

The Journal of the

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S



ROYAL REGIMENT



Number 7

December 1962

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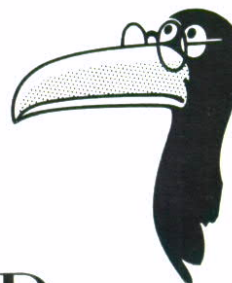
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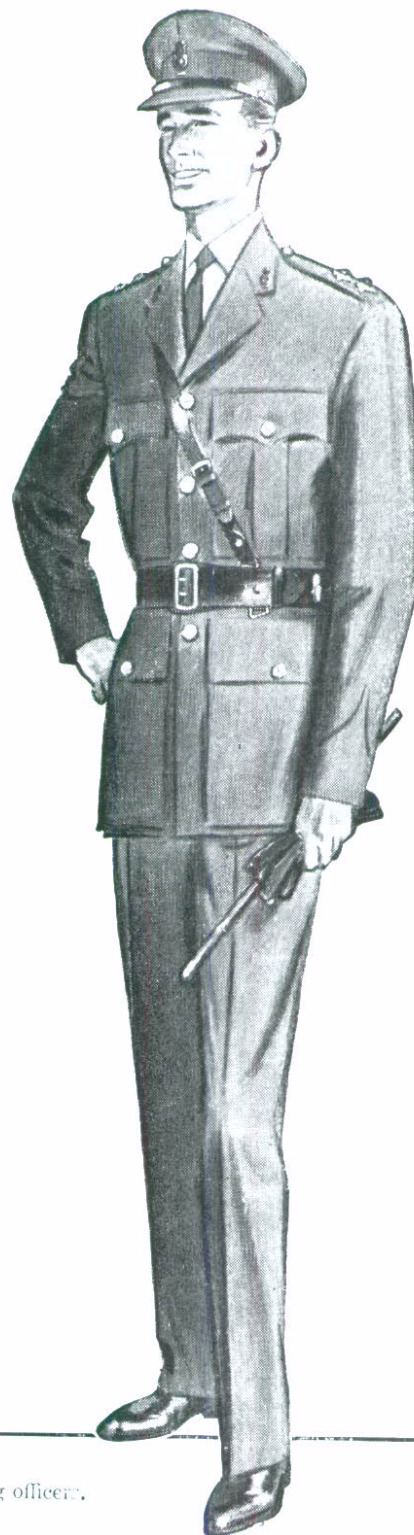
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Telephone: 22141/2

