th-20th July. We held a very successful Supper in the Mess, entertained afterwards by Elizabethan music and reading from a group of, no, not travelling minstrels, but officers and teachers from Rheindalen. The Colonel-in-Chief departed on Saturday, 19th July and the Old Comrades departed on Sunday the 20th.

The Mess redecoration has now given us a Mess we can be justifiably proud of. New curtains, new carpets, a new fireplace, the lowering of the ceiling in both the Dining Room and Ante-room and a complete re-paint have really transformed the Mess and made us the envy of many other Regiments in Osnabruck. All of this was not achieved without a certain amount of cost in human terms

and also in financial terms. The living-in members in particular had to put up with nearly three months living in just one room in the Mess, often without heating and with meals being cooked in a tent outside the Mess. To give them their due, they bore up quite well! The "Battlefield" tours that took place at Coffee break most mornings conducted by the Commanding Officer will be remembered for a long time, probably with horror by most of the Subalterns.

1980 also saw us losing some eleven officers, among them **Majors Bill Mackereth, Crichton Wakelin, Steven Saunders** and **Roger Blackwell, Cpts. Terry Allen** and **Patrick Davidson-Houston** and **Lieutenants Russel Wardle, Barney Haugh** and **Phil King**. Arrivals have included **Majors Norman West, Alan Kenway, Paul Bradley, Mike Cornwell, Captains Alan Coates** and **John Silvester**, and **Lieutenants Terry Frelove, John Wort, Chris Higgs** and **Tim O'Hare**. Quite a turn around.

During the year we have entertained the Garrison Commander, **Brigadier B. L. G. Kenny**, dining him out in December, entertained the Colonel Commandant of the Prince of Wales Division, **General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley** and his wife to lunch, **Brigadiers Napier** and **Levey** from the Prince of Wales Division and numerous other officers. With the Battalion Boxing Team doing so well in the Divisional Novice Boxing Competition we have also entertained all the officers of the Kings Own Scottish Borders and the 5th Royal Inniskillin Dragoon Guards to supper after the Boxing. It is so pleasant to have such an attractive Mess in which to do our entertaining. Again, no Officers' Mess Notes would be complete without adding our thanks to **C/Sgt. Fielding, Cpl. Hedges**, and the Mess Staff for all their efforts during a particularly busy and trying year.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess

In the last edition we left you looking forward to 1980 and all too quickly the year is over and as the first snow clouds of winter are gathering over Osnabruck, it's time to put pen to paper once again. We have had a full year to say the least and many of the major events are already chronicled elsewhere in this edition but we know how much the readership likes to "um and ah" over comings and goings.

We towed the former Fuhrer (**Lt. Col. D. A. Jones**) out of camp in early January and within ten minutes of leaving our gate, he drove back in. Rumour has it that he thought the first time was the rehearsal! (sic)

We welcomed the new Commanding Officer,

Lt. Col. G. Coxon, M.B.E., and we dined both he and his wife in after the standard "settling-in" period. Needless to say, his after-dinner speech was well received by all, especially the ladies upon whom much flattery and many favourable comments were poured!! The Warrant Officers and their ladies were subsequently invited (in section strength), to the Commanding Officer's house for dinner, in a "get to know you" exercise which has now become a set piece affair for newly-promoted Warrant Officers and those recently returned from postings.

The training year was full as you will by now have read, but we managed to settle in well at Soltau, Sennelager and Suffield and the latter jogged the memories of those who participated in Ex Pond Jump and Pond Jump West all those years ago.

Our highlight of the year was without doubt the Maiwand weekend from 17th to 20th July. We were visited by the Colonel-in-Chief, the Colonel of the Regiment and members of our three Associations Regiment O.C.A.'s. What a full weekend that was and it all went off without one single rehearsal! H.R.H. visited the Mess for cocktails, an occasion which many of us are now used to. On the Saturday the Maiwand Sports were a great success and even though it rained all day, the enthusiasm of the children wasn't "dampened" and H.R.H. presented prizes to muddy but happy kids! We now also have a recent photograph taken with the Colonel-in-Chief and it was he who suggested that he have one taken with the children. I think a "Minty" was heard to say, "I wanna' sit by the Duke".

Exercise Spearpoint 80 has had so much coverage during the year and we all took a very active part. Even the "**Dreaded Ted Wheaton**" was a Platoon Sergeant in the compo platoon of C Coy!

Once again, promotions and postings have been many and varied and the roll is clearly shown at the beginning of the Journal. Having said that the most important change of the year was that of Regimental Sergeant Major. **W.O.1 Eric Millard** formally handed over to **W.O.1 John Venus** on October 17th. **W.O.1 Rod Hicks** took over as R.S.M. 2 Wessex. We welcome our new mentor and hope that he and Rita have a happy tour in Osnabruck.

W.O.1 Nigel Borlase has gone and in his place we welcome **W.O.1 Bob Nother** and wish both him and Babs a tuneful future. Nigel went out in a blaze of glory and humour and we shall miss both him and Liz very much indeed — good luck to you both!

We are all now busily preparing for Ferozeshah 1980 which will be another splendid affair held once again in the hall of the Gymnasium in de Wuste. We invite all Mess Members world wide. (Hopefully 629 M.C.T.G. will send the buses this year and not leave ladies in evening dresses standing outside when the temperature is down to -10°C , like last year).

Even as I write the dulcet tones of the R.S.M. rifling the Colour Party are wafting in the window . . .

Late News

We have just heard that **W.O.2 Doug Bailey** and **W.O.2 Pete Mullings** have been selected for promotion to W.O.1 in 1981. Appointments are 1 Mercian and 4 U.D.R. respectively.

Also another five Long Service and Good Conduct Medals — aren't we all good boys?

Corporals' Mess

The year of 1979 ended with the presentation of Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to **Cpl. "Ginger" Dobson** and **L/Cpl. "Barry" Shears** on the 18th December by Major General A. C. S. Boswell, C.B.E., Commander Second Armoured Division.

In June much to the disbelief of **Cpl. "Terry" Iles** the new home of the Corporals' Mess was officially opened by His Royal Highness Prince Philip during his visit for the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Maiwand and the 21st Anniversary of the Amalgamation. After the opening ceremony of cutting the tape and signing of the visitors' book His Royal Highness, escorted by **Cpl. "Dick" Wise**, spoke to many members of the mess. After the mess had said farewell to His Royal Highness the Mess entertained members of the Regimental Association with a Disco and Buffet Supper. The whole of the visit and opening passed off smoothly, thanks to **L/Cpl. "Martin" Klies** and other members of the committee.

On the Saturday His Royal Highness presented General Officer Commanding's Commendations to **Cpl. "Geoff" Barber** and **Cpl. "Brian" McIntyre** for Northern Ireland. Cpl. McIntyre has since been elevated to the dizzy heights of Mr. Vice in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess.

After the opening, the first event on the calendar was a games night in which we defeated the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. During the summer the pride of the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess was further routed when **Cpl. "Bob" Owens** and the mess team did battle on the cricket green. On present form it seems certain that we will further press home our domination when the representative teams

meet on New Years Day to do sport with a football. Already **I/Cpl. "Spud" Tait** has been seen nailing studs into a pair of tennis rackets, muttering the match will take place whatever the weather.

On the 18th October the Mess held a Ladies' Dinner Night to say farewell to **W.O.1 (R.S.M.) "Eric" Millard**. The meal was taken in Hawkins Restaurant, so named after Cpl. "Dave" Hawkins for excellence with a plane. A few days later the mess welcomed its new president, **W.O.1 (R.S.M.) "John" Venus** with warm hearts and trembling knees and thoughts of best kit and drill.

The Oriental Evening produced a dark spectre in the form of **Cpl. "Stan" Stanley** dressed as a lost Japanese Warrior but from which war nobody could say.

Cpl. "Dave" Jarrett was so looking forward to winning the Corporals' Mess Leg of the Players No. 6 Darts Knockout which he organised, but he was beaten by the eventual winner, **I/Cpl. "Steve" Lymath**.

The appointment of a medic, namely **Cpl. "Radar" Strong** as Mess Treasurer with the ability to collect mess fees and administer anaesthetics at the same time to ease the pain of parting money was rather tactful, we feel!

Throughout the year the Mess has said farewell to a number of its members to civvy street, two of which have missed us so much they have returned to the ranks, namely **Cpl. "Titch" Little** and **I/Cpl. "Key" Morrissey** who is at present being posted back to us by way of Post N.C.O. at the Depot, Lichfield.

We also say goodbye to two of our most dear Provost N.C.O.s, **Cpl. "Lenny" Grainger** and **I/Cpl. "Bob" Beattie** who depart for pastures new.

We are now looking forward to our next social function, the Christmas Draw, which this year is to be held in the Hawkins Restaurant. **Cpl. "Alan" Harvey** has the task of the organisation of the event, and has changed his mail sack for a shopping trolley to carry the draw prizes in. We would like at this stage to pass our sincere thanks on to the Commanding Officer for all his efforts in ensuring that once again we have a Corporals' Club. Without his personal interest and drive there is no doubt that we would still be queuing up for socials and Mess life in H.Q. Coy Club.

SPORTS NOTES

Random Shots

Prevented by the Northern Ireland tour in entering some of the leagues for the 1979/80

season the club had to make do with what the rear party could manage. This consisted of one team in the National Standing and Kneeling, one for the National Short Range, and two in the Wiltshire Leagues. The 'B' team won their league in the Wiltshire.

February saw a team of five qualify for the Rhine Army Championship at Paderborn, unfortunately success was not with us on this occasion and we only managed 5th place. **Capt. Tony Briard** however did become the new Rhine Army Champion on this occasion with a score of 597 out of an H.P.S. of 600, an extremely fine achievement. As usual we entered a team in the N.S.R.A. Regular Army Unit Championship coming sixth, and the Army Rifle Association Unit Team Championship attaining third place. Both these events saw some of our new shooters competing at this level for the first time.

A lull in shooting followed with the battle group flying off to Canada, only to find on return that we were required to enter (at the last minute) a garrison N.A.T.O. shoot, organised by local shooting clubs. Those taking part were service teams from Germany, Holland, U.S.A. and Great Britain. The event was organised on the lines of a Schutzenfest, shooting during the day, followed by the crowning of the Konig and a ball in the evening. The shooting is on German Club lines with all three disciplines being supported. Sounds easy, but not without a certain amount of skill. The team started with standing at 100 metres, which we won, and then on to prone, standing and kneeling at 50 metres followed by 10 metres air rifle. Due to a minor tactical error we were unable to repeat our 100 metre success, but we managed fourth overall, and top British team. We now know the form and aim to win next year.

We took over on their departure from Osnabruck, the close affiliation the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment had with a local German club, Nahne. This has resulted in several alternating friendly shoots and social events. It has also opened up contacts with other civilian clubs further afield, particularly with Osnabruck's twin town in Holland, Haarlem; to which we will travel for a return match shortly.

We are now well into the winter season with more teams competing than ever before. There are twenty-five shooting for the battalion on a regular basis with a further twenty-five taking an interest.

November 1980 saw **Major Peter Martin** finally leave the Osnabruck area and of course close ties with the club. To mark the occasion he has presented a very fine trophy, suitably inscribed the

"Stag Trophy", which will be presented annually to the battalion champion smallbore shot. We are all most grateful to Peter Martin for all he has done for the club over the years, and we are sorry to see him go. Peter's own shooting, after going through a sticky patch (must have been that Russian rifle), has continued to improve and is now as good as ever.

Two members of the D.E.R.R. Rifle Club were selected to represent the Regular Army in the Annual Inter Service Long Range Smallbore Match in September 1980. The first of these was Major Peter Martin who as captain of the Army Smallbore teams has fired in this match for an undisclosed number of years. The other was Captain Tony Briard firing in this team for the first time. To cut a long story short, the Army team (for the statistically minded, 25% of which was from D.E.R.R.), won every match, and even succeeded in beating an English team representing the English Smallbore Shooting Union.

The Combined Services Individual Competition was fired concurrently with the team matches. Peter Martin has been instrumental in obtaining a Wilkinson Sword Trophy for the winner of this match, so it was particularly appropriate that he should win it, dropping a mere 35 points out of a possible 2,200. To say that he was a popular winner is an understatement, as his unequalled contribution to smallbore shooting is acknowledged not only in the Army, but in all three Services.

It is also worthy of note that Peter Martin came fourth in the British National Championships held at Bisley during August.

Rugby

The 1979-80 Rugby season saw a mixture of results. The first team played nine matches winning three, losing four and drawing two. The second XV had a slightly better season although they only played four games winning three and losing one.

The results of the season bade well for this season and provided a very good platform on which to build a very strong Rugby Club as opposed to two Rugby teams. We were very sorry to see **Sergeant Major Dave Wiggins** leave to take up post as R.S.M. 1 Wessex because it left a gap in the training for the 1980/81 season.

However at the time of writing we have a very strong First XV having won all nine games played so far this season scoring 404 points for and 36 against. The second team have also produced some very creditable performances winning two games out of six, including a win over the Duke of Wel-

lington's second team which had everyone hanging on to their wellies until the final whistle with the 2nd's winning 12-10 — a really good fillip to morale and young players who gave everything against more experienced players.

The season is going very well at the moment with the 1st team through to the 3rd round of the Army Cup, a Rugby Club sweater on order and an injection of new talent into the Battalion and the idea in mind of forming a 3rd team for next season when we hope to improve upon this one.

Rugby Results

1st XV

Vs 5 Fd Force H.Q. & Sig. Sqn.	30 - 4	W
Vs 1 K.O.S.B.	34 - 10	W
Vs 1 R Hamps.	51 - 12	W
Vs 73 Ind. Fd Sqn.	18 - 10	W
Vs 10 Regt. R.C.T. (Cup Match)	52 - 0	W
Vs 8 Regt. R.C.T. (Cup Match)	28 - 0	W
Vs 4 R.T.R.	60 - 0	W
Vs 1 Kings	96 - 0	W
Vs 2 ADER	35 - 0	W

2nd XV

Vs 5 Fd Force H.Q. Sig. Sqn.	6 - 34	L
Vs 1 D.W.R.	7 - 14	L
Vs 1 D.W.R.	10 - 8	W
Vs 5 Fd Force H.Q. & Sig. Sqn.	0 - 12	L
Vs 7 R.H.A.	0 - 30	L
Vs 1 Glosters	6 - 16	L
Vs 2 ADER	12 - 4	W

Soccer

The 1980/81 season started in July, with **L/Cpl. Goodman** taking fitness training for some 40 keen potential battalion players on two evenings each week. Full time training with a battalion squad began immediately after Ex Spearpoint with **L/Cpl. Goodman** putting in much hard work, teaching basic skills and team coaching.

The first competitive game for the team was in the preliminary round of the Army cup in which we beat H.Q. Regt. 1 (B.R.) Corps 1-0 away from home. The first round proper took us out of the Army Cup when we were beaten 4-2 by 7 R.H.A. We drew our next match against 40 FD Regt. R.A. in the 2 Armd Div. Cup, at home and then travelled to Gutersloh for the replay. **L/Cpl. Webb** was replaced in goal by **L/Cpl. (Scouse) Dunn** — (R.E.M.E.) after only five minutes with a badly swollen ankle. This was followed by two quick goals from 40 FD Regt. within 10 minutes, these setbacks were soon forgotten as the whole team fought back magnificently winning by three goals to two, with the winning goal being scored by the substitute, **L/Cpl. Stevie Probets**. A shot on

the volley from outside the penalty area was created by **L/Cpl. Elliott's** strong run down the left wing to the goal-line followed by an accurate cross to the waiting L.Cpl. Probets.

The belated league fixtures have now just begun, in which we have entered two teams, in the hope that the younger players gain experience in the 'B' team ready for the assault on the Major Trophies in the next two seasons.

The battalion squad have just returned from Berlin where they played 1st Bn Grenadier Guards in the 1st round of the Infantry Cup, winning 6-0, a really good result. Once again our 39-year-old centre back **C/Sgt. Mitch Mortimer** had an outstanding match and is without doubt giving tremendous help to all the younger members of the team. In the hope that the bad weather does not curtail too many fixtures the experience gained by all the new players should stand the battalion in good stead for the future.

Boxing

After Ex Spearpoint had finally allowed the Companies to return to Camp everyone's attention was turned to the 1980 Inter Company Boxing Competition scheduled to be fought over the period 15th-17th October. For nearly two weeks company coaches bullied, beat and cursed at their squads while they sweated away the pounds of fat, and learnt the rudimentary technical points of the art of "fisticuffs".

Each team invariably had its problems finding a boxer at each weight and as the initial rounds were fought one could see the gutsy performances from numerous soldiers who came up against a known fighter. 'B' Company, the 1979 champions, unfortunately lost two good boxers in **Pte. Milner** through a hand injury in training and **Pte. Cook** who was hit in the eye by a pyrotechnic on Ex Spearpoint.

The finals were held on the evening of Friday, 17th October. **S/Sgt. Finch, A.P.T.C.**, with the help of the gym staff, had organised all the facilities for the event while the bandmaster, **W.O.1 Nother**, and followers played incidental music in the corner. Unfortunately, but to their credit, 'D' Company had arrived at this stage with enough points to take the Inter Company Trophy. The evening's entertainment produced no disappointments for the spectators. The most memorable fight was at Lightweight where **Pte. Tollafeld 16**, 'C' Company, outpointed **Pte. White**, 'D' Company, in three rounds of continuous punching. A highlight of the competition was the finding of **Pte. Bryan**, 'D' Company, and **Pte. Lynch**, 'B' Company, who had only joined the Battalion three

weeks previously; both won at their weight. **W.O.1 R.S.M. Millard** announced the events and results in his usual impeccable high standard and the Commanding Officer kindly presented the prizes assisted by the outgoing 2IC, **Major W. Mackereth**.

Results

Winners of the 1980 Inter Company Boxing Trophy:

'D' Company.

Individual winners:

Bantamweight	
Pte. Grant, 'D'	Pte. Brown, 'B'
Featherweight	
Pte. Smart, H.Q.	Cpl. Vincent, 'B'
Lightweight	
Pte. Tollafeld, 16 C	Pte. White, 'D'
Light welterweight	
L Cpl. Hillsdon, 'D'	L/Cpl. Carpenter, H.Q.
Welterweight	
Pte. Eddy, 'D'	Pte. Maxwell, 'C'
Light middleweight	
Pte. Bryan, 'D'	Cfn. Theunissen, H.Q.
Middleweight	
Pte. Lynch, 'B'	Pte. Raeburn, 'D'
Light heavyweight	
L Cpl. Bridgewater, 'C'	L/Cpl. Tuck, H.Q.
Heavyweight	
Pte. McFarlane, 'D'	Pte. Bowler, 'A'

Coaches

The back-up men in white with advice, bucket and towel were:

'A' Coy — Pte. Edgar
 'B' Coy — L/Cpl. Egan
 'C' Coy — C/Sgt. Mehrlich
 'D' Coy — Sgt. North
 H.Q. Coy — C/Sgt. Haines.

Individual Prizes:

Best Boxer — Pte. McFarlane, 'D' Coy
 Best Loser — Pte. White, 'D' Coy
 Most Improved Boxer — Pte. Maxwell, 'C' Coy.

Once the Inter Company Tournament was finished **C/Sgt. Mehrlich** was able to choose a squad for the Battalion Team and after organising equipment and a room swung into full time training. With the help of **Cpl. Batty** and **Sgt. North** the training initially was centred on fitness while as the date of the first competition drew near skills were improved. We were fortunate enough to receive assistance from **W.O.2 Q.M.S.I. Ray** from U.K. for two weeks in November.

On Wednesday, 3rd December the Battalion Team boxed 1 Kings Own Scottish Borderers in a home fixture. The gym looked immaculate, the R.S.M. had squeezed in every last spectator and



1 K.O.S.B. boxer and Fte. Lynch.

the Bandmaster was ready to drown the squeal of any bagpipes.

Although the result was 5-4 in our favour everyone agreed on the fact there had been a few rather questionable decisions and a 7-2 result would have been more acceptable. This does not detract from the fact that an extremely talented and gutsy performance was produced by the Battalion Team whose fitness training really paid off. Ptes. Tollafield, **Etheridge** and **Bastin** gave a 3-0 lead and Pte. Bryan produced a punch from nowhere to put his opponent out for the count. Pte. Lynch must be applauded for a tremendous bout which although he only just lost (boo, hiss) both boxers received a standing ovation. **L/Cpl. Webb** fought in a training session more than a bout and produced our 5th win. "We are the champions" screamed the crowd.

The team prepared over the period of a week for the quarter-final versus 5 Inniskilling Dragoon Guards. Feeling very confident after the previous success and extremely fit the Battalion team walked away with an 8-1 victory. However, **C/Sgt. Mehrlich**, never one for optimism, felt that we only deserved a 6-3 result. Another collection of questionable decisions. All boxers fought extremely well.

Pte. McFarlane, coming in at middleweight, produced an excellent demonstration of jabbing while the laurel wreath must go to **Cpl. Hillsdon**, who after losing in the previous match, went out and literally slaughtered his opposition in an example of skilful but very aggressive boxing.

The squad as a whole has shown that with training and good spirit that it can produce the results. In the New Year they box either 27 Field Regiment R.A. or 1 Royal Hampshires. We hopefully foresee the Stop Press news showing a result in our favour.

The Squad

C/Sgt. Mehrlich, Sgt. North, **Cpl. Batty**, Ptes. Tollafield 16, **Tollafield 32**, **Hanson**, Bryan, Lynch, Etheridge, White Milner, McFarlane, Bastin, **L/Cpls. Bridgewater**, Webb, Cfn. **Theunissen**, Cpl. Hillsdon.