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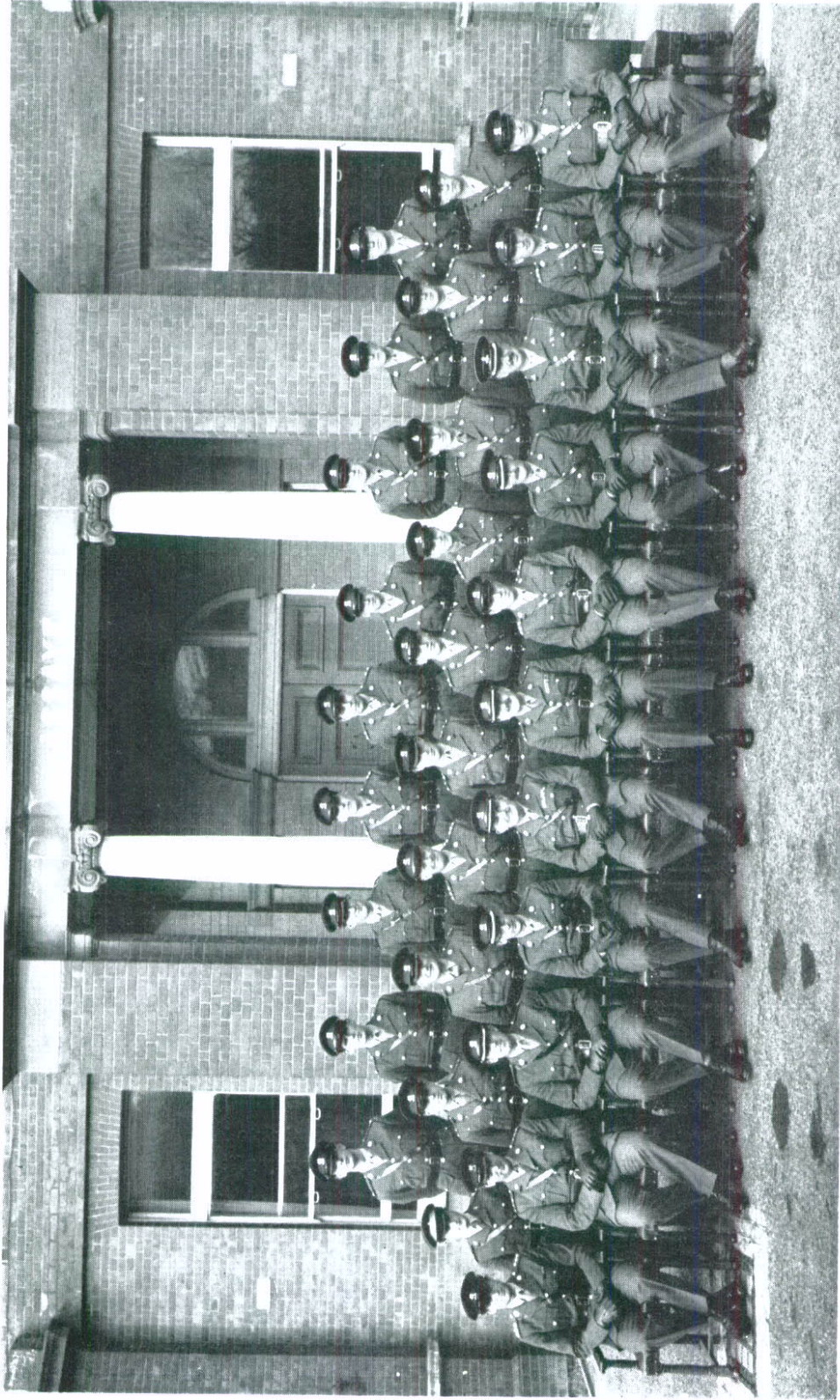
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Charles Green, Garrison Photographer, Tidworth

THE OFFICERS, THE 1st BATTALION — TIDWORTH, OCTOBER, 1952

Back row: 2 Lt. Hodder 2 Lt. Hobbs Lieut. Curtis Lieut. Spence Lieut. Goodhart Lieut. Hathaway 2 Lt. Searle 2 Lt. Whitehouse 2 Lt. Cannon
Middle row: Lieut. Gordon Lieut. Matthews Lieut. Price Capt. Rose Capt. Draper Lieut. Allan Capt. Allen Capt. Berry Lieut. Mackeroth Lieut. Notley
Front row: Capt. Aylm Capt. Exton Major Crafter Major Bennett Major Roden Lt.-Col. Ballantine Capt. Lea-Cox Major Parks Major Browning
 Capt. Ridley Capt. Reid

The Journal of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment

No. 7.

DECEMBER, 1962

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S ROYAL REGIMENT (Berkshire and Wiltshire) (49, 62, 66 and 99)

A Dragon superimposed upon a cross pattee.

A Dragon, superscribed "China."

A Naval Crown, superscribed "2nd April, 1801."

Louisburg, St. Lucia 1778, Egmont-op-Zee, Copenhagen, Douro, Talavera, Albuhera, Queenstown, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelles, 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, '99-1902, Mons, Messines 1914, '17, '18, Ypres 1914, '17, Neuve Chapelle, Loos, Somme, 1916, '18, Arras 1917, '18, Cambrai, 1917, '18, Bapaume 1918, Selle, Vittorio Veneto, Doiran 1917, '18, Macedonia 1915-18, Gallipoli 1915-16, Palestine 1917-18, Baghdad, Defence of Arras, Dunkirk 1940, Normandy Landing, Hill 112, Maltot, Mont Pincon, Seine 1944, Cleve, Rhine, Sicily 1943, Garigliano Crossing, Damiano, Anzio, Rome, North Arakan, Kohima, Mandalay, Burma 1942-45.