Hockey

"The Spirit was willing but the flesh was not".

No, this is not the start of an article in Penthouse magazine but a description of the Battalion team halfway through December after the success of the 1979/80 season when we were promoted to League 1 in the 2 Division Zone.

League 1 unfortunately holds some of the better teams in B.A.O.R. and as the results show we have had our time cut out. Not to worry, someone once said it was the taking part, not the winning, that was important and this is a statement that the team unanimously agrees with.

Not wanting to linger on cold facts we have, however, had a very successful start in the Infantry Cup Knockout competition with a 4-0 win over the Glosters. On a particularly damp Monday afternoon the Battalion team tore into a rather confident opposition. **Major Cornwell** scored from the penalty spot, **C/Sgt. Fedrick** scored twice and **Capt. Proctor** swept through from the centre-half position to put the ball past the Infantry goal-keeper, 4-0 was a kind result considering the effort and aggression from the Battalion team backed by the first supporters of the season.

The season has also been dotted with a number of competitions. In October an exciting Inter Company competition was held which put 50 players on the field.

'D' Company were favourites but only managed to scrape through by the odd goal in each of their matches:

- 1st: 'D' Company.
- 2nd: 'C' Company/'B' Company.
- 3rd: H.Q. Company.
- ('A' Company were on exercise).

On Friday, 21st November Osnabruck Garrison held its annual winter sports day which included four leagues in a hockey six-a-side tournament. Where teams were actually fielding an 'A' and 'B' team from their regular 1st team the Battalion stuck stoically to the rules and produced company teams.

Unfortunately 'C', 'B' and H.Q. failed at the first hurdle but 'A' Company played 129 Bty and 'D' Company played 12 Armd Wksp 'A' in two very thrilling semi-finals. C/Sgt. Fedrick came unbearably close to scoring against 12 Armd but in

extra time 'D' Company lost to a breakaway goal.

At the representative level Capt. D. G. Proctor captains the Royal Signals team and played in the Army v R.A.F. G at the end of the 1979/80 season. Major Cornwell captains the Infantry team and will be ably supported by C/Sgt. Fedrick and **Sgt. Gardiner** if the Inter Corps competition takes place. Capt. Proctor, C/Sgt. Fedrick and **C/Sgt. Mortimer** represented a Garrison "over 32 years" team in a local competition. C/Sgt. Mortimer informs me with his age the combined ages are equal to 96 years, but you could not fault his ability when he saved three penalties in the final.

Due to the concentrated efforts of C/Sgt. Fedrick and aided by 'D' Company a 2nd XI team has also been fielded this season. After 'D' Company beat 2 Armoured Division Field Ambulance 7-1, the 2nd XI took them on and only managed a 2-2 result. If **L/Cpl. Lawrence** and **Pte. Hamilton** could harness their efforts into goal scoring instead of falling over the ball the score sheet would have been totally different. Since then a 2-1 score against was achieved when the 2nd XI played 11 men of 5 Innis. D.G. — "who said their umpire could only point one way".

Results

1 D.E.R.R.

v 2 Div. H.Q. & Signal Regt.	Lost	5-1	A
v 1 Corps Troop R.E.M.E.	Won	3-2	H
v 27 Fd. Regt.	Lost	3-1	H
v 7 R.H.A.	Won	3-1	H
v 2 Div. H.Q. + Signal Regt.	Lost	0-1	H

Garrison six-a-side competition

Semi-finals

'D' Company v 12 Armd Wksp 'A' Lost 0-1

Semi-finals

'A' Company v 129 Fd Bty Lost 0-2

Infantry Cup 1st round

v 1 Glosters Won 4-0

The following have represented the Battalion consistently:

C/Sgt. Mortimer, **Major Parslow**, **Capt. Sylvester**, **Sgt. Carpenter**, **Sgt. Waters**, **C/Sgt. Turaga**, **C/Sgt. Fedrick**, **Sgt. Gardiner**, **L/Cpl. Shinnick**, **2/Lt. Edmonds**, **Capt. Proctor**, **Major Cornwell**, **Cpl. Shervington**, **Sgt. Chapman**, **Pte. Hamilton**, **C/Sgt. Baliematuku**.

The following also played a major part in supporting the Battalion:

Cpl. Cook, **Cpl. Harvey**, **Sgt. Irwin**, **Pte. Clucas**, **Pte. Begley**, **L/Cpl. Lawrence**, **L/Cpl. Tuckwell**, **Pte. Ward**, **L/Cpl. Williams**.

Sailing

Offshore sailing in the Battalion is not a sport

which has been greatly followed for many years. The Paymaster, **Major R. G. Blackwell**, who is a keen sailor, has tried for the last three years to build up a following for the sport and is glad to say that some success has been reached. The Battalion now has a number of qualified yacht hands who have attended courses at both the Joint Services Sailing Centre at Gosport and the British Kiel Yacht Club in the Baltic.

The highlight of the summer was undoubtedly the two weeks adventurous training exercise held in late July. Two boats were chartered and nine members of the Battalion sailed over 500 miles during the next twelve days and nights, going up the east coast of Jutland to Aarhus then across the Kategat to Copenhagen where a two-day rest and sightseeing period was had. The return trip to Kiel was done via the Smaaland and Great Belt. A most enjoyable trip and valuable experience not only for the Skipper (Major Blackwell) but also for the crew who were: **W.O.1 (R.S.M.) Millard**, **Cpl. Chapman**, **Cpl. Muirhead**, **L/Cpl. Sanderson**, **Ptes. Murtagh, Wright, Bason and Byrne**. Conditions varied from blazing sunshine and flat calm to near gale-force winds giving a considerable variety of sailing experience.

Golf

This summer has been the most successful season for some time for the 1st Battalion golfers. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly reaching the quarter-final of the B.A.O.R. Major Units match play competition. Two convincing wins over 4 Armoured Workshops and 25 Field Regiment R.A. gave us a quarter-final match against SHAPE Support Unit who narrowly beat us at Sennelager. Some consolation as SHAPE went on to win the competition. The Battalion was represented by the following: **Major R. G. Blackwell** (R.A.P.C. (Captain)), **W.O.2 (R.Q.M.S.) Green**, **W.O.2 Flay**, **C/Sgt. Baliematuku** and **C/Sgt. Mortimer**. W.O.2 Green also had a good individual year with several good finishes in major tournaments and well deserved his selection for the B.A.O.R. Infantry Team.

An encouraging aspect of the year has been the keen following of the game by several beginners. The Battalion autumn meeting was held in October at the Tecklenburg G.C. when 15 players from the Battalion competed, the major prizes going to W.O.2 Green, C/Sgt. Baliematuku and 2/Lt. Higgs.

1 D.E.R.R. Harriers

"We're Harriers, Harriers, we run and run so people stop and stare.

We're Harriers, Harriers, we don't know where we're going but we don't care".

I D.E.R.R. Cross Country Harriers however like to think they do know where they are going and do care. (Well, a little anyway). After a tour in Northern Ireland which effectively destroys any team and in particular fitness of its members it is difficult to pick up the threads and achieve anything. So with the 80/81 season in mind it was decided to run the Regimental traditional Nines Cup competition. The main aim was to select a strong team of Harriers for the winter and to include amongst them the potential ski talent. On the afternoon of Friday, 29th February 1980 therefore the C.O. started the Nines Cup, a gruelling course of nine miles following most of the Combat Fitness Test route. The outright winners were 'A' Company but everyone competing showed amazing guts and determination, not the least "Justin" the Adjutant's dog—who completed the course ahead of his master!

The value of this race showed itself the following Wednesday, 5th March when the Battalion entered two eager teams in the very last race of the 1979/80 Westphalia League season. This league is identical to the Cyprus League and is open to any Major and Minor Units, and individuals from all three services. (If you remember the Battalion won the Cyprus League Cup in 1975/76 during their Emergency Tour). Despite the fact that we had nothing to win at all as this was the only race of the seven entered in the Westphalia League (with five being the minimum required for a chance at the Cup) both teams did well. Farmers Boys 'A' Team came 3rd overall and 'B' 7th.

With much confidence therefore and a darn sight more training, I D.E.R.R. entered two teams plus a varying number of individuals into the current Westphalia League. With three races already over it looks as though the 'A' team could be a good 2nd overall. Our chances of being first are virtually out of the question with 7 R.H.A. winning every single race. (This strong talented team usually finishes with at least eight of the first 10 in any race).

So far this season only one disappointment has marred results. In the 2 Armd Div. Championships, held in Osnabruck on Friday, 14th November, 1 D.E.R.R. were beaten into 4th place being narrowly pipped by old West Country rivals, 1 R. Hamps. 2 Armd Div. Tpt. Regt. R.C.T., also League arch enemies for 2nd position, put in a strong team based on their cross country skiers. However they are no longer in it as they have started a Northern Ireland tour this month.—(Phew!).

Unfortunately a few cross country "stars" from

our own team have left to go to Norway for ski training under **Capt. Franklin** which depletes it somewhat. However 'We Try Harder' is not only going to be the motto of the famous Avis car hire firm. It will be I D.E.R.R. Harriers' motto from now on.

Winter Skiing

Skiing is one of the main winter sports in B.A.O.R. This season over 200 soldiers took part in skiing activities. Exercise Snow Queen is a three-month exercise during which soldiers, who need have no previous experience, are taught to ski in two weeks. The Battalion entered a ski team for the Second Armoured Division, and Army Ski Championships. Many soldiers were sent on skiing courses run by the Army at Silberhütte and the British Outward Bound Centre (B.O.B.C.), Norway. Finally, in June, the Battalion had a mountaineering expedition on skis to the glaciers around the Matterhorn (reported elsewhere).

1979/80 was the first Ex Snow Queen the Battalion had in its own hut. The previous year a hut was shared with 5 Innis. D.G. A ski hut is hardly the right description of a smart Gast-Haus. The Battalion decided that it was better for the P.R.I. to subsidise Ex Snow Queen, thus having central heating, showers, smart rooms and a bar; rather than the cheese factory of last year, which had none of the above.

The new hut is in Wertach in the Allgäu, Southern Germany. Four other units shared this small village with us, which was only 5 kilometres drive from the Grönten mountain where we did most of the skiing. Having cut short their post Northern Ireland leave, **Capt. Franklin, Lt. Wardle, C/Sgt. Brame** and **Cpl. Lovatt**, set off in early November with 4-tonners fully loaded, to set the hut up. The snow arrived on the 7th November, enabling the skiing teams and instructors to get some practice. Seven two-week courses were run. The local knowledge of Cpl. Lovatt, who had been to Wertach before with another unit, proved invaluable. C/Sgt. Brame's "Bavarian" hat proved memorable and not out of place on the "Father Figure" of Snow Queen. All the permanent staff worked hard and we thank them all.

It is out on the ski slopes where most of the fun is had. For most soldiers this is their first time on skis. On the first few days they learn the basics. The next few days they practice simple turns on progressively steeper slopes. By now they are fairly confident and able to ski down most slopes, and make a brave if not stylish attempt to stop. To the amusement of other tourists, the soldiers at this stage attempt anything at great speed, without fear.

To control their enthusiasm, Cpl. Lovatt planned the now famous Tree Route. The ski instruction takes place every morning and afternoon; includes both Downhill and Langlauf; a langlauf race over 10km towards the Austrian border is arranged; and generally each course holds its downhill race and visits to the Fellhorn (a very high mountain) at the end of the course.



*"The Blind leading the Blind."
Sgt. McIntyre discussing waxes with his brother,
L/Cpl. McIntyre.*

The evenings at the Snow Queen hut are not dull. The hotel has a lovely bar which is well used. Several evenings on each course the owner organises traditional Bavarian-evenings, and if you are asked to the Stammtisch you know that either you are popular with the family or one of the daughters likes you. Just around the corner from the hut there is a discotheque. This is the most popular discotheque for about 20 miles, a lot of the local Germans go there and the tourists are not always outnumbered by soldiers. Every year Fasching or Carnival takes place during the Snow Queen season. The soldiers who are lucky enough to be there before Ash Wednesday are guided through the traditions of fancy dress, losing your

tie (if you've got one while skiing) and general drinking festivities.

Although the day at Snow Queen starts at 6 o'clock and might end late, a good time is had by all, and everybody returns to Osnabruck by coach hoping that they will be lucky enough to return next year.

On now to the successes of the Battalion Ski Team. A very limited amount of training started in Northern Ireland with the use of the Multi-Gym. A short Battalion block leave further interrupted the training and so it was early in December that things got under way. The Battalion's aim was to do as well in the Divisional and Army Ski Meetings as possible. **Lt. Tomlinson**, with **Cpl. Chapman**, **Ptes. Baker, Keen and Clay**, set off for three very hard weeks' training in Norway on Exercise Viking Lope II, which is an excellent Langlauf race technique course. Meanwhile, **Capt. Franklin**, **Cpl. Ball**, **Lt. Wardle** and **Pte. Billet** went to the Snow Queen hut and started their Downhill training. This year rather than last year, the Langlauf Team did much better than the Downhillers. It was clearly proved that quality cross-country runners like Cpl. Chapman could be trained in one year from complete Novice Skiers to a good class Langlauf racer. The same is unfortunately not so with Downhill where several years' experience in racing is needed to compete at Army standard. The Langlauf Team returned from Norway shortly before Christmas and spent two weeks training in Bavaria with the Downhill team before moving to Rupolding, in South East Germany for the Second Armoured Division Ski Meeting. The results from this meeting speak for themselves. The Langlauf 'A' Team came 7th, the Langlauf 'B' Team came 10th, and the Downhill Team came 8th, all out of a total of 22 participating teams. **Lt. Tomlinson** and **Cpl. Chapman** did particularly well in the 4 x 10km relay. **Cpl. Ball** skied well above his seeded position in the Giant Slalom and **Capt. Franklin** producing a fast if lucky Downhill time.

The Langlauf Team then went on to the Army Races in Zweisel, but the Downhill Team had failed to get three qualifying times and so the Battalion chances of winning the Infantry Cup went out of the window. Next year the Downhill Team must do better, or make sure that **Sgt. Chalky White**, who skis for the Combined Services, does much worse thus lowering the qualifying time. The Langlauf Team did well at Zweisel, even getting their waxes right in a difficult snowstorm. **Cpl. Chapman** and **Pte. Baker** are to be congratulated on their prizes, and the overall team position in the Military Combination (4 x 10km, 15km, Patrol Race) was a very creditable 16th.



Pte. Clay, 'A' Coy. — Cross Country Skiing 1980.

In this year 1980/81 skiing season, Capt. Franklin, the Ski Team Captain, has every confidence that the Battalion will be the highest placed Infantry Unit in the British Army, and will return to Osnabruck with the Infantry Cup. The training towards this end has been very thorough, given

tremendous support from the Commanding Officer, and has not been interrupted by a Northern Ireland tour. Full-time training for the best cross-country runners and skiers in the Battalion started on 1st October when Exercise Spearpoint finished. Even the Downhill Team have joined this training and every day **Cpl. Charles** from the Gym Staff has showed us how unpopular he can be with his new daily tortures. As I write, in middle November, the Downhillers and some Langlaufers are about to depart to Switzerland for training at Andermatt. The cream of the Langlaufers, and our Biathlon Potentials will be off to Norway shortly. The potential this year is high. We have the fittest men in the Battalion; have had the use of roller skis, many Bisley shots are included in the team, the Battalion knowledge on small bore shooting has been passed on by **Major Peters** and **Sgt. Rose**, the best Battalion cross country runners are part of the team and two of the Downhillers have now had two seasons' racing experience.

I hope to be able to report to you by — Stop Press — "Infantry Cup won by 1 D.E.R.R., all having a good time, wish you were here".

Since the above was written the good news did indeed come that the Battalion had won the Infantry Cup as the best placed Infantry Team in the Army for the 1980/81 season. Everyone was delighted with the progress made by the Team and the success they achieved this year.



*Cfn. Dicker, Pte. Pallen, L/Cpl. Smith, L/Cpl. Wa'da'l, Pte. Clay.
Cpl. Chapman, R.S.M., C.O., Lt. Tcmlinson.*

A photograph of the Team, which was captured by Lt. Tomlinson, is on the previous page.

— Ed.

Bn Ski Team Results

2 Armd Div. Ski Meeting:

1 D.E.R.R. 3rd Overall (31 Teams)

1 D.E.R.R. Langlauf — 2nd
Downhill — 7th

Army Meeting:

1 D.E.R.R. 7th Overall (24 Teams)

Best Infantry Team

6th in Patrol Race

7th in 4 x 10 Km

14th in 15 Km

9th in Biathlon Relay

6th in 30 Km.

CLIMBING GLACIERS AT THE MATTERHORN

Six members of 'A' Coy, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) have just returned from an adventure training exercise on the Glaciers around the Matterhorn in Southern Switzerland and Northern Italy. The aim of the expedition was to set up a base camp on the glacier at about 10,000 ft., and tour around the glacier on skis.

For this type of skiing a special ski called an Alpine Touring Ski is used. This is a combination of a downhill and a langlauf ski. Underneath this ski is a furry strip of skin which is fitted for walking uphill. I am sure this sport should be called ski mountaineering, because with these skins fitted you can walk straight up the glacier covered mountains, or zig-zag up the extremely steep parts.

A small base was set up outside Zermatt in a farmhouse. We were able to leave our landrover and stores there. A mountain train and several cable cars took us up on to the glacier. We then had a small climb on skis with our equipment in rucksacks. It was at this point that we started to realise how heavy the rucksacks were, and how hard the climbing was.

Having chosen our base camp the rest of the day was spent putting up the tents, making them

as comfortable and warm as possible in the snow and melting our first pot of snow for a brew. Everyone, apart from the expedition leader Capt. Franklin, was a novice at downhill skiing and the next four days were spent learning the basic downhill techniques.

The weather was not particularly good. It was several days before we saw the Matterhorn even though our camp was so close to it. When the sun did come, the scenery was stunning and the Matterhorn very dramatic. It took time to acclimatise to working at over 10,000 ft., and the intensity of the sun prohibited skiing around midday.

For the second part of our expedition we moved camp. Six hours later, having gone down one glacier and then up another 3,000 ft., we arrived at the Monte Rose Hut, delighted to shed our rucksacks. Here we set up a new base and for the next four days started to learn how to climb on skis. One day's climb took us out of Switzerland to a lovely Italian Hut where the food was excellent. The climb took five hours, lunch two hours and the downward return to our base only thirty minutes.

Finally we went back down the mountain to Zermatt. It was snowing on the glacier, yet in the valley the June Tourists were enjoying the sun. We all learnt and achieved a lot, but discovered just how much more there was to the seemingly simple sport of ski mountaineering.



'A' Coy. Camp Site on the Matterhorn.
(L-R) L/Cpl. McIntyre, Pte. Proctor, Sgt. Garner,
Capt. Franklin, Cpl. Chapman, Pte. Rowe.

MISCELLANY

DAY OF INFAMY — OR HOW TO “BOG IN” AN ECHELON!

By Major N. West

SCENE 1: Recce of Nuclear Survival area “somewhere in Europe” in January 1980 attended by infamous O.C. Echelons, and supporting cast of villains in the shape of C.S.M., Q.M. Tech., O.C. L.A.D. and A.S.M.

O.C.: This looks a good-looking site, C.S.M.? (Goodness knows how O.C. knew as he had never even seen an Echelon — let alone sited one!)

C.S.M.: Seems alright, Sir, but I bet the R.E.M.E. won't like it — no hard standing or bratty stands!

O.C.: Now, now C.S.M.! What do you think, A.S.M.? (At this point the reader will have noticed that O.C. L.A.D. is not even consulted — just in case we disturb his dreaming of marriage!)

A.S.M.: Don't like it, Sir — much too damp and not hard enough for my office trailer (here the reader should note that hereafter this beast is known as the “Mashie Wagon” — don't ask me why!).

O.C.: Must show determination, A.S.M.! (O.C. asserting authority in case anyone finds out that he doesn't know what he is talking about!)

Here the gaggle of villains depart for camp — just in time for coffee break — assured in their own minds that the Battalion will *never* deploy to such a lovely wood.

SCENE 2: Criekey — Active Edge has been called and the Battalion has been ordered to deploy to Survival areas! Amidst orders, cries of exasperation, counter-order, disorder and chaos; fervent prayers can be heard from O.C. Echelon begging for firm ground and for all his 4-ton vehicles to either sprout wings to lessen the load or develop tracks!

SCENE 3: Arrival of O.C. Echelons in Survival area and met by C.S.M.

C.S.M.: Hello, Sir — (C.S.M. trying to look nonchalant).

O.C.: All O.K., C.S.M. — everybody arrived and beginning to settle in? (Here C.S.M. winces at this most unfortunate phrase!).

C.S.M.: Well, more or less, Sir (mostly more!). I'm afraid there are one or two small problems with the heavier vehicles (they are *all* heavy vehicles!)

O.C.: (Thinks — something wrong here!). What's the damage, C.S.M.?

C.S.M.: Well, there's the Ration vehicle up to its axle on the top track, the “Mashie Wagon” nearly on its side, 85A (our one and only tracked vehicle) nearly bellied in, the Technical Quartermaster in tears and the new Technical Quartermaster rolling around in fits of laughter!

O.C.: That all, C.S.M.? (Still trying to look confident and unworried about Confidential Report!) Suppose I shall have to go and have a look. (Arriving at “Mashie Wagon”). Hello, Staff (S/Sgt. “Turnemover” Bone) — got a problem?

Here we will take the reader through the whole catalogue of disasters that occurred that fateful day! Arriving to find an area devastated with abandoned and bogged in vehicles caused much amusement initially — and much frustration — later. The area so carefully selected during the early months of the year yielded its secrets with the advent of the warmer weather — clay beneath a thin top-soil of good earth and beech leaves. The very pressure of a heavily laden vehicle was sufficient to cause the 4-tonners to lose their grip, wheels spin and to develop that “sinking” action so well known to M.T. drivers. Given the poor ability of 4-tonners to move across anything other than metalled roads, except in 4-wheel drive and it was no wonder that on the gentle slope of such a slippery wood that 35 heavily laden vehicles began to bite deeply into mother earth — or clay!

Frantic activity took place as trailers were unhitched and loads ground dumped in order to extricate the trapped vehicles — it is of interest to readers I'm sure when they learn that we unloaded the ration truck three times and that offender alone carried 4 tons of compo! The sight of the Technical Quartermaster-to-be carrying armfuls of compo was a sight much relished by the work party that day — still, he did say that he wanted “on the spot training!”

Having released the majority of the vehicles from the mire attention turned to the L.A.D. “Mashie Wagon” which by this time was in a ditch and very nearly on its side with S/Sgt. Bone desperately trying to convince the A.S.M. that the coffee pot inside was still intact but unfortunately could not be put on for a “brew”. At this point the order was received to return to barracks and the Echelon was to be the last in Order of March. In due time the Battalion returning to camp passed the bottle-neck created by the Echelon with re-

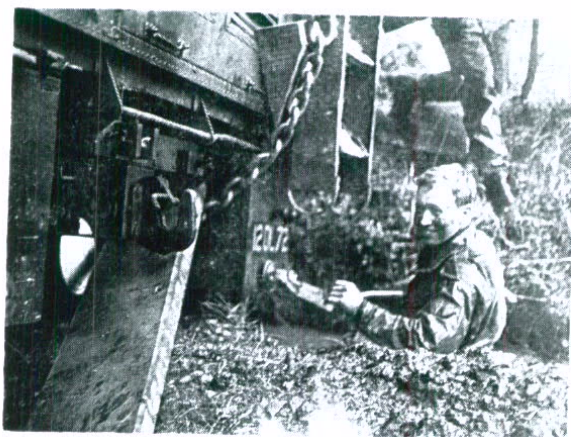
covered vehicles strewn alongside the verges — hoots of laughter at the sight of the “Mashie Wagon” on its side and the rest of the vehicles being recovered by the Ambulance A.P.C. (kindly loaned by the M.T.O. from A1 Echelon in response to pleas for help!)

At this point one of the Mortar Platoon vehicle drivers decided he really ought to join in the fun and whilst doubled-up with laughter at the plight of those “rear end Charlie’s” sought to impale his A.P.C. onto the Recovery trailer parked on the verge! (The reader would be correct in assuming that it could only be **Sgt. “Spanish” Navarro** commanding at the time!) By this time a stoic O.C. Echelon had just about decided that a Rifle Company was a far safer place and that not much else could go wrong — but how wrong can one be!

No sooner had the road been blocked by the Recovery Trailer and the Mortar Platoon A.P.C. than fresh troubles beset us — the Ambulance A.P.C. on loan threw a track — groans all round. The track was to prove even more interesting as it took some four hours to repair due to being sat on recently-pruned woods with the track atop a tree stump — still, good to see the medical staff get off their stretchers for a while! To cap it all the vehicle was also in the middle of a new plantation being nurtured in the protection of the old tree stumps so we now had Forestry workers hovering around us, noting vehicle numbers and clucking their tongues in wonderment at the efficiency of the modern army.

Some five hours after the track had been repaired, the “Mashie Wagon” righted, all the 4-tonners recovered to the road and re-loaded the Echelon arrived back in barracks — to find everyone gone home! (Typical!)

SCENE 4: Following day in office.



*Happiness is . . . up to your arm-pits
. . . S/Sgt. 'Turnemover' Bone.*



*“Looks like a difficult breech-birth.”
Cpl. Stanley, Cpl. Archer, Cfn. Gibbs and
Cpl. Strong.*

“Still, a wonderful experience, Sir” — remarked the C.S.M. — “at least we know that the L.A.D. have got it right when they say they need hard standing and bratty stalls!” If the Army had wanted to show how not to do it then they need not have looked any further than our Echelon that day! However, some 94 days’ experience in the field later there is no doubt that this is one Echelon that cannot only cope with minor disasters such as the one recounted above — although happily a similar disaster has not befallen us since — but can also justifiably boast at having the finest Echelon in B.A.O.R.

Cast of Villains:

O.C. Echelons — Major “Bog ‘em In” West.

O.C. L.A.D. — Capt. “Forty Winks” Day.

A.S.M. — W.O.1 (A.S.M.) “Hug ‘em in Close” Chamberlain.

C.S.M. — W.O.2 (C.S.M.) “Wagon Train” Carter.

Tech. Q.M. — Capt. “Pills” Allen.

Tech. Q.M. (designate) — Capt. “Cigar” Leadbetter.

Commanding Officer (as a bit player) —

Lt. Col. (You really do make me suck my pipe) Coxon.

OPERATION AGILA MONITORING THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IN RHODESIA

by

Major P. Bradley

Christmas Pass leads into the mountain surrounded bowl that is Umtali, close against the Mosambique border in the central Eastern Highlands of what will soon be Zimbabwe.

On 24th December 1979 our convoy of mine-proofed Landrovers, specially flown out from U.K., snaked across this pass, armed with S.L.R.'s (magazines on and five to spare), briefed in anti-ambush drills Rhodesian style and with a Rhodesian Security Force escort.

Descending into the bowl we were shown to our operational base location, The Wise Owl Motel, situated on the very edge of town and all but deserted because of its vulnerable location (a notice warns you in the event of an attack to get into the bath and put a mattress over it) and the oppressive call-up of white Rhodesians who were the traditional clientele.

The 'T' shirts, Rhodesians are not conservative dressers, summed it up: "Come to Umtali and get bombed" (referring to a recent mortar attack on the former tourist town) and "I'm staying, how about you?"

The next day our Rendezvous Teams (R.V. teams) and Assembly Place Teams arrived by C130 at the local fire force airstrip. The mixture included Australians, Kenyans, Coldstream Guards, Irish Guards, 3rd Royal Green Jackets, Engineers from three different Regiments, Royal Artillery and Royal Signals. It was a first meeting for many of us, we checked weapons, equipment, communications for our vital H.F. links and moved out in massive 34 vehicle convoy, with a heavy Rhodesian escort (the ceasefire was not yet operative) to our R.V. locations in the Manicaland Tribal Trust Lands. A mine-detecting vehicle led, the roads were bad and we soon realised the intelligence brief had been worse. Our 24-hour deployment phase for the R.V. teams was only just completed in three days.

Later we found that this had been the easy bit, but the U.K. media seem to have covered the "routine" aspects of the R.V. phase which I will ignore in favour of a few less well-aided points.

The Rhodesian intelligence had informed that we might collect 2,000 Patriotic Front (P.F.) in Manicaland and the 7,500 Zanla we ended up within Echo and Foxtrot Assembly Places (A.P.'s) rather strained the system! The supply of sufficient food, medical supplies and above all, transport became a round the clock battle.

Buses had apparently been ordered by the Rhodesians and the theory was that they would report to the R.V. locations under their own steam. Naturally the quantity of buses was based on the Rhodesian intelligence assessment. Soon after the P.F. began to come on side (enter the R.V.'s) it became obvious that even those buses which had been ordered were not going to arrive. Of those

that did the drivers had not been told the task and it seemed that, knowing the task and risks involved, firms had sent "expendable buses"! So expendable were some that they had failed to make the startline.

The P.F. building up in the R.V.'s soon devoured the small food supplies there and began, according to Rhodesians, intimidating locals for food, drinking and acting like nervous, hungry, drunk, drugged soldiers of any nationality with time on their hands and loaded weapons they were in the habit of using, even if only for getting their way. It seemed the whole world wanted buses, trucks with enormous trailers were ingeniously produced, but dismissed by the P.F. as a "plot" for ambush and they would not get on them. Things got so desperate, any buses seen in our area was requisitioned — stopped in the street — passengers, chickens, etc. ordered off, refuelled and taken to the R.V. points. Eventually we completed the nightmarish move to A.P.'s, but definitely not without incident! Buses broke down, were burnt out, weapons went off accidentally when bad bumps were hit (three cases raced to hospital), policemen were hijacked and stripped of clothes and weapons en route, a man enthusiastically waving to supporters fell out and had his head crushed under the back wheel and everywhere they broke down or stopped, all would want to get off for food and "other things". This in turn produced a violent Rhodesian Security Force Reaction crying "break off the ceasefire", "lack of control" and other unmentionable things. These convoys, as large as 1,500 P.F. a time were escorted for what was never less than 12-hour trips by two Monitoring Force Landrovers with two men in each!

What had seemed like a wealth of air support, six Pumas, six Gazelle, six Scout and four C130 became severely stretched and food and equipment we urgently needed could not always be delivered. Local trading posts, called "business centres" were presented with chits, sometimes on a piece of campo box, in exchange for bags of meal, signed "Monitoring Force to Pay".

Meanwhile life for the 17 Monitoring Force (M.F.) at each A.P. was looking up. Some tents had been free dropped from C130 soon after deployment and camps had been planned as far as possible.

After a slow start P.F. confidence in M.F. built up and they "poured in". Foxtrot A.P. received a steady flow from its four R.V.'s, but in addition a unit drove into the A.P. in three of its own trucks and a Female Battalion marched in at the comple-

tion of its journey. We later discovered this unit included the Zanla Choir of 250.

The tents, which had been brought from the U.S.A., were not slept in at first as no-one was keen to be a sitting duck! Of course the small food supply was soon decimated and because of the numbers, insufficient of the promised camp stores and personal kit were available. It was now between Christmas and New Year, all factories were shut as were most shops. In Umtali, as elsewhere in Rhodesia, the search started for 12,000 blankets and 6,000 toothbrushes, tubes of toothpaste, razors, blades, mugs, plates, spoons, tins of boot polish, as well as cooking drums, axes, meat cleavers, spades, clamps, candles, etc. — all on tick of course — for the very reliable guerillas and for the people who had been fighting them! One could be excused for forgetting the time of year, sandwiched between seething Rhodesians and increasingly impatient P.F.

Space precludes further detail on A.P. routine, which was in any case, well covered in the U.K. media, but our real task became the endless supply for and control of 7,000 plus Zanla in the two A.P.'s with our liaison team based at Umtali. With generous, but vital, air support we walked the interesting road through the newborn ceasefire. To monitor was not enough, both sides were confused, nervous and uncertain of themselves although dogmatic and fearful of losing ground. Quietly, but firmly, we all had to force events in what seemed the most peaceful direction.

Ignoring isolated setbacks, life gradually improved and relaxed, until the election result was announced. The result was no surprise to us, but astonished the white population of Umtali who immediately accused "The British" of selling them down the drain. Again this was no surprise as the same people had told us 2½ months earlier that the P.F. would kill us within 24 hours. We had long since learnt that good advice was just one of the shortages in Umtali, an opinion our final two weeks did little to dispel.

The engines whined as we lifted off from Mew Sorum Airport, with the Governor on board, we were on schedule. Three months ago, less two days, we landed here, perhaps in the same VC10, pale and ignorant of the African and Rhodesian problems. Now at 500 ft., the evening sun reflected on the farm dams around Salisbury, night was falling, perhaps for the last time for me, and Rhodesia is at peace.

"Hapana Chuckaipa", "no problems" in Shana, the language of Zanla — a phrase we used with our Zanla Liaison Officers in the Umtali Ops

Room when things were getting pretty desperate. At last one could use it with a clear conscience!

THREE CAMEOS ON SERVICE IN GERMANY

By Lieutenant Colonel T. R. M. Ottowell

1. Berlin 1953-56

On a cold and foggy winter's morning in December 1953 I arrived in Berlin to take up my duties as British Secretary (G.S.O. 1) at the Allied Kommandatura Berlin. I was given no briefing before going to Berlin, so had no idea what was in store for me — and, no-one I met en route, who was stationed there, could give me any clue as to what the "Allied Kommandatura" was.

I must therefore digress for a moment to explain briefly the meaning and function of the Allied Kommandatura (A.K.). The Four Power (Britain, France, U.S.A. and U.S.S.R.) Potsdam Agreement of 1945 laid down that Berlin was to be divided into four Sectors (British, French, American and Soviet). Each Sector to be governed by a Military Commandant and a Military Government. Berlin City as a whole was to be governed by the Allied Kommandatura (A.K.), that is the four Military Governments in concert, with each Power in turn "in the chair" for a month. The Berlin City Authorities would work under the A.K. The A.K. had its "seat" in Berlin-Dahlem in the American Sector, and, when I joined, it had a Secretariat, consisting of a Secretary and supporting staff from each of the Powers. In each case the Secretary was virtually the Chief of Staff to his respective Military Commandant on Military Government matters. I was the last military officer to hold this appointment in the A.K. Actually, when I arrived the other Secretaries had already been civilianised and were representatives of their respective Foreign Offices. One of my former U.S. colleagues was recently U.S. Ambassador in Moscow.

By the time I arrived in 1953, Berlin was no longer divided into the four sectors as originally planned. In 1948 the Soviets had withdrawn from the A.K. as a result of quarrels with their Western Partners, and, although the last Soviet Commandant's photograph was kept in the main A.K. Conference Room and the Soviet flag mast (albeit without a flag) was left standing, the Soviets had no intention of returning. Berlin became divided into virtually two sectors, that is West Berlin (consisting of the British, French and American Sectors) and East Berlin (the Soviet Sector—now also the Capital of East Germany). This meant that movement throughout West Berlin for both Ger-

mans and Western Allies became free, that is, without any inter-sector restrictions. However movement between West and East Berlin became much more difficult. East Germans were not allowed to cross to West Berlin, except by special permission from their authorities. West Germans were not hindered by Western authorities from crossing to the East but success of the actual crossing depended entirely on the attitude of the Eastern Authorities. Since the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961 crossing from East to West has of course become infinitely more difficult, and attempts to climb over the Wall or to tunnel under it have mostly ended in tragedy. During my tour in Berlin it was easy for the Western Allies to cross into East Berlin even in their own cars (now restricted to Guided Tours) but the A.K. laid down that these trips were to be confined to cultural visits only.

As a result of the division of the city, there were many complications over the public transport systems both in the city and leading into it. Each transport system (buses, trams and underground) in the city was duplicated, having its terminus on the Inter-Sector Boundary between East and West Berlin. The railways and waterways leading to the city were controlled by the East German authorities, but they were also used by West German trains and barges. There was a main airfield for both West and East Berlin; Tempelhof in West Berlin, used only by B.E.A. (now British Airways), Air France and Panam, Schoenefeld in East Berlin, used only by the state airlines of the Eastern Bloc countries. It is interesting to note, that, in spite of all the political upheavals in the city and between East and West, the Four Power (Britain, France, America and Russia) Air Safety Centre, located in West Berlin, has continued to operate effectively and efficiently in controlling flights of both civilian and military aircraft from East and West in and out of Berlin.

What part did the A.K. play in the running of the affairs of West Berlin? Regular meetings were held each week under the chairmanship of the Commandant or the Deputy in the "Chair" to discuss and decide on public safety, civil affairs, finance and legal problems affecting West Berlin. At that time the A.K. was the only legally acknowledged body which could pass laws (Ordinances) in West Berlin. In view of its powers, the A.K. was also required to deal with such problems as representations to the Soviets on border violations (in West Berlin) and problems involving ex-Nazi War Criminals in Spandau Prison (at that time Hess, Speer and Funk). Only the Western Commandants could authorise the employment of the West Berlin

Police Battalion (Bereitschaftspolizei) in a case of emergency.

Life in West Berlin was a gay and very full one. The A.K. Secretaries and their wives required strong constitutions to enable them to stand up to their social commitments, which on a number of occasions involved three functions in one evening. My wife and I once received an invitation from one of the Soviet "Protocol Officers" to a performance at the Opera in East Berlin. Although he was a suspected K.G.B. agent and obviously trying to "cultivate" our acquaintance, we were allowed to accept the invitation — and, in fact, an enjoyable evening was had at the Opera! Although the conversation with our hosts had to be carried out in German, no politics were discussed and no subversion was attempted. We were obviously not the "right material" for "cultivation", as we never received another invitation!

2. 1st German Corps in Muenster 1957-1960

In November 1957 I was posted as Liaison Officer to the Commander in Chief Northern Army Group (Northag) at 1 German (G.E.) Corps in Muenster (Westphalia). It was a new experience both for the Germans and myself. Ever since 1914 our two countries had been traditional enemies — and now we were to become allies. The last time a British Liaison Officer had probably been attached to the German Army was with Marshal Bluechers 1st Prussian Corps (a predecessor to 1 (G.E.) Corps) at Waterloo.

I was generally well received although at first some of the officers were, not unnaturally, a little reticent. Three factors enabled me to settle down quickly in my new surroundings; firstly, the Corps Staff, when I joined, was small and so I was soon able to get to know my German colleagues well; secondly, the Corps Commander ordered that I should be treated the same as any other officer on the Corps Staff and thirdly, I was fortunately accustomed to the German way of life and fluent in the language. I made a point of visiting the Divisions of the Corps as they were formed in order to get to know the Divisional Staffs and as many units as possible. Naturally I had to obtain the Corps Commander's approval for these visits. Not only did I receive his full support and co-operation but also that of his Divisional Commanders.

To assist me I had a small Liaison Unit; our main task being to provide personal contact between Com Northag and Commander 1 (G.E.) Corps. At the same time we also had to provide liaison between the Staffs of the two Headquarters. This, on many occasions, entailed accompanying

the German officers to Northag conferences to act as their advisers and interpreters. We had to advise them on N.A.T.O. operational and communication procedures and assist them over Northag operational and administrative orders. In return for our help and advice we were invited by the Germans to participate in Rifle Meetings, Officers' Study periods and German indoor and outdoor exercises. I was even asked to lecture on the British Army and to conduct English classes for officers. During exercises I would be located with C.O.M. Northag while my unit, which included a major, was located at the Corps Main H.Q. Travel on these occasions between the two headquarters was at first by car or Landrover, but as the German Army Air Corps became operational so helicopters were provided for these liaison duties. In fact, the German Army Air Corps was formed very speedily. In addition to the helicopters it had fixed winged aircraft (Dornier 27's) and many of the pilots were ex-Luftwaffe personnel. It was among these officers that I met one who admitted taking part in the last war against Britain — the others appeared to have mostly been on the Russian front. He had been a Luftwaffe fighter pilot and was shot down over southern England in the Battle of Britain. After crash-landing his aircraft successfully in a field, he noticed a Spitfire landing in another field nearby. On bringing his plane to rest, the British pilot jumped out and ran over to the German plane. Finding the German pilot alive, he enquired if he was alright. On getting an affirmative answer, the British pilot was reported as saying "Sorry I can't stop now, must carry on with the battle" and was off into the "blue sky yonder". The German officer admitted that, while he was very shaken and angry at being shot down, he had every admiration for that gallant British pilot. His "enforced stay" in England during the war seemed to have made him an anglophile, because I always found him exceptionally co-operative and very friendly.

During my time at I (G.E.) I placed the officers into three different groups. The first group consisted of those who had seen service in the 1st World War and the "100,000 Man Army" (imposed by the Versailles Treaty), the second consisted of those who had joined the Army during the Hitler period (and included some who had fought in the Spanish Civil War) and the third group were those who had joined since 1955 and were products of the new Officers' Schools. It was most noticeable how adaptable these young officers were; most of them had a good working knowledge of English and accepted their Country's new allies without question. While not as formal

in their behaviour as the senior officers, their conduct was always correct.

The N.C.O.'s and men of the new German Army were very similar to our own. Regulars and National Service Men served side by side, the National Service Men tending to look forward to their day of release. They all had the characteristic of German efficiency, but I also witnessed their humour, friendliness and co-operation. It was a new experience for most of them to serve in other parts of Germany than in the area of their home town (before the war German units were usually stationed in the areas from which they drew their recruits).

As the Officers' Mess at Corps Headquarters was small, social life was limited. All officers lived out in private accommodation and only a small number lunched in the Mess. Lunch was actually the only meal served in the Mess, and this as well as other refreshments were provided by a canteen operated by a private contractor. In fact, as the German Army had no canteen service such as the N.A.A.F.I., all units and headquarters had to employ private contractors for this service. Dinner nights were held on special occasions by Corps Headquarters, but these took place in a special room of the Rathaus Keller of Muenster Town Hall. In order to bring together members of the Corps Staff and officers from the British Garrison in Muenster, I organised a number of drinks parties at my house. The British custom of standing up on these occasions was new to the German officers and they would comment on it. At reciprocal functions one was invited to sit down. Every year at Carnival time it was customary for the "Prince Carnival" of Muenster and his entourage to "take over" the Corps Headquarters. They would be welcomed by a "21-gun salute" fired from a cardboard cannon, using home-made fireworks as a "charge" and confetti for "shot". The "Prince Carnival" was then received by the Corps Commander and Officers of the Corps Staff (including myself). "Decorations" were presented to the officers by the "Prince" and a considerable amount of German Sparkling Wine (Sekt) was drunk to celebrate the event.

On another occasion I was asked to assist with an Afrika Korps reunion to be held in Muenster. The Germans had hoped to make it an occasion when former combatants of both sides in North African campaigns of the last war could come together for a combined parade and social gathering of friendship. The British, French and American Authorities disapproved of any participation by their nationals. Eventually, however, the British Authorities agreed that a Military Band from

Muenster Garrison, the Garrison Commander and I could participate. The parade followed the pattern of the solemn Zapfenstreich (German equivalent to Beating Retreat), but the British Hussar Band, which was taking part, "stole the Show" by playing "Lily Marlene" as they marched on. The crowds watching gave them a great ovation.