Regimental Headquarters—Brock Barracks, Reading.

1st Battalion—Malta.

4/6th Royal Berkshire Regiment (T.A.)—Brock Barracks, Reading.

4th Wiltshire Regiment (T.A.)—Le Marchant Barracks, Devizes.

Allied Regiments.

The Lincoln and Welland Regiment—The Canadian Army.

The Algonquin Regiment of Canada—The Canadian Army.

The Hawkes Bay Regiment—The New Zealand Army.

Colonel-in-Chief : FIELD-MARSHAL H.R.H. THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, K.G., K.T., G.B.E., Field-Marshal, Australian Military Forces, Capt.-Gen. R. Mar., Col.-in-Chief Q.R.L.H., Q.O.Hldrs., A.C.F., The Royal Canadian Regt., The Hawkes Bay Regt., and the Otago and Southland Regt., New Zealand, Royal Canadian Army Cadets, Col. W. G., (Hon. Col. L.D.Y. (T.A.) and O.T.C.), n.s.

Colonel : MAJOR-GENERAL B. A. COAD, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., p.s.c.

9.6.59.

OFFICERS ON THE ACTIVE LIST OF THE REGIMENT

(To 15th October, 1962)

Lt.-Colonels

D. C. GILSON, M.C., School of Infantry, Warminster.
H. N. HOARE, T.Col., Senior Army Liaison Officer, New Zealand.
J. C. M. MORTON-CLARKE, O.B.E., Inf. and G.S.C. Records Office, York.
G. F. WOOLNOUTH, M.C., G.S.O.1, H.Q. 1 (BR) Corps.
K. G. COMERFORD-GREEN, G.S.O.1, S.H.A.P.E.
D. J. M. ROBBINS, M.C., 4th Wiltshire Regt. (T.A.) for G.S.O.1, Aldershot District.
D. E. BALLANTINE, M.B.E., M.C., 1st Battalion.
T. R. M. OTTOWELL, G.S.O.1, G.H.Q. F.A.R.E.L.F. (until January, 1963).
J. S. G. WALENS, M.B.E., M.C., Junior Tradesmen's Regt., Rhyl.

Majors

A. P. RUSSELL, Inf. and G.S.C. Records Office, York.
D. R. FOSTER, D.A.Q.M.G., Aldershot District.
E. A. P. FERRO, Comdt., Haltern Training Area, B.A.O.R.
C. M. TUFFILL, G.S.O.2, War Office.
F. MYATT, M.C., G.S.O.2, H.Q., Southern Command.
R. A. S. WARD, M.C., Local Lt.-Colonel, Reinforcement Camp, Aden.
A. D. PARSONS, M.C., D.A.A. and Q.M.G., H.Q. N.E.A.R.E.L.F.
F. H. B. BOSHELL, D.S.O., M.B.E., T. Lt.-Colonel, G.S.O.1, Army Council Secretariat.
P. C. BROWN, C.L., Army School of P.T., Aldershot.
S. F. FRANCIS, T.D., D.A.Q.M.G., H.Q., B.A.O.R.
R. F. GROVES, 3 K.A.R., Nairobi, Kenya.
H. V. SANDERS, G.S.O.2, War Office.
C. F. BLASCHKE, M.C., G.S.O.2, H.Q., B.A.O.R.
P. D. NEWMAN, 46th Royal Berkshire Regt. (T.A.).
A. H. FRASER, Army Work Study Group, B.A.O.R.
J. R. RODEN, M.B.E., 1st Battalion.
J. A. SELLERS, M.B.E., D.A.A.G., War Office.
F. J. STONE, 4th Wiltshire Regt. (T.A.).
R. B. WAYMOUTH, 1 Royal Hampshire Regt., B.A.O.R.
T. A. GIBSON, Instructor, School of Infantry, Warminster.
R. J. F. BENNETT, 1st Battalion.
G. T. L. M. GRAHAM, Jungle Training Centre, Queensland, Australia.
R. C. KNIGHT, G.S.O.2, Army Air Corps Training Centre, Middle Wallop.
B. R. HOBBS, Royal Marines Training Centre, Lympstone.
D. W. FLAGGATE, D.A.A. and Q.M.G., H.Q., Tanganyika Rifles, Dar-es-Salaam.
A. E. CARTER, 1st Sierra Leone Regt., West Africa.
D. A. PARKS, 1st Battalion (to remain in U.K. for Recruiting Duties).
D. C. MUNN, T.S.O.2, War Office.
R. T. E. W. WEISL, 1st Battalion (to remain in U.K. for Recruiting Duties).