My tour of duty with 1 (G.E.) Corps came to an end on the 1st of November 1960 when I was relieved by Lt. Col. "Jumbo" Hoare, R.T.R., Henry Hoare's brother.



Self with, on my left, a member of the Bundesgrenzschutz, and, on my right, a British Patrol Commander on the Border.

3. On the Border between West and East Germany, 1965-66

After retiring from the Service, I joined the British Frontier Service (B.F.S.) in February 1965 for a period of 18 months.

The B.F.S. had its origin in the Royal Navy, which, immediately after the last war provided customs control over shipping entering ports of the British Occupied Zone of Germany (e.g. Hamburg, Bremen and Luebeck). The B.F.S. was formed soon afterwards to provide a wider customs coverage for the British Zone, to include road and rail crossing places and airports. To conform to the British Customs Service and in deference to the Royal Navy, a dark blue naval type uniform was adopted for the B.F.S., complete with white top to the cap, and silver braid and buttons.

After West Germany became a sovereign state in May 1955, the B.F.S. was relieved of most of its actual customs duties, except in certain places, notably in West Berlin. However, with the gradual closing of the Border between East and West Germany by the East Germans, a new and complex task was found for the B.F.S., namely that of keeping a watching brief on the whole length of the Border of the former British Occupation Zone. They were representatives of the British Ambassador in Bonn, who had ultimate responsibility for the Border, and major developments and incidents were reported back to him. Such incidents mostly involved encroachments into West German territory by East German Border Guards, where the Border was not clearly defined.

At the 1945 Potsdam Conference it was planned that this "Border" should only be a Demarcation Line, but the East Germans, supported by the Soviets, had other ideas! They were determined to build this Demarcation Line into a Defence line to keep the West out and to keep their own people in. They have achieved this by building a continuous barbed wire fence, reinforced by minefields, bunkers, searchlights, watchtowers and automatic firing devices along the whole 860 miles of Border. Heavily armed detachments of the East German Army, patrol the wire day and night, and do not hesitate to open fire on any of their own people trying to cross into West Germany, who do not stop when challenged.

Patrols from the British Rhine Army, the West German Customs and the Federal Border Protection Force (Bundesgrenzschutz) keep the Western side of the Border under continuous surveillance as a precaution. The West German Customs provide a 24-hour coverage, and, the Customs Officers, who are based on Customs Posts, each have to cover a distance of approximately two miles on foot, sometimes across difficult terrain. The officer is armed with a machine carbine and is often accompanied by a guard dog. The Customs are the first to come to the aid of successful Border Crossers. The Border Protection Force, who are organised into battalion-size units and stationed in main centres along the Border, provide a valuable and powerful back-up force for the Customs. They are equipped with the normal weapons of a Battalion as well as armoured cars. The Force also has a number of helicopters for reconnaissance and long range patrolling. Finally there are the patrols provided by units of the British Rhine Army. These patrols are carried out at irregular intervals and last for two days. The distance covered by a patrol is approximately 40 miles, sometimes on foot but mostly in Landrovers. Each

patrol is accompanied by a B.F.S. officer, and two members of the Border Protection Force.

My Sector extended for a distance of 40 miles through some rather sparsely inhabited but not unattractive country of Lower Saxony, south east of the university town of Goettingen.

The reactions from the East German patrols we encountered varied considerably. Some were prepared to talk freely and even walked along in a parallel course with us. On one occasion a member of one of these patrols even tried to explain to one of the British patrol how his carbine worked, ending his "demonstration" with a short burst into the air, to the decided annoyance of his patrol commander. Other patrols were quite hostile, deliberately turning their backs on us. Deserters from the East German Border Guards were not uncommon, and, some successfully negotiated their own barbed wire obstacles and minefields, making their escape to the West—often with their arms and ammunition. As soon as they knew of a deserter, the East Germans would raise the alarm and patrols on foot, and in vehicles would be sent out to comb the area for him (if caught the punishment would be very severe). At night searchlights would be seen and the occasional burst of machine-gun fire heard. I once encountered two Political Officers, who had come right up to the edge of the East German Border, to try and gain information about one of their deserters. Unusual for them, but on this occasion they were very friendly and eager to talk.

In one place there was a small factory close to the Border. We could see right into this factory and on occasions had been able to have a short talk with some of the workers. One day, however, East German Army Engineers arrived to erect a high wall round the factory to obscure our view and to prevent the workers from having contact with us.

In addition to our official duties the B.F.S. was expected to "show the flag" as much as possible. The local authorities, the farming community and the villagers regarded the British presence on the Border as necessary for their security and so were very favourably disposed towards B.F.S. Officers. For instance during one of the British Army patrols one of the armoured cars became badly stuck in a ditch so I went out in search of help. I eventually found a farmer and his son having a drink in a nearby village pub. I told them of our plight and without a moment's hesitation, they helped by getting their very large tractor and a stout wire cable. Back at the armoured car, the farmer took charge, saying that he had had plenty of experience at this

type of recovery work in Russia. In a matter of seconds the armoured car was pulled out of the ditch. We thanked him profusely, but he waived this aside saying, that, as an old soldier he was only too happy to assist others, who were protecting his country.

Although the B.F.S. had close ties with the Army, most of the work was far removed from ordinary soldiering. It was nevertheless an interesting experience and brought me into close contact with everyday country life and the farming community in West Germany.

THE ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY SANDHURST

By Captain A. N. Coates

I returned to the Battalion having completed a two-year tour instructing cadets at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. The first thought that struck me was the variety of officers which span the complete spectrum of the Sandhurst system—even our medical officer was a C.M.D.V.L.P. (read on for explanation!).

The second point that spurred me to put pen to paper were the enquiries by Senior Officers in B.A.O.R. about the two-year system and the well being of Mons Officer Cadet School!

The majority of our younger officers are the products of the Standard Military Course (S.M.C.) which is located in New College. This is a 28-week course of two terms. Officer Cadets start off as the junior intake and progress to the senior intake at the start of the second term. The cadets have to do some form of adventurous training during the recess between terms. Expeditions which are run by the cadets themselves are especially encouraged. One of our present young officers climbed Mount Kenya as a Cadet!

The final ten weeks of the course sees the formation of a "cadet government" which consists of a Junior Under Officer, Platoon Sergeant and three Cadet Corporals.

The short service officers are posted to their Regiments at the conclusion of the Senior Term. The regular officers return for five months academic studies in Old College. They return as Sandhurst ensigns wearing Sandhurst "pips" and Cap badge. When their course has finished in Old College the young officers take their academic exams and then before leaving they carry out a three-week military training refresher.

The traditional Sovereign's parade on Old College square takes place with the S.M.C. cadets and the Sandhurst ensigns only.

The third college at Sandhurst is called Victory College and was opened in 1969.

The college is responsible for running various courses. The main course is called Direct Entry (D.E.) consisting of post university students with no previous military experience. The students are commissioned into their Regiments after three weeks of a twenty-four week course. They wear Regimental insignia and cap badges after the third week.

The other main course in Victory College is Post University Course (P.O.S.U.C.). These students have all been in their University O.T.C.'s and due to this previous military experience the course is only twenty-one weeks long.

The college is also responsible for running the T.A./U.D.R. officers' course of four weeks' duration. It also has the responsibility of training the Army **Chaplains, Medical Officers, Dentists, Veterinary Surgeons, Lawyers and Paymasters** for another four weeks. The final responsibility of this college is to train for one month every year the Colour Sergeants' Cadre who will be instructing at Sandhurst the following year. You will note that those professions in heavy type give the explanation to C.M.D.V.L.P.!

Academy Headquarters is not exempt from being responsible for a course. Rowallan Company is a ten-week character building and leadership training course based in soldiers' accommodation behind the cookhouse. It prepares individuals for the S.M.C. course in New College and has been one of the outstanding successes of army training in recent years. It runs one-week exercises in Sennybridge, the Ridgeway leading to Salisbury Plain, Symonds Yat, Monmouth, Brecon Beacons and Snowdonia. Bad weather has never curtailed a Rowallan exercise to my knowledge! (For older readers the course is based upon Lord Rowallan's training at the Highland Fieldcraft Training Centre during the Second World War).

The Returning Officers' Course is for Short Service Commissioned Officers who have elected for a Regular Commission. They return to Old College for an academic course lasting five months. (See separate article). They take exams at the end which can have a bearing on whether or not their request for a regular commission is upheld.

I hope that this article has clarified the spectrum of officer entrants at Sandhurst in the 1980s.

Footnote: If any reader has found this article too complicated take heart from the fact that I instructed for two years and I still had to check my facts.

Regular Careers Course — Returning Officers' Course

By Lieutenant P. C. Tomlinson

"Where is Mister Tomlinson?"

"On a course, Sir".

"What again? We never seem to see him".

As courses go it was an extremely satisfying course to attend. There was little or no physical activity featured on the syllabus, it was an entirely educational course relearning to write essays, give talks and presentations and of course extra studying in the evenings concentrating on Military History, Current Affairs and Military Technology. It was all very interesting.

All physical activity was entirely voluntary. With it being the summer I concentrated my efforts on the cricket field and although we were a very successful team, it was very time-consuming. Since we were obliged to entertain the opposition after each game we found that we were often detained until well after eight o'clock in the evening. Many of my contemporaries though I was mad playing every weekend and most Wednesdays, and then spending half my leave on a two-week tour to Cyprus was just too much for them. The sacrifices we all must make!

The area around Camberley is littered with attractive pubs and restaurants and is able to support a social life comparable to that of any luxurious ski resort, girls included. I felt it my duty to acquaint myself with my new surrounds and I must admit I found it difficult to fault the above description, especially since I am single. For the more adventurous London was only half an hour away.

On the whole it was six months of purgatory and the approach of winter was a welcome sight — I mean you can't play cricket all the year round, so I turned my hand to rugby ever aware my time in England was drawing to a close and that to return to the Battalion unfit would be completely unacceptable.

Even before the course actually finished I was able to appreciate what a good time I'd had — if you live by the motto "work hard, play hard" you can't really go wrong (we did do some exams as well). Because I have not yet had my course report I am not going to forecast what it will be like although I feel my cricket report will be fairly reasonable! But unfortunately some people just are not satisfied, even when I'm not on a course!

"Mister Tomlinson, on another course, is he?"

"No, Sir".

"What! I don't believe it. Tell him I wish to see him".

"That will be difficult, Sir".

"Why?"

"He's skiing, Sir".

"PXXF XXXG!?"

REFLECTIONS

By 2nd Lieutenant C. Higgs

The Gates appear in a blur of night rain and slowly the moments which have haunted your past surge forward. Your room, home, is dark, lonely and bare. Faces and names blow past in a flurry of handshakes and introductions. Eventually you retire overwhelmed, overawed, perplexed.

First impressions are important to those who meet you and of those you meet. It is very wrong and very difficult to form true opinions on first impressions. Thoughts after one week and after three months are somewhat different. But facts are facts and those first few tender weeks seem to drag unless you strike exercise.

An exercise is a Subaltern's bliss for one main reason, he becomes his own master. He may attend "O Groups" but for the bulk of the time he is his own king. He has his men and if he does not already know them he soon will. Now although new, he sits in his new world.

Reality soon returns and with it new challenges, new opportunities. You learn quickly not to wait but to go out and get what you want. People will help but you must ask, for to sit idling will lead to rot.

But all this has been superficial. What are his inner thoughts, what now are his reflections on joining his Regiment? Privately he will confide in his closest friends but ultimately only he himself understands. There will be those who believe they know you better than yourself and they will be quick to tell you how your life shall run. They proclaim that "in their experience" and this is where he goes quiet, he maintains a respectful silence for he knows now it was their experience — this is his.

They do not know your past, they do not know your background, you must fit in with them and then they will work with you. Listen, learn for those who are teaching you know their job but remember yourself, remember your goal. These are the reflections of a Junior Subaltern.

COMBAT SURVIVAL

By Sergeant D. White

After a month of doing education ("E.P.C. A.") I received my Joining Instructions for a three-week

course with the famous S.A.S. Regiment at Hereford in England.

Combat Survival! After years of Army Training and Courses on how to stay alive on today's battlefield what more could the Army teach me? Well I was soon to have my eyes opened. The course was in November, so as I packed my equipment I was putting in lots of warm clothing knowing the weather would be cold and wet, but this was to do no good. And why was two by 50 gram tobacco tins on the packing list? (I don't smoke a pipe). Also the medical certificate had to be endorsed "Fit to undergo very arduous training". (Would I stand the pace at my mature age?)

So off I set with Lt. Carr, 'A' Coy, to sunny Hereford, home of the S.A.S. On the first morning the course, which had members from most Regiments of the British Army as well as members from other N.A.T.O. Armies had the usual photograph taken. I was later to learn this had something to do with identification of the course members on the final Escape and Evasion Exercise. The programme was a full one with not much free time. Lectures and demonstrations on subjects like evasion, survival navigation, escape kits, dog evasion, wild food, traps and snares, skinning, fishing, fires, shelters, primitive medicine and resistance to interrogation to name a few.

After the first morning lectures on survival navigation we had to put the subject into practice, my eyes had started slowly to open. You don't need a compass to find north; the sun will tell you or the stars at night or the moon or plant growth or you can make a home made compass by stroking a needle with a magnet and dangling it on cotton. All very useful if you lose your compass and have to move around the countryside by day or night without one.

And so the course continued getting more interesting each day. One lecture we had was on 'Shore Survival'. We all I'm sure know about seaweed and shellfish as food but did you know you can eat seagulls? Yes; and I found them very tasty! I now find myself looking for seagulls ready to capture and put into the pot, webbed feet and all. Did you also know how much edible food is in the countryside just for the picking? Berries, wild plants, herbs and fungi, all will make a meal and all is free. Think of the cost of food today? But be warned. There are of course poisonous plants so you must know exactly what to eat. There are books on the subject that are a must to read before you try to help yourself to all this free food. As one S.A.S. Instructor told me "If it creeps, crawls, swims or flies you can generally eat it". I wonder?

So we moved to the first four-day exercise "Hare's Foot", being out for four days in only the clothing we stood up in, a knife and a box of matches, nothing else. All we had learnt was now put into practice. You can build a shelter or basha out of anything and we did out of old plastic bags and any other items we found in the area. Survival in the open is a full-time job, always looking for food or firewood, laying traps or snares hoping you might have meat of some kind to eat.

It was trial and error the first two days, but we soon had things in hand, but it rained most of the time. So much for the warm clothing I had packed and could not use. "Keep Britain Tidy". We all have seen the posters, but we were glad of all the old bottles and tins people had thrown away and put them to good use as waterbottles, cups and cooking pots. So back to the camp for a debrief and a warning order for the next exercise "Pilgrims' Progress". This was to last a full seven days to complete the course. We had a free day to prepare for it.

"Pilgrims' Progress" was to stretch us psychologically as well as physically and was a very hard exercise. As it was a survival, escape and evasion exercise we were "escaped P.W.'s" and dressed the part; B.D. trousers and jacket, K.F. shirt, boots and greatcoat, all old items of clothing, most the buttons were missing and tears or bits of the clothing cut off or three sizes too small. My greatcoat had no buttons on so I had to use string. The only other kit we had to take was, YES, the 50 grams tobacco tin containing survival items; buttons, compass, escape map, fishing kit, snares, razor blades and matches, and as much food as you could put into the tin (which is not a lot!). We were then set loose in the mountains of Wales for seven days being hunted by soldiers from the Devon and Dorset Regiment. (Who we probably had hunted ourselves on "Ex Final Fling" — see 'A' Coy Highlights).

We moved only at night and laid up during the day, being harrassed by the hunter forces. The weather was unkind and rained most of the time. The old B.D. is warm when dry but not when wet. Still it was better than being captured. We had to move at night to agent R.V.'s, where he would give us food (raw pigs' trotters or liver) and the next grid reference for the following night. (Remember it's raining and trying to light a fire was a problem. Still they say eating raw meat is good for you?).

Being on the move we did not have much time to eat anything that "Creeps, Crawls or Flies" and being wet and cold did not help much. This was

the conditioning necessary for the final part of the exercise.

I was captured on the fifth night of the exercise. Life then became more uncomfortable. Five days on the run, little sleep and food, cold and wet, I could now see why the M.O.D. cert had been endorsed "fit for arduous training".

I was taken to the "Pig Pen". This was a P.W. Cage in the open. It was raining and cold and we had to sit in the mud in a stress position, for X number of hours. This was a new experience for us and ended in 24 hours of Tactical Questioning. I cannot talk much about the last 36 hours of the exercise but I found it very good training and gave me an insight to what it would be like to be captured by a real enemy.

I found this course the best I have ever attended, it was hard work at times but did have its funny moments; watching 2/Lt. Carr doing the river crossing until it became my turn. Swimming in November across the River Wye we found could be fun!

My eyes are now fully open. "The Combat Survival Instructors' Course" run by the S.A.S. is a course to be recommended if you can get on it. The aim of the course was Combat Survival with some resistance to interrogation towards the end. It proved to me that you can survive with next to nothing and still come out on top. Anything that Creeps, Crawls or Flies will stay with me for a long time but before you try eating anything like that you must have had some instruction or have read the many books on this subject. Seagulls are highly recommended!

AN EXPLANATION OF JOB SPECIFICATION

by an ex-S.C. Q. Org.

For the past two-and-a-half years I have been in a Grade 3 Staff job in the outer reaches of officialdom. When people ask what one did during that time, the reply "I was Staff Captain Q. Org." means absolutely nothing, to a normal person at least. Even when one tells the uninterested audience that you were a logistician, the blank face says it all. The following passage, originally produced by an American General, may go some way to explaining what logisticians do.

"Logisticians are a sad, embittered race of men, very much in demand in war, who sink resentfully into obscurity in peace. They only deal with fact but work for men who merchant in theories. They emerge during war because war is very much a fact. They disappear in peace, because in peace war is mostly theory. The people who merchant in

theories who employ logisticians in war and ignore them in peace are generals. Logisticians hate generals.

Generals are a happily blessed race who radiate self confidence and power. They feed only on ambrosia and drink only nectar. In peace they stride confidently and invade a world simply by sweeping their hand grandly over a map and pointing their finger decisively up terrain corridors, and blocking defiles and obstacles with the side of the hands. In war they stride more slowly because each general has a logistician riding on his back and he knows that, at any moment, the logistician may lean forward and whisper, "No you can't do that". Generals fear logisticians in war and in peace, generals try to forget logisticians.

Gambolling alongside the generals are strategists and tacticians. Logisticians loathe and despise tacticians and strategists until they grow up to be generals . . . which they usually do.

Sometimes a logistician gets to be a general. Where such is the case he must associate with generals who he hates. He has a retinue of strategists and tacticians whom he loathes and on his back is a logistician whom he fears. That is why logisticians who get stars also get ulcers and cannot eat their ambrosia".

There, does everyone now have a clear idea. Well, if not, here are two other definitions I learnt in my sojourn away from the Battalion. One concerns Staff Officers, the other concerns Staff Clerks, those hard-worked clerks of the R.A.O.C. I leave you to fill in the blanks.

1. "A Staff ——— * is one who knows a great deal about little and goes on learning more and more about less and less, until he knows everything about practically nothing".
2. "A Staff ——— * is one who knows very little about a great deal, and goes on learning less and less about more and more until he finally knows practically nothing about everything".

* Enter "Officer" or "clerk" to the definition you think is most suitable.

Incidentally its great being back in the land of the sane.

REFLECTIONS ON EX "LONG LOOK 80"

By Cpl. R. Kershaw
(Australian Army)

As Ex Long Look 80 draws to a close, I look back on my three months with 'A' Coy, I D.E.R.R. with good memories, although, some of these memories are obscured in a haze of German beer.



Not a bad drop actually, but it still doesn't measure up to the good old Aussie Amber Fluid!

I would like to thank all personnel from 1 D.E.R.R., and particularly 'A' Coy, for the co-operation, help and generosity shown to me whilst here, and especially for my initial time here in making the settling in period run so smoothly.

The highlight of the tour would have to be Exercise "Spearpoint", the sheer size of which was enough to amaze anyone. When we talk about large scale exercises we mean 2-3 Battalions involved, not 3-4 Armoured Divisions. I was privileged to participate in the Exercise as Section Commander of a Mechanised Infantry Section, and like the other 63,000 participants, I learnt quite a few lessons, especially on the problems associated with controlling and maintaining a large Armoured Force.

Other highlights of my stay were a tour of the Arnhem battlefields and a two-week grape-picking trip to the South of Germany, both highly recommended.

Generally, I was impressed with the British Army and of how they carry out their role in B.A.O.R. Down at soldier level, a strong observation was of the emphasis placed on personal fitness and the need to retain this fitness once achieved. Many and varied sporting activities help to this end.

Cheers. Cobber!

GRAPE PICKING

By Lt. G. P. Barlow

Exercise Pressing Engagement, or in layman's language, "Ex Grossen Picken und viel trinken", was a public relations exercise held in the Rheinhessen area of S. Germany, just south of Mainz. The aim was to promote Anglo-German relations and give the soldiers a chance to live and work with German people. Twenty-four soldiers and one officer from the Battalion left bleary-eyed on Sunday, 12th October 1980 for a very enjoyable two weeks picking grapes.

On arriving in Hanheim the soldiers were split up into groups and promptly taken under the wing of their Haus Frau's. The month of October is probably the busiest time of year for the farmers and we were set to work almost immediately along with other members of the family, village and students on holiday. Most of the soldiers were employed as grape pickers, though a lucky few carried the "grape hoppers" up and down the vineyards. For the first week the pickers would be gaily chopping at the grapes when a scream would be heard and yet another soldier had hacked his finger off with the secateurs, but as expertise grew so the casualties dropped, the only casualties being severe hangovers in the morning.

Another problem we had to face was that of communicating, our German was limited to say the least but with a mixture of pidgin German and hand signals we managed to get the message across. The farmers, impressed by the strong Wiltshire and Berkshire accents were soon learning English, Duke of Edinburgh's style. A certain farmer who on offering a young soldier some of his best wine heard the reply "Cor this wine is . . . rubbish!" to which the farmer, expecting some praise, was most put out, until it was explained that it was not a derogatory remark but in fact a compliment. The farmer, now happy, continued the wine-tasting until the early hours of that morning!

In all the two weeks picking grapes was a welcome break from training and gave everyone a chance to try out their limited German. So on the Sunday we said our farewells and 24 soldiers and one officer returned back to sunny Osnabruck loaded to the gunholes with wine and many pleasant memories, hic!

EXERCISE KING'S RIDE

By Major C. J. Parslow

Exercise King's Ride was a Defence Operational Analysis Establishment (D.O.A.E.) tactical trial to produce data on "interactive close combat situa-

tions" in open and mixed country. To reduce this to layman's language the exercise consisted of 32 simulated battles involving an enemy (orange) Company, in reality 'D' Company, with a troop of four tanks from 4 R.T.R. and a friendly (blue) platoon from 'B' Company. The battles took place in open and wooded country on the Soltau Training Area and on a 443 Area around the town of Uelzen.

The Exercise started with an in-camp pre-trial training programme, training 'D' Company in Orange tactics, and fitting of the various sensors. Laser weapons were issued either to riflemen or fitted to the A.P.C.'s, all the orange A.P.C.'s and tanks were also fitted with batteries of sensors and when "hit" by laser Simfire guns would belch forth orange smoke. Soldiers when "hit" would start bleeping, indicating that they too were casualties and had to remain where they were hit to allow D.O.A.E. to collate the necessary data.

The battles themselves fell into three groups, battles from a wooded edge position, hit and run ambushes in rides of woods or on a main road through a wooded area and finally strong points within a wood. In all these cases 'D' Company attacked the 'B' Company platoon often as many as three times in the same position so D.O.A.E. could produce the required data for its trial. It was found that a well dug-in platoon covering an open area would destroy the majority of an Orange Company before it could reach their positions. It is worth noting however that neither Orange or Blue indirect fire was played nor were Blue obstacles. However during the Orange attack on a strong point in a wood it was found that the normal 3 to 1 attack ratio was adequate to destroy the Blue platoon (or to use D.O.A.E. language "cause an overrun situation!!"). So far honours even.

The ambush battles were to prove more difficult to evaluate. Success or failure of the ambush depended on the Blue Commander timely springing the ambush (when the killing area was full of Orange vehicles). The Blue Platoon could generally cover enough road or track to be able to engage the entire mounted Orange Coy including the platoon of four tanks simultaneously. However when the Orange commander led with a point platoon or led with a dismounted force the ambush failed, although of course it forced Orange to move more slowly and in the case of 'hit and run' ambushes, caused some casualties with little or no loss to Blue.

Those were the battles, so what did we learn and what conclusions did D.O.A.E. draw from them? As far as we were concerned little new emerged,

but having the direct fire laser type weapon simulation it did prove to be a valuable training aid in that it forced rapid reorganisation to take place to account for the casualties and the fact that many of the commanders were killed made it vitally important that the original orders for an operation were clear, simple, concise and understood by all. The D.O.A.E. concluded that when it came to the interpretation of Orange tactics the 'will to win' and the personality of the Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of this Company (i.e. 'D' Coy) will play a very important part in the future evaluation of exercises. The D.O.A.E. report on the exercise also said "In several battles the crews of some attacking A.F.V.'s moving with an aggressive spirit, a good knowledge of their vehicles' capability and careful use of ground, were able to negotiate areas which the defenders had considered impassable", hadn't they heard of the Germans' advance through the Ardennes in 1940! Altogether it was an interesting exercise and as it took place in March and April a good 'starter' for the more demanding exercises to come.

Gems from the Report

When as the D.O.A.E. said it was vitally important to give clear, concise, simple orders it is amusing to read some of their 'language'. Some examples are in the text above but here are just three more:—

an annihilation action — attack and destroy;
wooded environment—woods;
upgrade significantly—strengthen.

THE BATTLEFIELD SURVIVAL COURSE

**Attended by L/Cpls. Alden, Hopgood, McIntyre
and Evans, 'A' Coy**

During the summer of this year we were all sent on twelve day courses on Battlefield Survival at the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol School at Weingarten Baden Wurtenburg, Southern Germany. Instructors came from all N.A.T.O. Units, most being Para or Special Forces with British instructors from 22 S.A.S.

When we received the lengthy joining instructions we were very keen to gather in all the knick-knacks and special equipment we would need. This meant scrounging around the Q.M.'s Department (and everyone knows how difficult that is) and the Barracks. We even had time off to shop in town for such things as fishing line, karabina's, wire saws, etc.

Well eventually the time came for L/Cpl. Alden and L/Cpl. Hopgood to leave for their course, humping heavy bergans and suitcases was one

thing they weren't used to. It was a long drive to Rheindahlen H.Q. and we were late in getting there. All the personnel from different units consolidated there and were driven by Army Coach to Weingarten, which took the rest of the night.

When we arrived at the School we put down our luggage and were all sent to breakfast. This was in a German Army Cookhouse and consisted of two spam rolls and coffee.

After breakfast we were all shown to our accommodation which was very pleasant to live in. From our rooms we went straight to work starting with a map reading test to see what standard we were up to. Later on the same day we were taken on a Battle Fitness Test which if we did not pass we would be returned to our Unit.

However, everyone did pass and in a time which surprised even ourselves.

When the work for the first day was over everyone was quite tired and some people were a little confused to say the least. That evening we had a drink with the staff in the canteen to 'break the ice'. This lasted quite a while and when everyone eventually filtered back to their rooms they had no problem falling asleep. Everyone was a little curious as to why the staff were watching us, drinking happily, with grins on their faces.

The next morning we found out! We were up for physical training at 0530 hours. We had to run fast and hard, then stop and do strenuous exercises. The B.F.T. was a piece of cake compared to this.

Well as one can see this was going to be a hard course, however we found it good fun and very interesting. The training started early in the morning and finished in the evening at about seven o'clock.

The training included several Survival Navigation Exercises, where we were taught to make sketch maps, which is a skill we would all have to excel at during the final two-day exercise as reaching vital R.V.'s depended on this aspect. We were taught how to strip, assemble and fire Warsaw Pact and N.A.T.O. weapons. We all found this very interesting and enjoyable. The best part being the range day where we came to the actual firing of foreign weapons which an infantryman usually never does at all. We also fired the 9mm Browning Pistol using the "instinctive pointing" technique. We were also taught to abseil, rockclimb, cross rivers tactically with bundles and live in the snow.

Close Quarter Combat was also fascinating, because it is something we do not normally do. Learning to disarm, throw people and put them

out of action quickly and quietly as well as handling P.W., was something to remember.

One of the best parts of the course was Survival lessons in the field. We were shown how to slaughter animals (for us it was a pig) and also how to skin rabbits and pluck chickens. We learnt what different fires we could make and how to build a shelter and lay animal traps and snares. All very useful for the up and coming Infantryman lost in the ulu.

When the two-day exercise started this was the first part of the course and what it was all about. We were dropped off from a lorry, given a sketch map and button compass, told roughly where we were and where and when we had to meet our agent at the R.V. It was a funny feeling at first in the middle of nowhere with just a sketch map and compass in the dark with no food. The distance we had to cover didn't look far but it was about fifty kilometres. When we did reach our agent at eight o'clock the next morning we were given a live chicken, some potatoes and carrots, this was our meal for the first day. We were also given another sketch map for our next leg. It took us all day and night to get to the next point. When we arrived this time we got a rabbit (we like rabbits) and of course the sketch map to the next check point, which was close to the Camp in Weingarten. We got there eventually and were told to walk back to camp. When we reported in the staff asked us if we were hungry, and said that there were plenty of rabbits and chickens outside. Thanks a bunch we thought as we hobbled away on our blistered, swollen feet!

With the course nearly over the final part was a parachute jump at Bad Lippspringe in Senne-lager Training Area. We were all quite worried about this impending danger and despite all the ground training and instruction someone who will remain nameless could not force himself to jump after all and on landing was seen to hug and kiss the ground. (This same person who cannot yet swim received the 'A' Coy tactical river crossing prize for the most crossings with or without a life-jacket).

Overall it was an excellent course — one of the best in the Army today and one of the most interesting. It has something that every Infantryman at least should know. It is open to any rank from (Senior) Private to Captain. Do you want to go on a course? See the Courses' Clerk for details.

FALCONRY AND HAWKING

By C/Sgt. Haines

I started my interest in Falconry and Hawking six years ago in the U.K., when I found a nest of

four Kestrels. The tree that the parents had built their nest in was suffering from Dutch Elm disease, and it had been blown down by high winds.

After bringing all four up successfully, I released three back to the wild and the fourth, because he was a little backwards in fending for himself, became my first bird. I trained him, and after having him for just over two years he was released back into the wild. Since then I have successfully owned and trained a female buzzard, a sparrow hawk and at the time of writing a goshawk, which can be seen here in the photo on my fist. His name is Tiger, and he is an immature male goshawk. At just over five months old the feathers on his breast at this stage look like splashes of paint, after his first moult these splashes will become parallel lines. There will be hardly any change at all in the colour. The flying weight of this bird is 737g, whereas the female of this species is 1134g. As you can see by the difference in weight the female is a lot larger in size than the male. In general this difference applies to all short winged hawks. In Germany and in England there is a large following in the art of Falconry and Hawking. It is easier to obtain a bird in Germany for training, as there are more species and they are more abundant than in the U.K. The training of these birds is a time-consuming and an exacting sport, and an understanding wife is essential! The occasional mute on the sitting room carpet, dead frozen mice, day-old chicks and wild rabbit in the family freezer can be off-putting to some!

At this stage I would like to mention the laws for anyone pursuing the sport of Falconry in the U.K., as I think this is a most important part of the sport. Laws affecting Birds of Prey are contained in 'The Protection of Birds Acts 1954 and 1967' and orders made thereunder. These acts affect the falconer in two respects; firstly as regards the hawk that he may lawfully acquire, and secondly, as regards to the quarry that he may lawfully pursue. As regards falcons and hawks,



C/Sgt. Haines with goshawk.

all indigenous hawks are now protected; and all except the kestrel are included in Schedule 1 of the 1954 Act (the Sparrowhawk having been included by the Order of 1966) and given "special protection"). Special protection involves special penalties, £25 fine and/or imprisonment of one month for a first offence.

Furthermore, by the Wild Birds (Importation) Order 1970 (1970 No. 545) made under S.7(2)(b) of the 1954 Act, the importation into the U.K. of any live birds of prey is prohibited unless licensed under S.10 of that act.

As regards to quarries, these come under the act of 1954, and under S.8(1)(e) of the Act of 1967, licence may be granted under S.10 of the 1957 Act "to kill, in the course of falconry, within any area specified in the licence, wild birds of any description so specified by flying birds of prey of any description so specified".

Under this provision, licences may be and are granted authorising the killing of blackbirds by sparrowhawks, and larks by merlins (in each case up to a specified number in a specified area). The Laws here in Germany are different as they tend to be much stricter than those of the U.K.

Nevertheless to be able to train and fly a bird free at quarry is worth all the effort.

THE OLD LAG OF SANDLING PLACE or THE BITER BIT

By Colonel J. A. Sellers, M.B.E.

It was Sunday. The Association H.Q. was closed. The caretaker had gone out for an hour leaving his wife without the keys to the gate. Just the moment for the Secretary to call.

He arrived as two young scamps were climbing the garden wall. Having chased them off he followed the well-worn precept, "Don't do as I do. Do as I say!"

With far less agility he clambered up the wall and slithered down a notice board on the other side. Ten minutes later he repeated the Tickell Test with a box of files. It was a hot day and puffed, bruised and dishevelled he dusted himself down, slumped into his car and drove off — into a Police Trap.

With lights flashing and sirens blaring two patrol cars and a motorcyclist boxed him neatly into the kerb. Up walked a couple of constables.

"Excuse me, sir. Acting on information received from members of the public we have reason to believe that you are the old gentleman in a brown

coat and a blue Cortina seen breaking into M.O.D. property".

The constables greeted the explanation that it was merely the Secretary trying to get into his own office with pardonable incredulity.

"May we have proof of your identity, sir?"

Trying to establish one's identity to a sceptical constable with only a Telephone Credit Card and a British Museum Reader's Ticket is an exercise in ingenuity. Pointing to the box of files on the back seat the Secretary suggested that this might do. "That, sir, may be used as Crown evidence". Only the accused's amateurishness, lack of fitness and slovenly performance on the wall stood in his favour. Complimenting the anonymous member of the public on his alertness and the Police on their promptness the Secretary considered himself lucky to be let off with only a warning to take more water with it.

As he drove off he reflected that the "alert members of the public" were probably the two young scamps.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Memorandum on the Inspection of the 66th Regiment by His Excellency the Commander in Chief Bombay, 1st February 1878.

1. The accoutrements were not carefully put on over the serge frocks. The frocks looked very untidy. Some men present arms badly.

The Serjeants' sashes were not fitted to them or put on smartly. The knot should not be lower than the waist and should be well back. If the sash is too long it should be shortened by a hem.

2. Previous to marching past a mounted officer did not dress the guides upon the flags on the saluting base.

3. The carriage of arms is bad, and the rear ranks do not preserve the prescribed distance of 30 inches from heel to heel between the ranks.

4. The Drum-Major did not, as is customary, salute in marching past.

5. The manoeuvre of retiring by alternate companies in rear of No. 2 Company was very badly executed.

6. When the order was given to the Battalion in line to change position upon detached points, neither Officers nor men seemed to understand anything of the movement.

7. When the command was given to the Battn in line to change front 1/2 right on No. 4 Company, covered by No. 1 Company all the Companies were very slack in getting their dressing in the new

alignment, and Captain Quarry was especially remiss in directing his Company in this manoeuvre.

8. Both Officers and men require practice in the Rifle Exercises from Squad to Battalion Drill.

9. The Commander-in-Chief regrets to say that of all the numerous British Regiments he has inspected of late years he has never seen one that required more attention on the part of the Commanding Officer to the drill of both Officers and men than the 66th Regiment.

His Excellency will again see the Regiment at

the end of the drill season when he hopes to see an improvement.

Forwarded for the information of the Officer Commanding 66th Foot.

To be copied, receipted and returned.

By Order,

Sgn. Wm. Cooke-Ellis, Capt.

Dy Asst. Adj. Gen.

D.A.A.G.'s Office,

Bombay 4 February 1878.

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS AND MUSEUM THE WARDROBE

Winter 1979



The Front.

February 1981



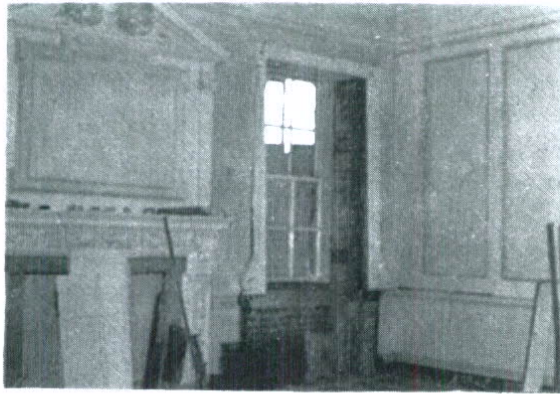
The Front.



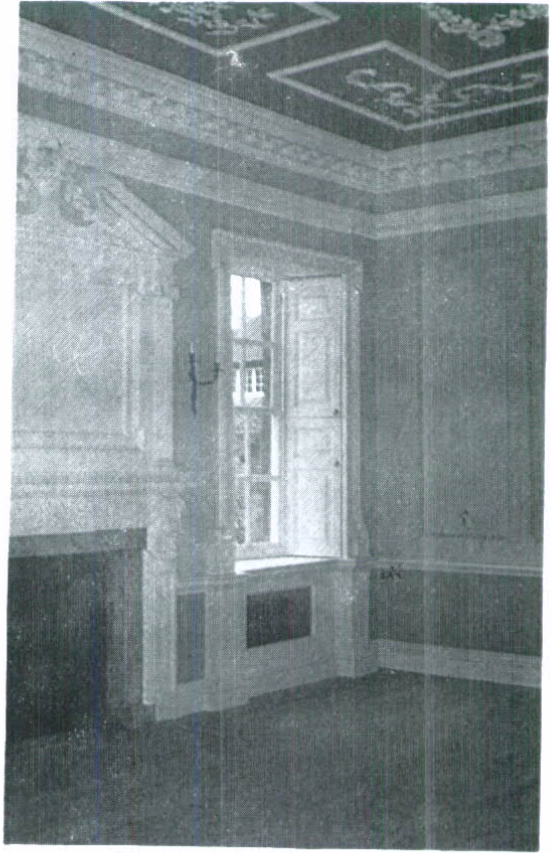
Museum Exhibition Room 2.



Museum Exhibition Room 2.



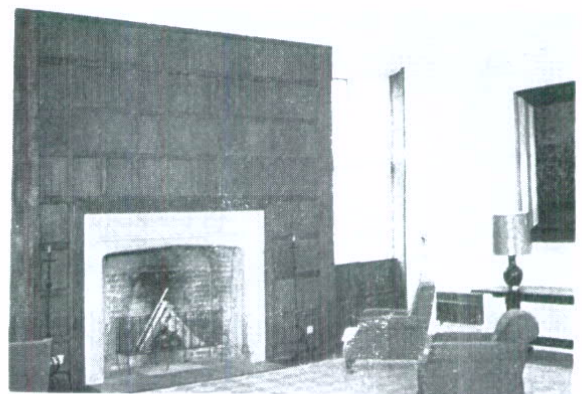
Museum Exhibition Room 3.



Museum Exhibition Room 3.



Regimental Room.



Regimental Room.

Above are snapshots, taken without the benefit of a wide angle lens, of some aspects of The Wardrobe. The more recent photographs (on the right) show them in February, when the Museum show-

cases had yet to come, when the Regimental Badge and flagstaff were not in place outside and the furnishing of the Regimental Room was not complete.

THE DEPOT, CRICKHOWELL

It has been a busy period for all Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment personnel at Crickhowell, with all three Companies having representatives either being trained, doing the training, or both.

Training Company, with its 18-week cycle, has been its usual hive of activity. Recruit **Allsop**, as well as being an accomplished boxer, earned himself the prize for the best S.L.R. shot. The Company has also seen Recruit **L/Cpl. South**, brother of **L/Cpl. South** who used to be in 'D' Company, do particularly well in the Gymnasium. Recruits **Lambert** and **Attwood** had the unique distinction (for Crickhowell) of having a D.E.R.R. Platoon Commander in **Lt. Crocker**.

Junior Soldiers' Company, meanwhile, saw quite a bit of worthwhile action by D.E.R.R. trainees and instructors. **Jnr. Cpl. Crook** and **Jnr. Soldier McGauley** both had Lt. Crocker as their Platoon Commander for the majority of their training and both represented the Depot at Bisley, McGauley only just missing a prize for the S.M.G. shoot. Obviously there is great potential there; **Maj. Holmes**, look to your laurels! Meanwhile J/Cpl. Crook was also excelling as a centre for the Junior Soldiers' Rugby team and has impressed the Juniors Rugby Coach/Manager (Lt. Crocker) as a good player with a vast amount of potential. Also gone to the Battalion is **JL/Cpl. Western**, to the Drums Platoon. At the time of writing (December 1980) there are quite a number of D.E.R.R. Juniors in the recently formed Platoons (**Junior Soldiers Barnes, Butt, Purvis, Heginbotham, Holmes, Trail and Rowell**).

Within Headquarter Company, **Maj. Piers**, along with **Sophie**, has taken over and has seen **C/Sgt. Bryant** depart to return to the Battalion while **Cpl. Crookson** arrived to work in the Gymnasium. It is rumoured that when Cpl. Crookson first saw the Sugar Loaf (to the uninitiated, our friendly local mountain up which we run and walk) he turned white and nearly fainted! Meanwhile, **W.O.2. Clarke**, as Chief Clerk, remains calm and serene amidst the noise and chaos of Depot Headquarters.

Other Permanent Staff changes (and news) have seen **W.O.2 Flay** arrive to take over from Lt. Crocker as a Training Company Platoon Commander. With Cpl. Crookson as well it has been quite a reunion for ex 'D' Company (and 'B' Company — Warminster) personnel. Lt. Crocker has had quite a busy year, being responsible for Junior Soldiers' Rugby (the season ending with a very successful tour), Junior Soldiers' Bisley and capping the lot by getting engaged to the elder daughter of one of the R.A.E.C. Officers on the camp. Wedding bells are rumoured to be heard in the distance!