Captains

J. M. HARTLAND, T. Major, Mauritius Special Mobile Force.
W. H. CRAFTER, T. Major, 1st Battalion.
J. B. HYSLOP, T. Major, 1st Battalion.

J. W. LOE, T. Major, 1st Battalion.
R. J. LANGHAM, Language Course, Hong Kong.
C. J. EDWARDS, 1st Battalion (Staff College Student, January, 1963).
J. P. WARD, British Military Mission, Libya.
G. D. N. WILLIAMS, Special Air Service Regt.
R. W. DOBIN, 1 Royal Hampshire Regt., B.A.O.R.
R. P. M. OLDFIELD, 1 Gloucestershire Regt., Cyprus.
L. C. TREMELEN, for 1st Battalion.
J. D. REDDING, for 1st Battalion.
D. C. MURRAY, T. Major, D.A.A.G., H.Q., 44 District.
D. T. CRABTREE, for 1 Devonshire and Dorset Regt.
V. H. RIDLEY, 1st Battalion.
C. B. LEA-COX, 1st Battalion.
J. A. H. MACMILLAN, Instructor, School of Infantry, Hythe.
H. D. CANNING, 1st Royal Hampshire Regt., B.A.O.R.
R. H. EYTON, 1st Battalion.
W. G. R. TURNER, for Staff College Student, January, 1963.
J. B. SHEARS, Army Apprentices' School, Cheltenham.
D. L. B. REID, 1st Battalion.
P. T. DUNN, H.Q., Wessex Brigade, Honiton.
R. M. C. WILSON, 225 G.I.O. Section, Aden.
J. M. GREANY, 4 K.A.R. (Uganda Rifles), Jinja, Uganda.
M. R. VERNON-POWELL, 625 Lt. Aircraft Sq., B.A.O.R.
J. N. MORRIS, Army Air Corps Trg. Centre, Middle Wallop.
D. H. WILLS, Parachute Regt.
C. G. P. AYLIN, 1st Battalion.
D. J. G. NASH, 1st Sierra Leone Regt., West Africa.
D. J. ALLAN, 1st Battalion.
A. J. ROSE, 1st Battalion.
M. A. DRAPER, 1st Battalion.

Lieutenants

C. G. RENDLE, Parachute Regt.
W. A. MACKERETH, 1st Battalion.
D. A. JONES, Wessex Brigade Depot, Honiton.
A. M. FORBES, Wessex Brigade Depot, Honiton.
R. I. GOODHART, 1st Battalion.
R. E. MATTHEWS, Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion, Oswestry.
K. J. HATHAWAY, 1st Battalion.
J. M. MACMILLAN, Long Course, Oxford University.
I. G. SPENCE, 1st Battalion.

2 Lieutenants

A. P. SEARLE, 1st Battalion.
A. J. CANNON, 1st Battalion.
D. J. NEWTON, 1st Battalion.
S. C. I. WHITEHOUSE, 1st Battalion.

Quartermasters

R. JAMES, Major, D.A.Q.M.G., H.Q., Middle East Command.
J. W. HARROWING, Major, Wessex Brigade Depot, Honiton.
H. GREEN, D.C.M., Capt., 46th Royal Berkshire Regt. (T.A.).
E. P. ALLEN, Capt., 1st Battalion.
A. CAINEY, Capt., 4 K.A.R. (Uganda Rifles), Jinja, Uganda.
D. WEBB, Major, H.Q., 3 Infantry Brigade Group, Cyprus.
R. C. TOMPKINS, Capt., 4th Wiltshire Regt. (T.A.).
J. J. PRICE, Lieut., 1st Battalion.