Life in general at this scenic Depot has continued at quite a pace. Having won the Army Minor Units Rugby Championship for the last three years we are going for a record-breaking fourth year (the 1981 final will be held in Senne-lager). The Depot 'A' team, captained by Lt. Crocker, won the Wales Skill at Arms Meeting in the summer of 1980. In between all this we have also had our role in Exercise Crusader to play, Training Company guarding a key point in South Wales over a very wet weekend while Junior Soldiers Company provided refugees, casualties and confusion to test the local civilian volunteer and emergency services. We have also seen changes in our numbers at Brecon. **Major Kenway** has returned to the Battalion and we have seen **C/Sgt. McIntyre** arrive as an instructor with Junior Division at Dering Lines. **Cpl. Lowery** shouldn't feel quite so lonely now! **W.O.2 Gascoigne** has left not only the Depot, where he worked in the Adventure Training Wing, but also the Army and all D.E.R.R. staff here wish him the best of luck for his future career. Life at Cwrt-y-Gollen may be hectic but it is certainly rewarding and it is good to see the D.E.R.R. participation increasing. Although we are part of the water catchment area for the United Kingdom when the clouds lift, the floods subside and the snow melts it really is very picturesque here and the locals are very friendly. If there are any members of the Regiment ever in the vicinity please drop in — you'll be made most welcome.

THE REGIMENTAL LIAISON TEAM

Since the last journal there have been many comings and goings in the R.L.T. with a complete turnover of the team since the last time of writing. The change-over of team leaders from **Sgt. 'Phil' Austin** to **Sgt. 'Geoff' Williams** went off smoothly in February. **Cpl. 'Spud' Taylor** went back to the Battalion and **L/Cpl. 'Spik' Antoni** went into civvy street as a Salesman and also **L/Cpl. 'Jerry' Poole** moving over to the Divisional Display Team next door.

Replacements **L/Cpl. Martin Hayter**, **L/Cpl. John Stevens**, **L/Cpl. John Burgess** and **L/Cpl. Steve Hall** have all settled in well.

The Summer Season was a very busy period for the team with a lot more events being held throughout Berkshire and Wiltshire with the team having to turn down events as they were fully booked. The K.A.P.E. Tour in July was a good chance for the team to get up to date knowledge

from members of the Battalion on events happening in the Battalion and for the public the chance to see the Milan anti-tank weapon.

The visit of members of the team to the Battalion in September on Exercise Crusader proved very profitable on up to date photographs of the Battalion in action.

The winter period is mainly spent on School visits and visiting A.C.F. units in both counties also refurbishing equipment ready for the 1981 Season.

The team also carry out courses in the winter with **Sgt. Williams** completing his E.P.C.(A). **L/Cpl. Hayter** having completed his E.P.C., H.G.V. 1 and H.G.V. Driving Instructors' Courses, passing with good grades.

The team now look forward to the Summer Season of 81 which looks to be a busy one with firm bookings already made.

JUNIOR SOLDIERS BATTALION TAUNTON

Greetings to all our readers from the small but very effective group of D.E.R.R. personnel at present slumming it down here in the very picturesque sleepy hollow of Taunton in the South West of England. Good pubs, good beer and good cider are all in abundance. J.S.B. has now been a going concern for the past 18 months and nearly all the D.E.R.R.'s here have played their part in adding to its success.

However before starting, all the D.E.R.R.'s at Taunton would like to add their congratulations to **Major Jack Barrow** on being awarded the M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours list. It was a tremendous achievement and thoroughly deserved. Major Barrow has been responsible for starting J.S.B. from literally nothing. He and **Maj. Paddison** arrived at almost the same time at J.S.B. at which time there was no furniture, stores or anything else remotely useful. He was responsible for getting this battalion off the ground. By September 1979 J.S.B. was ready in all aspects to receive 350 Juniors and by September 1980 750 Juniors were accommodated in Norton Manor Camp. Major Barrow had to work very hard to ensure everything went smoothly. However hard he works he

still continues to play hard! On a personal note all D.E.R.R. personnel at J.S.B. would like to thank Jack for all that he has done to help both the Battalion and the Company here in Taunton.

The first three ex Juniors from J.S.B. have now joined the 1st Battalion and it is hoped that they are doing well. It was pleasing to see that despite the obvious success of the 1 D.E.R.R. rugby team that **Davis 24**, who captained the J.S.B. XV which was only beaten in the final of the Juniors Army Cup, is now on the verge of playing for 1 D.E.R.R.

Of the Juniors still undergoing training it is pleasing to record that several are showing very good potential. Four Juniors pass out on 10th April 1981 who are destined for 1 D.E.R.R. They are **J/Cpl. Badenski**, **J/Sldr. Morris**, **J/Sldr. Richards** and **J/Sldr. Lewis**. **J/Cpl. Badenski** is doing very well and may even become a J/Sgt. before he leaves. He is also a very good swimmer. He took part in the National Championships in 1979 and came 5th in the 400 metres freestyle behind Duncan Goodhew! Whoever runs the swimming in the Battalion must take Badenski under his wing as soon as Badenski arrives. **J/Sldr. Richards** is quite a good all round sportsman, his best sport



*Junior Soldier Andrews's first attempt at Abseiling.
He seems remarkably cheerful!*

being Cross Country. J/Sldr. Lewis has two brothers already serving with the 1st Battalion.

In Intake 3 there are only three Juniors joining D.E.R.R. However they are all quite bright and very keen. In fact all three of them are in the top class of five for education! They are **JL/Cpl. Pearson**, **J/Sldr. Andrews** and **J/Sldr. Welfair**. JL/Cpl. Pearson has settled down extremely well and is

certainly one of the best Juniors of his intake in the Company. If he continues in his present mood there is no reason why he could not become J/CSM. J/Sldr. Andrews' uncle, also called Andrews, served in the battalion some years ago. I can remember him in 'A' Coy about ten years ago! However J/Sldr. Andrews is a very gutsy performer both in the field and on the sports pitches. What he lacks in skill he makes up for with grim determination! J/Sldr. Welfair is a quiet young man but he is also showing potential and could do very well.

The Permanent Staff are all flourishing. Apart from Major Barrow, Major Paddison leaves Taunton on 10th April and then stands-by to move to Brunei from 29th April. His tour out there is for 27 months. W.O.2 Fielding returns to 1 D.E.R.R. in August 1981. He has bought himself a new Volvo 244 so he definitely cannot afford to stay here. **Sgt. Tadhunter** returns to Osnabruck in June and he is very keen to get amongst the Drums Platoon again as soon as the opportunity arises. **Cpl. Nicholson** also returns to 1 D.E.R.R. in June. He is now very keen to remain in the Army and by June will be qualified in all respects to become an O.R.C. His wife is expecting a child in February so Cpl. Richardson will arrive back as a real 'pad'. **Cpl. Richardson** continues to do well and is now happily married with a child. He likes it so much down here he has applied for an extension. **Cpl. Gayle** also joined our ranks in September 1980 although he works in the Gym. He was a tremendous help when coaching the Company Boxing Team.

It is also good to see that other D.E.R.R.'s are going to Taunton in the future. **Cpl. 'Snowy' Cox** is due here in June 1981 and **L/Cpl. Wolfenden** will be coming in January 1982. They can both be assured that they will have a very satisfying and happy tour at J.S.B.

‘C’ COMPANY (ROYAL BERKSHIRE) 2nd BATTALION THE WESSEX REGIMENT (Volunteers)

We have a very good half year. From jointly winning the Hackney Shield shooting trophy (for the third time), to putting in a record number for the Ypres Marches and taking part as a complete Company guard, for both of our Ceremonial Parades.

The Company tradition of taking part in the Ypres Marches, ensures that the keen types within the unit get a chance to march abroad. This in turn generates good press publicity.

This year the unit took local reporters, both girls, to camp. This venture resulted in our obtaining three page write-ups and photos in both the Maidenhead and Slough papers.

We are basing our main recruiting publicity on a reprint of the Maidenhead Advertiser article. The reporter, Kathy Leeds, has visited the unit since camp, attended our Annual Dinner, as a guest, and will be coming out on the range. We shall take care not to lose this very helpful press contact.

Our annual Dinner and Ladies’ Night took place in the presence of Dr. Alan Glyn, E.R.D., M.P., our local Member of Parliament, Brigadier J. H. Learmont, C.B.E., and as a ‘bonus’ our Regimental Band were on parade resplendent in their new scarlet parade dress.

On the all important personnel front; our 2 i/c of long standing, John Tristram, has been promoted to Command, Delta Coy, Brock Barracks and Newbury. His place has been filled by promoting **Mike Gaunt**. Mike has run our hard patch, at Slough for the past 18 months and deserves to come in from the cold. **Eric Dean**, presently an Officer Cadet, runs Slough, whilst our new venture, as yet very much at ground level, Bracknell, is run by **2/Lt. Chris Protheroe**. We were able to promote to Platoon Sergeant, **Cpl. Norris**, who lives in Bracknell. We shall be making a major effort in Bracknell, to make this a viable platoon.

Our numbers attending camp and courses, shows an upward swing. Of particular note; **Sgt. Kingsford’s ‘B’** on “Methods of Instruction”.

Camp this year was, in the writer’s experience, the coldest and wettest ever. We had a highly realistic series of tasks and the Coy tackled these with verve and good humour.

This will be the writer’s last Coy report to the Journal. He has been very proud indeed to command ‘C’ (Royal Berkshire) Coy over a period of four years. His successor, **Greg Miller**, an old ‘C’ Coy man, is a very lucky man to have under command such a super unit.

‘D’ COMPANY 2nd BATTALION THE WESSEX REGIMENT (Volunteers)

Major B. J. Tristram

Capt. T. P. Wild

Lt. D. E. M. Richards Lt. J. C. Walton

2/Lt. N. G. Marshall

W.O.2 L. Zawadzki

P.S.I.’s C/Sgt. P. S. Walters, Q.G.M.

Sgt. B. J. Taylor

1980 has been a busy and eventful year for the company, with a number of volunteers doing as many as 80 days training. Maj. Tristram took

over command from **Maj. J. M. Spanner** while about 20 of the company were in Ypres taking part in the Ypres Marches. Lt. Julian Walton returned to the T.A. after three years as a contract officer in Dubai, and took over 11 platoon in Newbury. Lt. Miles Richards moved over to Reading to take 10 Platoon, while **Lt. Julian Walker** moves on to the more exalted circles of Bn H.Q., to act as Ops. Officer.

The number of courses attended and passed by



*Pte. Davidson and Cpl. Holmes (Ex D.E.R.R.)
at Fort Southwick.*

members of the company is so great that to list all the results would fill all the space available. **Cpl. Stamp** had an exceptionally good report from the R.S.I. course at S.I.S.W. Warminster, Capt. Patrick Wild qualified on the Company Commanders' course also at Warminster, and 2/Lt. Nick Marshall was commissioned after successfully completing his Sandhurst training.

The P.S.I.'s links with Brecon were maintained by the good results from the six J.N.C.O.'s who went there in 1980, while two more went to Warminster on the Junior Skill at Arms course. Among the other courses ranging from Free Fall Parachuting to Regimental Water Duties, mention should be made of **Sgt. Brough's** holiday at the All Arms Drill Wing at Pirbright and **Cpls. Taylor** and **Frank** who went practically everywhere, including an attachment to the German reserve army.

All this activity was in addition to the main events of the year — the two big parades for the Freedom of Reading and the Trooping at Portsmouth and Annual Camp. Ex Square Leg, part of the Ex Crusader plot, saw nearly 60 of the company moving from Knook Camp to Otterburn, where 'D' Company was tasked as the Brigadier's personal reserve, followed by a road move to Portsmouth, then a clean up period at Knook before a rapid return to Portsmouth, culminating in a heli-borne move back to Salisbury Plain and a final set-piece Field Force attack on Imber village, complete with pipers leading the advance of the R. Irish.

Ex Square Leg provided some moments that

will remain in the memory: **L/Cpl. Crook** emptying 8 L.M.G. magazines during the Paras assault by hovercraft on Browdown Battery and the handfuls of thunderflashes used by the enemy attacking Fort Southwick, the H.Q. of C.-in-C. Home Fleet, which unfortunately caused some unpleasant injuries especially to the A.P.S.I., **Sgt. Taylor**: the size 10 boots which graced the size 8 feet of **Pte. McCandless**; and lastly the excellent impression the young soldiers of the company made on our regular umpire at Otterburn, a W.O.2 from 1st Bn P.W.O. Regt., despite the foul weather conditions.

1981 sees the company preparing for ex Montezuma's Revenge, when Coy H.Q. and admin elements plus a strong platoon, some 60 men in all, will go to Belize between 28th July and 11th August.

Congratulations are due to the following on promotion: Lt. Richards, **Sgts. Arnold** and **Briggs**, **Cpls. McGregor** and **Taylor**, and **L/Cpls. Annal**, **Maguire**, **Robinson** and **Dancey**.

Congratulations on extra-curricular activities to our dedicated P.S.I., who is to be posted in the spring after a first-class tour, and whose family has been increased by a son born 9th October, 1979 and twins born 14th September, 1980, a boy and girl. Also to **Sgt. Brough** on the birth of a daughter and to **Cpl. Frank** on his marriage.

Recruiting is not at present a problem for the company, and with the interesting training arranged for 1981 there is a real chance of reaching full strength, which will make volunteer soldiering even more rewarding and enjoyable.



*Sgt. Farrow, Sgt. Arnold and Lt. Walton
sharing a joke.*

BERKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

The past year has been a very full and active one. We started with the opening of a new detachment at Sunningdale in May. This brought the number of detachments in the County up to 15 and enabled us to go to three Areas. These are West Berks. Area, Reading Area and East Berks. Area, each having five detachments. The headquarters of the first two areas are co-located with County H.Q. in Brock Barracks, Reading while East Berks Area H.Q. is in the T.A. Centre in Windsor.

West Berks. Area is commanded by **Major John Luke** and his five detachments are located in Aldermaston, Burghfield, Theale, Thatcham and Newbury. The first four of these are badged to the Regiment.

Reading Area is commanded by **Capt. Guy Alway** and its five detachments are located in Woodley, Whitley, Caversham, Brock Barracks and Wokingham.

East Berks. Area is commanded by **Maj. Peter Sudborough** and its five detachments are in Windsor, Bracknell, Cippenham, Maidenhead and Sunningdale. The first four of these are badged to the Regiment.

The change over of officers consequent upon the formation of the three areas brought **Maj. Barry Jefferies** into County H.Q. as County Training Officer and **Lt. Roy Taylor** in as Sports Officer and responsible for the implementation of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

Our cadet strength in May last year rose to 570, the highest it has been since the boundary changes in 1974. Since then our strength has gone down in common with most other counties — but thankfully is now on the upsurge once again. We also hope to open another detachment in the County this Spring.

Capt. Peter Howells and his band of faithful, merry marchers, again achieved great successes. They gained medals for the Barnsley, Lyneham and Nijmegen Marches. **C.M.S.I. Hunt** gives valuable assistance in the training for these marches and also takes part in some of them.

We were thrilled when **Cadet Heeholt** won the Junior Javelin Throwing Event at the National Army Cadet Force Athletic Meeting at the White City in June.

We had a successful camp at Scarborough in August. Burniston Barracks has good accommodation for cadets and is quite close to the sea. There are good adventurous training areas on the Yorkshire moors, but unfortunately there are no military training areas in the near vicinity and this is rather a handicap. This year we held the Charles Brown Trophy Competition in camp and the winners were Wokingham Detachment.

In the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, **2/Lt. Damien Lockley** achieved his Gold Award and was very proud to be invited to Buckingham Palace to be presented with his certificate by H.R.H. Duke of Edinburgh. **Cadet Sergeants Bull**



and **Eggleton** of Brock Detachment achieved their Silver Awards.

In October all detachments entered a team in a new competition, the R.E.M.E. Arborfield Cadet Cup. The competition covers drill, shooting, assault course, skill at arms, fieldcraft, map and compass, adventurous training and command tasks. The Cup was won by Cippenham Detachment, and the photograph below shows Brigadier T. B. Palmer, Commandant R.E.M.E. Training Centre with the successful team. A five-a-side football knockout competition held during the same weekend was won by Thatcham Detachment.

At the Festival of Remembrance held at the

Albert Hall, we had the honour of representing the Army Cadet Force and **Cadet Staff Sergeant Allen** of Bracknell Detachment carried the Army Cadet Force Standard across the arena. He was a very smart figure and brought credit to us all, including the Regiment whose cap badge he wears.

Finally if any reader happens to visit the Cadet Training Centre at Frimley Park he or she will see in the hall two portraits. One is of the Cadet of the Seventies and the other which faces it, is the portrait of the Cadet of the Eighties. The Cadet of the Eighties is **Cadet Staff Sergeant Stone** who was in Cippenham Detachment. It is a fine picture with the Regimental Badge and Stable Belt very prominent.

WILTSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

It is cheering whilst embarking on this contribution, that the cadet strength in the County has risen by 139 in the last twelve months. It is interesting to note at the same time, that star gradings during the same period have not been as high as in the past. The fact that we did no star testing at Annual Camp 1979, but concentrated on low level tactics and adventure training, repeated again this year, may well be the reason for this fall off in the number of stars gained. However coincidental or incidental the gain in strength and the reduced pressure on star testing over the same period may be, all in the A.C.F. are undoubtedly carrying out a considerable degree of mind-searching over the degree to which professionalism is being steadily imposed on the Army's own voluntary Youth Organisation. An organisation whose declared purpose is to develop amongst its members the qualities of good citizenship and the spirit of Service to Queen and Country, which it seeks to do by developing powers of Leadership and qualities of character, by stimulating an interest in the Army and by giving encouragement and training to potential Regular Army or T.A. recruits. We must be certain that in our imposed drift towards militarism, we keep the A.C.F. Charter always in sight and that we temper the drive for star gradings with due regard to the importance of keeping life in the A.C.F. fun and enjoyable. The more military we become the greater the risk of imbalance arising between these two aims, the greater the challenge to all involved in training to coat the star pill with the sugar of imagination, invention and novelty.

Having aired some thought which has been

causing some concern, we have prepared a programme of star testing to be carried out in Wiltshire prior to Annual Camp next year, which we hope will firstly give all cadets a real chance to succeed and secondly clear the air of star training so that once again at Annual Camp, we can take full advantage of being allotted Penhale. The first Camp at the seaside for seven years. Planning is already well advanced to give cadets an energetic and thoroughly enjoyable fortnight.

This year for the fifth time in ten years we were allotted Okehampton Camp for the last two weeks in August and the weather was very kind to us. The programme this year included one day's abseiling and canoeing for each Sub Unit organised by 12 Cadet Training Team, Sub Unit one and two star exercises, a Sub Unit outing, a Commandants' Exercise for two and three star cadets and a Deputy Commandant's Exercise for one star cadets. Sub Units filled in with star training and re-testing of pre-Camp failures and practising for and competing in the Drill and Orienteering Competitions. A comprehensive sports programme took care of the evenings and the middle Sunday was made up of a Drumhead Service and sports finals. In addition 12 Cadet Training Team ran a four star cadre. Their premature departure at the end of the first week of Camp to prepare for Exercise Crusader, prevented us running an adult cadre.

Never has Camp gone so smoothly from Reveille on the first day until the last building had been handed over at the end. Communication, so often the Achilles heel of the A.C.F., worked.

All our visitors came on the same day. **Brigadier Starling**, Deputy Commander South West

District, **Colonel Northey** our Honorary Colonel, **Colonel Fladgate**, an old friend and Commandant of the Cadet Training Centre, and of course **Colonel Malcolm Carr**, our organist. They watched the cadets do their various things, watched them eat, met the Sergeants' Mess Members and dined with us in the Officers' Mess. When visitors are also good and tried friends we look forward to their arrival and mourn their departure.

The Commandants Exercise was based on one he set for Australian Officer Cadets at Duntroon in which the protagonists covered some forty-two miles in three days, with sections starting at staggered times embarking on a course half clockwise and half anti-clockwise, anyone seen being treated as enemy. The starting time stagger and the set route ensured that the clockwise and anti-clockwise sections were meeting each other at irregular intervals in a series of engagements where scouting, use of ground and tactical handling were at a premium.

This idea was transferred to Dartmoor and on each of two days eight sections of two and three star cadets were set off, at half-hour intervals, four clockwise and four anti-clockwise to clear a set route eight miles long. The eight sections each had four battles each day as planned and the improvement in alertness, tactics and use of ground as the sections progressed from contact to contact was most marked. Best of all the cadets became thoroughly absorbed and though tired thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The Deputy Commandant's Exercise was more on Korean lines for the one star cadets, highlighted by a mass attack on Rough Tor in which there was much fire and much movement often at the same time. This exercise also went as planned and was also enjoyed by all.

The middle Sunday was fine with the result that over 500 parents, brothers and sisters and friends came to visit us instead of the advertised 350.

We showed films each night which were poorly attended despite their excellent quality and high cost. It has been suggested that to defray future losses cadets should be paraded in the cinema and charged 10p to get out.

It was a most successful and happy Camp. It could not have been either without the invaluable assistance given us by our Regular Army and Territorial Army friends.

As regards sport, in the South West Region A.C.F. Competitions we won the Senior Cross Country Cup and our Junior Team were third. We

won both the Senior and Junior Six-a-Side Football trophies. We have never achieved such a result before and put it down to a weekend spent at our Weekend Training Centre by our Coy/Bty teams who played the County Six-a-Side Competitions as a League, giving us two days to study form and choose our teams for the Regional Competitions.

In May we held an Open Day for our cadets' parents and friends at our Weekend Training Centre. We had all the fun of the Fair, stands provided by the Wiltshire Fire Service, the R.L.T. 1 D.E.R.R., the Royal Military Police, a helicopter demonstration by the Army Air Corps, a First Aid Demonstration by the Medical Depot Ludgershall, static displays by A.M.F.(L) Platoon of 158 P.R.O. Coy, 150 Sqn. L.O.G. Support Bn and 32 Guided Weapons Regt. R.A., an "In and out of Action" 25 pdr Competition by Larkhill Troop of 'B' Battery and an "Attack" by 'D' Company; 'C' Company also gave an excellent "Silent Drill" Demonstration.

Some 400 parents attended and we cleared over £100.00 for the Welfare Fund.

Also in May we hosted an Inter Services Weekend for 10 Seniors and 10 Juniors from the Dorset/Wilts. Wing A.T.C., the Sea Cadets and ourselves.

They competed against each other at Barrack Room Layout and Tidiness, Orienteering, Football, .303 Shooting, .22 Shooting and a 15-minute lecturette by a senior cadet. Being perhaps Army orientated we won the Cup which we presented. This was immaterial. The true value was in the way the three Cadet Corps integrated, made friends and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Their behaviour was impeccable. It was declared a great success by all and the A.T.C. are hosting a similar weekend at Lyneham in October.

Lastly, 'B' Battery were asked to take their inter 25 pdr Gun Detachment competition to the Arena on Larkhill Day at the Royal School of Artillery. After many hours of practice outside normal parade nights, they put on their Competition with great enthusiasm to the delight of the crowd. The Competition was carried out on similar lines to the Royal Navy Field Gun Competition staged at the Royal Tournament, being virtually a race between two gun teams, involving towing the guns into the arena, unhooking, manhandling them over a ditch, firing a round, taking the gun back over the ditch, hooking in and driving past the finishing line. It is only fair to say that the guns were heavy and the crews were boys and not men, none the less their performance made up in effort and turn-out what they lacked in speed.

1980 has been a good year. Cadet recruiting has



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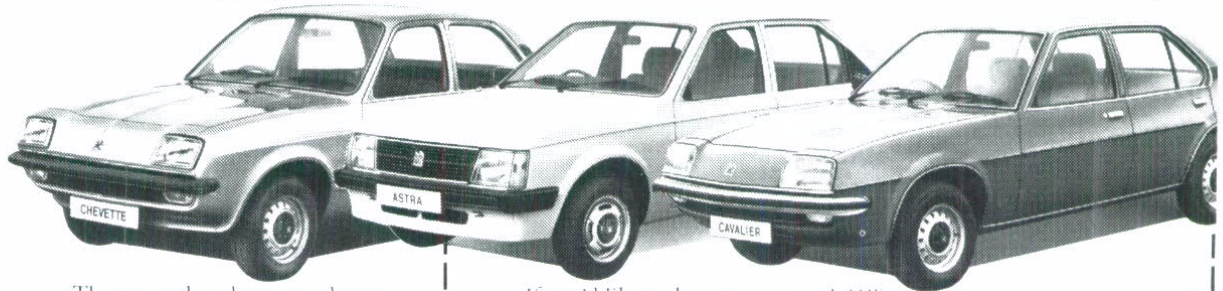
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been excellent. The quality of adults coming forward is most encouraging. We have sent 54 Junior Soldiers into the Army. The number of "above average" gradings at the Annual Visits has again increased and we have benefited greatly from an

exchange of views with the other County A.C.F.'s in Western Wessex.

It is now up to us to learn from mistakes made, build on the fortunate successes we have had and set all sail to make 1981 another good year.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

The past year saw a good deal of Branch activity, notably at Reading, Salisbury and Exeter, but more support is needed by all Branches and particularly at Bristol and Trowbridge. A post-card to the Assistant Regimental Secretary at R.H.Q. is all that is needed from any readers of the Journal who may be interested.

The highlight of the year was the Association's Reunion Visit to the 1st Battalion in July to mark the Regiment's 21st Anniversary. The party included strong contingents from the two Old Comrades' Associations, and with wives totalled more than a hundred, most of whom made the journey in the two coaches hired for the occasion, leaving at an early hour and reaching the Battalion in the early hours of the next morning. The success of this two-day Reunion was greatly enhanced by the presence of the Colonel-in-Chief, who spent a day and a half with the Battalion.

The programme, which was a heavy one with few if any pauses for reflection, was extremely well organised, and the whole thing was done without a hitch and with very little obvious effort. Even so, one knew that this could not have been achieved without very thorough planning and preparation, and a great deal of hard work. All who were present will long remember the warmth of the Battalion's welcome on this most memorable occasion.

This year's Reunion will be held at the Bibury Suite, Salisbury Racecourse on Saturday, 23rd May, commencing at twelve noon. A surprising number of members of the Regiment, who have been temporarily out of touch, turn up on these occasions, and any who are not members of the Regimental Association may obtain further details from the Assistant Regimental Secretary. It is hoped that there will again be a strong turn-out from the two Old Comrades' Associations.

THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZATION

We have now completed one year on our own so to speak in that the Secretary (**Major Cockcraft**) is no longer part of R.H.Q. At a recent meeting of the Trustees it was agreed that Major Cockcraft would continue as Secretary for the time being visiting the office in Brock Barracks once a week on Tuesdays mainly for interviews and visits. He would however use his home address at 6 KILN GARDENS, HARTLEY WINTNEY, HANTS. for mail during the rest of the week. It is sad to list elsewhere the deaths of so many of our well-known and respected members and it would be inappropriate to write special obituaries for any particular people.

THE ANNUAL REUNION 1980

(26th/27th July)

This was a special occasion as it coincided with the Centenary of the Battle of Maiwand. An account of the day is printed separately. But during the buffet lunch which followed the service in the Forbury Gardens **Mrs. Sylvia Dibley** who is well known to all who have passed through Brock Barracks in the last 25 years was presented with a Commander-in-Chief's Commendation for years of loyal service. The presentation was made by **Brigadier Hogg**. The success of the day was due to the efforts of a hard-working committee.

THE ARMISTICE SERVICE 1980

The Annual Armistice Service attended by the Mayor (**Councillor Mrs. Marian Absolom**) was held at the Regimental Cenotaph and thanks to the splendid and thoughtful organization by 2 Wessex (T.A.) the Royal Berkshire Regiment O.C.A. was asked to lead the March Past and to lay the wreaths first. We hope that more members will attend this service in future years.

ANNUAL REUNION 1981

This will be held in Brock Barracks on Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th July 1981. Details will be published in the Annual Report to be published in April 1981.

ROYAL GARDEN PARTY

Mr. & Mrs. Jones of Tadley attended a Royal Garden Party during the summer.

VISIT TO OSNABRUCK

We are most grateful to the **Commanding Officer 1st Bn The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment** (Berkshire and Wiltshire) for allowing our members to visit the Battalion in the summer. It was a memorable visit.

READING BRANCH

President: L. T. McCalm, M.B.E.

Chairman: A. J. Southey

Hon. Secretary: G. Herne

Hon. Treasurer: W. Renton

We commenced the year with a change of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer when **George Herne** and **Jack Renton** took over from **Bernard Keenan** and **John Allen**. Many thanks to the latter for their services. Socials and monthly meetings have been reasonably well attended but the cost of arranging 'socials' is becoming rather difficult. Our grateful thanks to those who made these events as successful as they are.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the deaths of three of our loyal members:—

Rupert Crump: who was for many years our Secretary/Treasurer.

Bob Tanner: a staunch member who enjoyed our socials to the full.

Bert Foster: who was for many years Chairman of the branch.

They were loyal and true **Royal Berkshire men**.

The highlight of the year was the Annual Reunion and the **Maiwand** Centenary in the Forbury Gardens. In all modesty may some of the branch claim credit for this special occasion. To **Major Cockcraft** for all his hard work, to **Pat**

Roach for her assistance in the background and to **George Whitewick** for organizing the Parade and the March Past. Thanks also to the Alanbrooke Band of the Royal Artillery and to the young soldiers from the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion and the Depot of the Prince of Wales's Division. The branch was well represented at the Centenary service at **St. George's Church, Tilehurst**, when the Band of 1st Bn Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment provided the music and led a nostalgic march of the branch from the church to Brock Barracks. Memories of Church Parades in days gone by!!

Our Vice-Chairman and standard bearer **Arthur Jones** and his wife **Gwen** were guests at a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. "That's one day we will never forget" was Arthur's comment.

The year ended on 19th December, 1980 with our Annual Christmas Draw at which the **Mayor of Reading** was our guest of honour and **Colonel Boshell, Colonel Metcalf, Major Cockcraft** and their ladies attended.

Our good wishes to **John Allen, Tom Southey** and **Mark Burgess** who have all been ill, and finally our best wishes to the other Branches for the New Year. Condolences to the families of **Rupert Crump, Bert Foster** and **Bob Tanner** in their sad losses. Our sincere thanks to **Bill Renton** and **George Herne** for all their hard work.

WINDSOR BRANCH

Another year has passed by and the Branch has enjoyed its monthly meetings, despite a fall off of members some months. We very much miss **Nobby Clarke** who has been our regular barman for a number of years, but good luck to him in his retirement.

The Reunion at Brock Barracks this year was with a difference in as much as a Memorial Service was held in Forbury Gardens on Sunday morning, followed by a march past, and a buffet lunch at the old Town Hall. Our own Branch Standard was carried by **Mr. E. Vicary**.

The Branch was again represented on Armistice Sunday at the Garrison church, Windsor. **Mr. G. Taphouse** carried the Poppy Wreath with Messrs. **J. Vass** and **E. Vicary** as escort.

At the time of going to press, I (E. Vicary) have not actually taken over as Hon. Secretary, but **Chris O'Hara** seems determined to hand over the reins and I cannot express enough in words the thanks we owe to him in the loyal service he has given to the Windsor Branch over many years and I will be looking to him for his help in the following year.

MIDLAND BRANCH

Well another year has gone by with mixed fortunes for the Branch. In spite of the never ending spiral of price rises we have managed to hold our own finance wise. This is due in the main to very generous members, help from the parent branch at Reading, and a bank balance that enables us to draw on the interest to offset outgoings. We have suffered from the ravages of time inasmuch that we have lost a few members due to death. These will be listed in the Annual Report from Reading. Also quite a number have had to reluctantly give up attending meetings in Birmingham due to chronic ill health. At the A.G.M. it was suggested and carried that we should confine our meetings to four each year. The first would be in April to meet to see how everyone had fared during the winter months, the second meeting would be in June to make final arrangements for the Reading Reunion, the third would be the A.G.M. in October, and a last meeting in November to wish everyone a Happy Christmas, exchange Christmas Cards, and have a drink together without the exorbitant cost of postage. Of course we shall keep up our Remembrance Parade at the Hall of Memory in Birmingham around 11th November.

We have not had anything in the entertainment line this year but we are hoping to arrange an evening run in the summer to offset the curtailed meetings.

The trip to Reading was naturally the highlight of our year and being the Maiwand Centenary was even more enjoyable. The Branch really exists for the purpose of meeting so many of our old comrades under barrack room conditions at Brock Barracks.

I would like to end this report by asking all who knew **Jock Povey** from the U.S.A. to wish his wife well in her fight against cancer. Maybe we shall see Jock and Doris at the Reunion this year.

10th BATTALION

The 1980 Reunion of 10th Battalion Royal Berkshires was held in the Dragon Club on 11th October and was attended by 39 people (men only), which I think you will agree is good for a single "War time" Battalion.

Officers elected are:

Chairman: **Mr. Povey**, Brighton.

Secretary and Treasurer:

Frank Shelton, London.

Committee:

Frank Avenell, Reading

Pat Collins, London

Jim Wells, Henley

Albert Tharke, Reading.

1981 Reunion to be held in London.



The 10th Bn. Royal Berkshire Regiment Memorial at Catania.

THE WILTSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

The Annual Reunion was held at Devizes on 7/8th June; the weather was dry, and we were some three hundred strong at Dinner in the Corn Exchange, and had a very good turnout for the Sunday morning Church Parade. The Annual General Committee Meeting is being held at Devizes on 25th April, and the Reunion will be held at Devizes on 13/14th June.

BIRMINGHAM

Attendance at our Branch Meetings is not as good as it was, but all the same we still meet on the first Friday of each month at the United Services Club in Broad Street.

CALNE

Membership numbers have held up well during the year, but we are hoping to roust out a number of "sleeping" members in the area. We have had some enjoyable skittle evenings at the London Road Inn with the R.A.F. Association, and have exchanged visits with the Devizes Branch—the question of who won the match is usually far from clear. On Remembrance Sunday we paraded the Branch Standard at the Parish Church, and our President, **Lt. Col. Wood**, laid a wreath. We are grateful to the R.A.F. Association for allowing us the use of their splendid Club, and we meet there at 8.00 p.m. on the last Monday of each month.

DEVIZES

In the past year we have played Calne Branch twice at skittles, and are still looking for our first win; we understand that Lt. Col. Wood keeps them in training. We have held a Dance and a Social, and on another occasion joined the local Royal British Legion Branch for a visit to the Royal Tournament. In July a number of us joined the Regimental Association's party for a visit to the 1st Battalion in Germany—the highlight of the year for those concerned. Finally, we rounded off the year with a most successful Dinner and Dance in November. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. at the T.A. Centre, Church Walk.

LONDON

The Branch continues to flourish despite the increasing number of members who have retired from active employment. In October many of us attended the 5th Battalion's Annual Supper, where there was a muster of more than eighty old Wilt-

shires for what proved to be a very fine evening. **Dick Smith** has retired after many years as our Secretary, and the occasion was marked by the presentation of a Regimental plaque at our November meeting. At Remembrance time we successfully reverted to the old practice of making the Sunday evening family reunion the main event. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month.

MARLBOROUGH

We meet monthly, and turn out on the usual occasions, with our main effort going into a Social Evening at the Royal British Legion Club after the Annual General Meeting.

SALISBURY

The Branch has had quite a good year. Attendance at our Meetings averages about fourteen, of whom a number come from quite a distance away. We entertained Warminster Branch at the Porton Club for a Social and Games Evening in April, and returned the visit in October. In July we turned out in atrocious weather for the Fovant Badges Service, and were well represented despite the rain. We paraded for Remembrance, as always, and laid the Branch wreath. We meet at the Royal British Legion Club in the Market Square on the first Wednesday in January, April, July and October at 8 p.m.

SWINDON

The faithful few, some ten or so of us, meet every month at the Albion Club in Bridge Street, and we have even acquired a new member—**George Witt**, ex 1st and 4th Battalions. The highlight of the year, for those of us who made the journey, was the Reunion Visit with the Regimental Association to the 1st Battalion in Germany. A very fine occasion indeed. We have been the guests of Marlborough Branch, and on 10th December held a most successful Branch Dinner. Overall it has been a good year.

WARMINSTER

Our Committee gave us a more eventful year in 1980. We shared, home and away, two very enjoyable games, etc. evenings with Salisbury Branch, and enjoyed a most successful Dinner and Dance at the United Services Club, our original venue for this event, with an attendance of over a hundred. We turned out for the 43rd Wessex Division Memorial Service at Mere in June, and again for

the Fovant Badges Service in July. **Col. Houghton-Brown**, our President, has been ill for several months; we are cheered to hear news of improvement, and we look forward to seeing him again in due course.

5th BATTALION

It has been a successful year for the Branch. In January quite a number of us attended a Dinner in Croydon to mark the 40th anniversary of our "call-up" at Tisbury, and the evening was redolent with memories of straw paillasses, freezing camps, etc.: a great success. In March some of us spent a pleasant evening at the London Branch Dinner, and the Branch was, as always, well represented at the Reunion in Devizes in June. In September we turned out for the Croydon Battle

of Britain Parade, and in October we held our 30th Annual London Reunion. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at "The Gloucester" in West Croydon.

SOUTH AFRICA

Major Knight writes that he attended **Frank Denley's** funeral and sent a wreath on behalf of the O.C.A.

Percy Mobey, aged 96, is now the last surviving member of the Branch and writes to thank the O.C.A. for his birthday card. He ends his letter: "I hope the Reunion was as good if not better this year; it really seems the dear old Wiltshire Regiment will never be forgotten. I spent six years in India with them as a Drummer; they certainly were happy days."

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

For the past year the two old Collections have been stored in crates in readiness for the move to Salisbury and, now that provision of the display cases has been authorised, the move is planned for April. From that time The Wardrobe seems likely to be a scene of intense activity, as crates are sorted and unpacked, and Mr. Bernard Milner embarks on the task of mounting the Collection in the display cases, in readiness for opening to the public in July or August.

Lack of space precludes publication of the full list of acquisitions during the year, and the following are only a proportion of those items which have been gratefully accepted by the Trustees:

Group of five Medals: M.C., 1914-15 Star, B.W.M., Victory M. of **Major G. A. Pocock**, M.C., R. Berks., presented by his son Mr. C. A. Pocock.

Framed Portrait of H.R.H. Princess Charlotte. Case of Medals of **Lt. Gen. Sir F. McCracken**, K.C.B. Medals: K.C.B., D.S.O., Egyptian M. 1882-89 (2 Bar), Khedive Star, Q.S.A. (3 Bars), K.S.A., 1914 Star, B.W.M., Victory M., Belgian Croix de Guerre, French Legion d'Honneur, Italian Military Order of Savoy. Through Maj. Cockcraft.

Complimentary Copy of Book of Poems "A Lingist's Anthology" and a colour photograph of Col. Sandys, Wilts. Militia, presented by Mr. Henry Jones.

Group of four Medals: D.C.M., Q.S.A., K.S.A., L.S. & G.C. of **C/Sgt. J. Sawyer**, R. Berks., presented by Miss C. Sawyer, his daughter.

History of R. Berks. Regt. — 2 Volumes by F. L. Petre and a photograph — Sgt. 2nd R. Berks., presented by Miss C. Sawyer.

Group of seven Medals: B.W.M., Victory M., Defence M., War M., G.S.M. Palestine, L.S. & G.C., M.S.M., C. in C's Certificate (1943) of **5563066 C/Sgt. C. P. Arthur**, Wilts. Regt., presented by Mrs. G. J. Arthur.

Framed Photograph — Hockey Team 2nd Bn The Wilts. Regt. 1947/48 (**General Coad**), presented by Mrs. Coad.

Gold Brooch with the badge of the Wilts. Regt., presented by **Maj. Arthur Barnes** to his wife in about 1910, presented by Mrs. A. B. Law (sister of Mrs. Barnes).

Medals including Military Cross of **Major N. G. Motion**, M.C., and photograph album, presented by Major N. G. Motion, M.C.

Sleeve of a Royal Berkshire Volunteer Uniform (1870) decorated by many outstanding shooting badges won by **John Warrick**. Presented by his grandson, Mr. John Warrick.

The following were acquired by purchase at auction:

Salisbury Rifle Volunteer Badge.

Pair of Officer's Greatcoat Shoulder Straps, 99th Regt.

BIRTHS' MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

- L/Cpl. Bracegirdle**—Allison Ruth on 18th June, 1979.
- Cpl. Gibbs 08**—Jennifer Sally on 23rd May, 1979.
- L/Cpl. Nellam**—Donna Marie on 3rd January, 1980.
- Pte. Marginson**—Jason on 3rd January, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Burgess**—Nathan John on 26th September, 1979.
- Cpl. Grainger**—Roy on 6th July, 1979.
- L/Cpl. Hall 47**—Carl Nicholas on 18th May, 1979.
- Cpl. Butcher**—Sara Tracey on 24th September, 1979.
- L/Cpl. Dartnall**—Melanie Louise on 12th October, 1979.
- L/Cpl. Thackeray**—Rebecca Elizabeth on 4th January 1980.
- L/Cpl. Legg**—Jason Peter on 26th June, 1979.
- Pte. Stanton**—Shaun Robert on 19th September, 1979.
- L/Cpl. Arnold**—Keith Robert on 17th January, 1980.
- Pte. Decarteret**—Jason Lee on 29th April, 1979.
- Pte. Rowe**—Clayton Clifford on 22nd January, 1980.
- Cpl. Butler**—James Robert on 10th November, 1979.
- Pte. Cowell**—Robert Michael on 6th February, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Goffey**—Wayne on 28th January, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Dennison**—Michelle Louise on 12th February 1980.
- Cpl. West**—Jason Victor on 23rd October, 1979.
- Pte. Jones 21**—Deborah on 27th February, 1980.
- C/Sgt. Mehrlich**—Stephen Paul on 25th February, 1980.
- Pte. Gunning**—Jamie Alexander on 27th February, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Scott**—Angelina on 26th November, 1979.
- Pte. Bryant**—Shaun Dennis on 24th July, 1979.
- Cpl. Hillsdon**—Gareth Michael on 18th December, 1978.
- L/Cpl. Driscoll**—Anthony Mark on 22nd February, 1980.
- Pte. Balmer**—Lee Jon on 26th March, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Tarrant**—Claire Angela on 9th June, 1980.
- Pte. Coles**—Amanda Jane on 18th June, 1980.
- Pte. Saunders**—Catherine Louise on 16th June, 1980.
- Sgt. Moloney**—Charlotte Clancy on 21st June, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Davies 22**—Neil Terrence on 2nd August, 1980.
- Pte. Birch**—Mark on 31st July 1980.
- Sgt. McIntyre 92**—Helen Louise on 8th August, 1980.
- Pte. Kerr 66**—Steven Michael on 3rd February, 1979.
- C/Sgt. Godwin**—Helen Louise on 24th July, 1980.
- Pte. Brent**—Daniel Francis on 21st August, 1980.
- Pte. Callcutt**—Donna Marie on 18th August, 1980.
- Pte. Eddy**—Chauntelle on 11th August, 1980.
- Cpl. Batty**—Samuel Kieran on 18th August, 1980.
- Pte. Goodrick-Meech**—Lee Keith on 14th August, 1980.
- Pte. Holden**—Kerry Anne on 31st August, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Essery**—Clair Rose on 3rd September, 1980.
- Sgt. Snee**—Robert Wayne on 11th September, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Hopgood**—Jenny Louise on 17th September, 1980.
- Pte. Tollafied 16**—Nichola Anne on 21st September, 1980.
- Pte. Rowe 71**—Paul Simon on 25th September, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Flay**—Mark Stephen Charles on 30th September, 1980.
- Pte. Deackes**—Kirsty Anne on 17th September, 1980.
- Pte. Parker**—Yvonne on 1st November, 1980.
- Cpl. Davies 35**—Michael John on 30th October, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Hurley**—Shane Arthur Ian on 5th November, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Sobers**—Emma Elizabeth on 24th October, 1980.
- Cpl. Hedges**—Christopher Andrew on 12th November, 1980.
- L/Cpl. Towner**—Samantha Jane on 9th November, 1980.

Pte. Keel—Stephen Gareth on 18th November, 1980.

L/Cpl. Lymath—David on 20th November, 1980.

Cpl. Waterfall—Jessica Maria on 30th November, 1980.

Pte. Savage—Leana Elizabeth on 28th November, 1980.

Pte. Carey—Nichola Louise on 20th November, 1980.

Cpl. Owens—Kelly Marie on 12th November, 1980.

MARRIAGES

Pte. Davis 13—Married to Patricia Frost at the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist, Tisbury & Swallowcliffe, on 24th November, 1979.

Pte. Bryant—Married to Joyce Luke at the Parish Church of St. Chad, Lichfield, on 22nd December, 1979.

Pte. Appleton—Married to Michelle Britton at the Parish Church of Caerphilly, on 2nd February, 1980.

Cpl. Eley—Married to Margaret Boyce at the Holy Family Church, Port Glasgow, on 1st December, 1979.

Pate. McFarlane—Married at the Register Office, Newport, I.O.W., to Maria Elizabeth Frye, on 3rd January, 1980.

Pte. Child—Married to Mandy Elizabeth Braham at the Register Office, Swindon, on 21st February, 1980.

C/Sgt. Turaga—Married to Debra Patricia Swann at the Parish Church, Birkenhead, on 3rd February, 1980.

Sgt. Dean—Married to Karen Anne Adamson at the Register Office, Scarborough, on 16th February, 1980.

Cpl. Chapman—Married Lillian Mary Finnegan at the Holy Family Church, Swindon, on 8th March, 1980.

Pte. Brown 68—Married Elainea Jones at the Parish Church of Holy Trinity, Frome, on 8th March, 1980.

Pte. Harbron—Married Johanna Taylor Hughes at Tamworth Baptist Church, Tamworth, on 5th April, 1980.

Pte. Haines—Married Cathrine Tracy Bryant at the Register Office, Bristol, on 10th May, 1980.

Pte. Bowler—Married Rosemary Ann Clements at the Register Office, Lichfield, on 7th June, 1980.

Pte. Turner 91—Married Valerie Ann Moore at the Register Office, Birmingham, on 31st May, 1980.

Pte. Chambers—Married Jacqueline Tracy Palmer at the Register Office, Bristol, on 6th June, 1980.

Pte. Spence—Married Gillian Owen at the Register Office, Birkenhead, on 7th June, 1980.

Pte. Carey—Married Sandra June Merritt at the Register Office, Devizes, on 28th June, 1980.

Pte. Birch—Married Dorothea Martha Kuthe at the Register Office, Swindon, on 12th July, 1980.

Pte. Hully—Married Catherine June Williams at the Register Office, Plymouth, on 16th August, 1980.

Pte. Kerr—Married Anita Beverley Thompson at the Register Office, Plymouth, on 22nd August, 1980.

Pte. Cahill—Married Pamela Brace at All Saints' Church, Ebbw Vale, on 9th August, 1980.

Pte. Hemsall—Married Kathleen Caroline McAtamney at the Parish Church of St. Paul, Newport, Gwent, on 9th October, 1980.

Pte. Graves—Married Shirley Faunch at the Register Office, Pontypridd, on 24th October, 1980.

Pte. Hume—Married Jane Christian Brennan at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Portsmouth, on 18th October, 1980.

Pte. Powell 08—Married Jacqueline Yvonne White at the Methodist Church, Cinderford, on 18th October, 1980.

DEATHS

We regret to record the following:

The Royal Berkshire Regiment

Major D. A. I. Brett on 6th March, 1980.

Major E. W. Michell on 27th March, 1980.

Captain P. J. Ingram on 28th August, 1980.

Major K. Thwaite, M.B.E.

Mrs. Leslie, widow of Brigadier J. T. Leslie, on 18th May, 1980.

Mr. P. T. Tanner (Waverley Road Cottages) on 26th February, 1980.

Mr. R. Crump on 25th February, 1980.

Mr. J. Bates on 6th December, 1979.

Mr. R. Daltrey on 26th February, 1980.

Mr. W. A. Crazens on 10th December, 1979.

Mr. G. A. J. Perry.

Mr. A. Smith.

Mr. J. Quelch.

Mr. C. F. Dawson on 15th March, 1980.

Mr. A. H. (Burt) Foster on 4th May, 1980.

Mr. R. T. Sherwood on 26th March, 1980.

Mr. A. J. Lacey on 9th May, 1980.

Mr. E. H. Belcher in July, 1980.

Mr. J. W. Searle in July, 1980.

Mr. H. P. Day in July, 1979.

Mr. C. Parker on 22nd June, 1980.

Mr. A. Carroll, M.M., on 13th July, 1980.

Mr. E. D. Rollings, B.E.M., in August, 1980.

Mr. H. E. Brown in August, 1980.

Mr. P. A. Chalkley on 17th July, 1980.

Mr. R. Brian on 16th August, 1980.

Mr. W. E. Choules on 18th September, 1980.

Mr. A. Oldham on 23rd August, 1980.

Mr. A. F. Hutchins on 11th October, 1980.

Mr. W. Sopp in October, 1980.

Mr. A. G. Champ on 17th November, 1980.

Mr. H. Parmenter on 17th November, 1980.

Mr. G. D. A. Chamberlain in November, 1980.

Mr. A. J. Malyon in November, 1980.

The Wiltshire Regiment

Officers

Major R. F. Peck, M.C., on 30th July, 1980, in Torbay. Served with the Regiment from 1939 to 1943 when he transferred to the Black Watch. He won the M.C. in 1944 and lost a leg in the following year. He retired in 1949 and went into industry.

Major (Q.M.) A. G. Goswell, on 1st July, 1980, at Plympton, aged 75. Served with the 1st and 4th Battalions. Commissioned 1942 and was a Regular Q.M. after the war until he retired in 1960.

Major E. Veck, M.M., on 17th January, 1980. He won his M.M. in the 1914-18 war.

Lt. Col. E. E. H. Walter, on 20th October, 1980, aged 80. He was commissioned into the Regiment in 1920 and retired in 1949.

Major (Q.M.) R. W. Lyne, M.B.E., on 5th December, 1980. (Obituary is elsewhere).

Major G. G. Hoare, M.B.E., on 28th October, 1980, aged 92. He served with the 2nd/4th Bns in the 1914-18 war.

Capt. C. L. B. Carter, on 2nd May, 1979, at Knaresborough, aged 68.

Capt. W. A. Ward, of Frome, on 2nd May, 1980, aged 68. Served with 1st and 2nd Bns.

Capt. C. P. Arthur, on 14th June, 1980, at Saltash, aged 80.

Sir James Barker, M.B.E., on 29th April, 1980, aged 66. Served in the Regiment in World War II and was Adjutant of the 5th Bn in its early days, subsequently an outstanding figure in the agricultural and food industries. Knighted in 1970.

Mrs. Oldfield, widow of Brigadier George Oldfield, in December, 1980, at Winchester.

Mrs. Prest, wife of Major C. A. Prest, in January, 1981, at Salisbury.

Other Ranks

Mr. G. Merritt, on 29th January, 1980, at Belvedere, Kent, aged 63.

Mr. H. E. Angell, on 27th May, 1980, at Melksham, aged 88. Served with the 1/4th Bns during the 1914-18 war.

Mr. A. G. Alexander, on 27th July, 1980, at Devizes, aged 83. Served with 7th Bn during 1914-18.

Mr. G. H. Allen, on 10th September, 1980, at Birmingham, aged 74. Served with the 1/2nd Bns.

Mr. A. J. Baston, in February, 1980, at Holt, aged 56. 5th Bn.

Mr. W. F. Bridewell, on 8th November, 1980, at Devizes, aged 71. Served with 1st, 2nd, 4th and 6th Bns. Late Chairman of Devizes Branch O.C.A.

Mr. C. H. Comer, on 18th May, 1980, at Torquay, aged 76. 1st Bn.

Mr. W. Davidson, on 19th August, 1980, at Hythe, aged 90. Served 1914-18.

Mr. F. Denley, on 8th September, 1980, in South Africa, aged 88. Boy and Bandsman with 1st Bn 1905-12. Rejoined for World War I, wounded at Ypres with 1st Bn. Also served with 3rd and 8th Bns and in Mesopotamia with 5th Bn.

Mr. F. S. G. Dicks, on 22nd August, 1980, at Trowbridge, aged 81. Served with 4th, 6th and 8th Bns 1914-18.

Mr. H. Gibson, on 25th June, 1980, at Warminster.

Mr. W. Gibbs, on 10th August, 1980, at Calne. Served with 1st Bn 1922-35.

Mr. G. T. D. Hobbs, on 31st March, 1980, at Horsham, aged 68. 5th Bn.

Mr. W. A. Hawkins, on 23rd October, 1980, at Chisledon, aged 68. Served with 1st and 2nd Bns.

Mr. F. Howells, of Chippenham, aged 80.

Mr. A. S. Jones, on 7th March, 1980, at Whitby Bay, Tyne & Wear, aged 92.

Mr. W. Kitley, on 9th November, 1980, at Warminster.

Mr. C. T. Lovegrove, on 20th February, 1980, at Reading, aged 76. Served with 2nd Bn (Drums).

Mr. F. G. Longdon, in February, 1980, at Bradford on Avon, aged 68. 4th and 5th Bns.

Mr. F. W. Lawrence, on 11th September, 1980, at Uxbridge, aged 87. Served 1914-18.

Mr. G. C. Larkham, on 27th October, 1980, at Chippenham, aged 82. 1st and 2nd Bns.

Mr. W. F. Lucas, on 2nd January, 1981, at Calne, aged 72. W.O.2/R.Q.M.S. of 5th Bn.

Mr. W. Mirfield, on 20th June, 1980, at Villawood, New South Wales, Australia. Served with 1st Bn 1939-45.

Mr. T. H. Moore, on 12th May, 1980, at Calne, aged 84. 1st and 4th Bns.

Mr. T. Oliver, on 30th April, 1980, at Upavon, aged 66. 1st and 2nd Bns.

Mr. S. G. Presslee, on 16th December, 1980, at Salisbury. 2nd and 4th Bns.

Mr. T. Riddick, on 6th May, 1980, at Maiden Bradley.

Mr. W. P. Sinclair, on 30th March, 1980, at Trowbridge, aged 84. Served with 4th Bn 1914-18.

Mr. R. S. Sainsbury, in October, 1980, at Marlborough, aged 85.

Mr. E. B. Sainsbury, in October, 1980, at Netheravon, aged 62. 2nd Bn.

Mr. A. W. Titt, of Warminster.

Mr. G. Thorn, on 8th July, 1980, at Codford.

Mr. Venton, F.F., on 9th November, 1979.

Mr. L. R. Ward, on 13th August, 1980, at Collingbourne, Kingston. 2nd Bn.

Mr. T. Wootten, on 11th October, 1980, at Beechingstoke, aged 66. 4th Bn.

Mr. R. J. Willis, on 6th May, 1980, at Bradford on Avon, aged 83. 2nd and 4th Bns.

Mr. C. Yates, on 25th October, 1980, at Tilshead, aged 79. Served mainly with 1st Bn.

Mr. C. Smith, on 13th January, 1981, in Rialto, California, U.S.A., aged 82.

Mr. W. ("Fanny") Robbins, on 4th January, 1981, at Watchfield. Ex Mule Section 1st Bn in Bangalore and Madras.

Mr. G. Bullock, on 20th January, 1981, at Devizes, aged 61. Previously Vice-Chairman, took over Chairmanship of Devizes Branch O.C.A. on the death of Mr. Bridewell.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment

Pte. Maddison, on 6th March, 1980, at Osnabruck.

Pte. White, on 5th June, 1980, at Lichfield.

Lisa, daughter of **Pte. Finnemore**, on 7th July, 1980, at Yeovil.

OBITUARIES

MAJOR GENERAL B. A. COAD, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L.

Basil Aubrey Coad was born on 27th September, 1906. From Felsted School and Sandhurst, where he was a J.U.O., he was commissioned into the Wiltshire Regiment on 4th February, 1926, and posted to the 2nd Battalion—Kamptee, Secunderabad and Shanghai, then home in 1930 to Crownhill, followed by Aldershot in 1933 where he was appointed Adjutant. He was a fine all-round games player; an Army trial at rugger, hockey for Wiltshire and twice County champion rifle shot were his main achievements. With Owen Newton Dunn, he rode a tandem bicycle from Plymouth to London in under 32 hours for a wager. A subaltern of those days writes:

"Tall, slim, ramrod-straight . . . he followed the classic route for regimental advancement — M.G. Platoon Commander, R.S.O. then

Adjutant . . . the scourge of young subalterns . . . the personification of a pre-war Adjutant".

In 1935 he married Jane, daughter of Surgeon Captain T. J. Preston, R.N. They were devoted; sadly Jane was not strong and they had no children. After service in Palestine during the Arab Revolt, Aubrey (as he was always called in the Regiment, though seldom to his face) was posted to the 4th Wiltshires (T.A.) as Adjutant. He saw them through the hiving-off of the 5th Battalion, mobilisation and embodiment, but was intolerant of those Territorials who relied on the "Volunteer Spirit" instead of buckling down to learn the soldier's trade. Now a Major he handed over Adjutant but remained in the Battalion as a "spare file" — an altogether unhappy situation. Expansion of the Army blurred distinctions between regulars, territorials and conscripts: Aubrey also

mellowed. His chance came in 1942 when made Acting Lieutenant Colonel to command first the 43rd Divisional Battle School and later 5 Dorset in 130 Infantry Brigade.

Invading Normandy, 5 Dorset were "blooded" on 10th July, 1944, when they captured and held Chateau de Fontaine on the bitterly contested Hill 112. Aubrey's courage and leadership won him an immediate D.S.O. On 13th August he was given temporary command of the Brigade—"stuck" in difficult country strewn with mines, when a rapid advance was of supreme importance. The next day the Brigade advanced seven miles, capturing over 300 prisoners. On 7th October he again assumed command and led the Brigade successfully for the remainder of the campaign. The citation for a Bar to his D.S.O. described him as:

"A fine and distinguished leader whose presence in the forward area has so often been an inspiration to all ranks".

At the Staff College in 1946 he was nicknamed "Slidex". He then commanded the 2nd Wiltshires in Hannover and Krefeld. As previously in 1936, he captained the hockey team, reaching the Army Cup Final. In 1948 he was given command of 27 Brigade, sent to Hong Kong the following year when China threatened invasion.

Suddenly in June 1950 North Korean forces crossed the 38th Parallel, driving all before them. United States troops rushed from Japan were hard pressed and the British Government sent Aubrey's Brigade, less one Battalion, at five days' notice. Later the Middlesex and Argylls were joined by the 3rd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment to form a Commonwealth Brigade. With armoured artillery engineer and transport support provided by the Americans, there were all the difficulties of working within the American system, in the extremes of the Korean climate. His prestige with the Americans was immense, and he was no less respected by his Australians. A subordinate commander writes:

"Often 'out on a limb' we trusted him to get us back and he never failed to do so. Under his command we were the envy of our Allies".

The United States Government gave him the Silver Star for gallantry and the Legion of Merit for "exceptionally meritorious conduct". The British Government made him a C.B.E.

Promoted Major General, Aubrey then commanded the 2nd Division in Rhine Army, receiving the C.B. in 1953. In 1954 he became President of the Regular Commissions Board. Jane had been ill during the Korean War: her cancer got worse

until she died that year. Two campaigns, the weighty responsibility of command and above all Jane's distressing illness had put Aubrey under great strain. Happily in March 1955 he remarried: Clare Henley was the daughter of Brigadier D. M. A. Sole, D.S.O. To their great joy a daughter, Diana, was born in April 1956. Aubrey retired in 1957 to Nursted House, Devizes.

Succeeding General Sir William Platt as Colonel of the Wiltshires in 1954, he became the first Colonel of the D.E.R.R. until handing over to Colonel George Bromhead in 1964. In 1963 he was appointed a D.L. for Wiltshire. He remained President of the Wiltshire Regiment O.C.A. until 1972.

During retirement, he was Chairman of Felsted School Mission and Wiltshire Care for the Elderly. He worked for King George's Jubilee Trust and the National Savings Movement, was a County Vice-President of the Royal British Legion, and served on District and Parish Councils. He died on 26th March, 1980, his Silver Wedding Anniversary. His ashes were interred at Tidworth Military Cemetery. The size and diversity of the congregation at his Memorial Service in St. John's, Devizes, on 30th April testified to the respect in which he was held. In a memorable Address, Brigadier Michael Hunter described him as "A brave man, a leader of men and a man of great integrity".

A.D.P.

MAJOR R. W. LYNE, M.B.E., T.D.

At the age of 95 Major R. W. Lyne, M.B.E. T.D., died in Westbury & District Hospital after a short illness on 5th December, 1980. He is deeply mourned by his family and many friends, particularly those who served with him in the Wiltshire Regiment as a Regular Soldier, also those who served with him when he was Quartermaster of the 4th Bn the Wiltshire Regiment, T.A., from 1927 until after the outbreak of war in 1940.

Bob, as he was always known, came from a farming family in Urchfont, and joined the Wiltshire Regiment at Devizes at the age of 18 in 1903.

After ten years' service with the Colours, he was posted to Gibraltar where he became responsible for the day-to-day running of Government House until the outbreak of the Great War.

He went to France with the Regiment on 6th October, 1914, but was taken prisoner of war later that month, remaining in Germany until 10th March, 1918.

After his release he was put in charge of the Military Hospital at Scheveningen until February, 1919.

He came home in March, 1919, but was shortly posted to Russia with Brogan's Force in the Ironside Expedition until September, 1919, when he returned home.

From 1920 to 1926 he was a Permanent Staff Instructor for six years, and was acting R.S.M. for the last year.

During this time he saw service in Ireland where he was responsible for arresting and testifying against many I.R.A. suspects.

In 1923 he was appointed Lt. Quartermaster to the 4th Bn the Wiltshire Regiment, T.A., on the retirement of Capt. Quartermaster A. A. Taylor, who was affectionately known as 'Spot' on account of his very bald head! He had served with the Regiment for many years.

Bob remained with the 4th Bn until early 1940, having played a major role in doubling the strength of the Battalion, and as a consequence,

helped to form the 5th Battalion when the County split in half. The 4th Battalion being formed from the South of the County, and the 5th Battalion from the North.

He retired from active service with the 4th Battalion having been awarded the M.B.E., and returned to T.A. H.Q. in Trowbridge where he continued to serve until 1950, having been awarded the Territorial Decoration in 1949.

Thus ended an unbroken record of service to the Regiment that few can equal, of 47 years.

Bob had no enemies and was loved and respected by all who came into contact with him. He had an enormous sense of humour and was definitely one of the greatest characters in the Regiment during his long time of service.

We and all his family mourn his passing deeply, but are all honoured and proud to have known him and served with him.

A.S.P.J.

NOTICES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ARTICLES FOR SALE

The following articles may be obtained through R.H.Q.:

(a) Drum Ice Buckets	1000	1000	£8.10
(b) D.E.R.R. Plaques	1000	1000	£7.70
(c) Perpetual Calendars	1000	1000	55p
(d) Glass Ash Trays	1000	1000	40p
(e) Key Fobs	1000	1000	20p
(f) Regimental Ties			
D.E.R.R. Blue	1000	1000	£2.20
D.E.R.R.			
Green & Maroon stripes	1000		£2.00
(g) Christmas Cards			95p per five

These prices do not include postage.

BLAZER BUTTONS

The undermentioned firm have agreed to keep a stock of blazer buttons for the Regiment. They have the Duke of Edinburgh's cypher engraved on them.

The cost of a set (six front and four cuff buttons) is £15.00 plus £2.25 VAT (if delivered in the U.K.) plus 70p postage, packing and insurance per set.

J. Dege & Sons Ltd.,
16 Clifford Street,
Savile Row,
London W1X 2HS.

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 employment. It also takes a long term interest in ex-

Regulars, who may use its services as often as they wish.

The Association has 40 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 Corps and Regimental Associations — or from Post Offices, Employment Offices or local telephone directories.

THE NEXT JOURNAL

The next Journal will be published in Spring 1982. Contributions are required at R.H.Q. by the end of January 1982 at the latest.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Major R. P. Smith, Editor,
The Men of Harlech
(Regimental Journal of the
Royal Regt. of Wales),
The Barracks,
Brecon, Powys, LD3 7EB.
24th February, 1981.

Dear Editor,

I am collecting material to produce a book called "Dogs and Mad Englishmen". It will be a selection of stories about soldiers and their families and the special relationship they established with animals during their service overseas.

I should be grateful to receive contributions from readers about their experiences, not only with dogs but from the wide range of animals that fall into the category of "pets".

Yours sincerely,

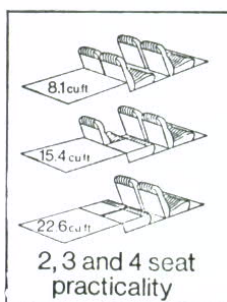
BOB SMITH.

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