Officers, late of the Regiment, on the Active List of the Army

MAJ.-GEN. J. W. C. WILLIAMS, D.S.O., O.B.E., Director of Movements, The War Office.
COL. C. F. READ, O.B.E., Provost Marshal, H.Q. N.E.A.R.E.L.F.
COL. H. M. A. HUNTER, D.S.O., M.B.E., O.L.C., Record Office, Exeter.
COL. W. G. S. MILLS, Regimental Colonel, The Parachute Regiment.
COL. R. B. G. BROMHEAD, O.B.E., U.K.S.L.S., Nigeria.
COL. R. F. COLES, O.B.E., J.S.S.C., Latimer.
LT.-COL. G. R. FLOOD, M.C., The Parachute Regiment.
LT.-COL. J. AWDRY, The Parachute Regiment, G.S.O.1, School of Land Air Warfare, Old Sarum.
MAJOR P. J. O'KANE, The Parachute Regiment.
CAPT. J. E. H. ELLIS, The Parachute Regiment.
CAPT. J. W. A. FLEMING, The Parachute Regiment.

LIEUT. A. F. E. LARKMAN, The Parachute Regiment.
MAJOR A. N. BENN, 2 10th Q.M.O. Gurkha Rifles, Johore Bahru.
MAJOR B. E. WATKINSON, H.Q., 48 Gurkha Inf. Bde. Gp., Hong Kong.
T. MAJOR W. J. HEDGES, 7th Gurkha Rifles.
LIEUT. D. L. THOMAS, 2nd K.E.O. Goorkha Rifles.
CAPT. J. P. C. TARRAN, Army Air Corps Training Centre, Middle Wallop.
MAJOR R. V. C. STEVENSON, Royal Army Ordnance Corps.
LT.-COL. D. F. SALT, Corps of Royal Military Police, A.P.M., 1 (B.R.) Corps.
MAJOR F. C. KEMP, Royal Army Pay Corps.
T. LT.-COL. DODDS, T.D., Intelligence Corps.
MAJOR F. D. JONES, M.C., The Rhodesian and Nyasaland Army.

Extended Service and Short Service Commissioned Officers

MAJOR R. HUNTER, M.B.E., D.A.A.G., H.Q. F.A.R.E.L.F.
LIEUT. D. C. STANLEY, 1st Battalion.

LIEUT. C. H. GEDGE, 1st Battalion.
2. LIEUT. P. B. HOBBS, 1st Battalion.

Officers Posted or Attached to the 1st Battalion

MAJOR E. W. BROWNING, R.A.P.C.
CAPT. C. BERRY, R.A.M.C.
LIEUT. R. N. NOTLEY, R. Hamps.

LIEUT. J. M. CURTIS, R. Hamps.
LIEUT. H. K. GORDON, R.A.E.C.
2. LIEUT. J. D. C. HODDER, Devon and Dorset.

TERRITORIAL ARMY OFFICERS

4/6th ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

HON. COLONEL BRIG. D. W. B. T. HOGG, C.B.E.
 LT.-COL. R. A. PLACKETT, T.D.
 MAJ. C. H. WILLING, T.D.
 MAJ. E. J. B. HARDCASTLE.
 MAJ. W. T. M. WILLIAMS, T.D.
 MAJ. M. M. T. PAXTON.
 MAJ. A. W. D. SPACKMAN, T.D.
 MAJ. R. P. WHEELER.
 CAPT. L. H. DAVIES.
 CAPT. J. A. McDUGALL.
 CAPT. W. H. HAWKINS.
 CAPT. M. BURTON-BROWN.
 CAPT. C. A. SHAW-STEWART.
 CAPT. C. P. SMALLBONE.
 CAPT. H. U. BAILEY.
 CAPT. D. J. HEAVENS.
 LIEUT. G. SIMPSON.
 LIEUT. D. MARCHANT.
 LIEUT. B. T. BARNES.
 LIEUT. J. B. KERWOOD.
 LIEUT. C. A. YEATS.
 LIEUT. A. F. RAVENHILL.
 LIEUT. M. J. CROSSLEY.
 LIEUT. J. G. COWEN.
 LIEUT. P. E. Q. LONG.
 LIEUT. F. R. THOMAS.
 LIEUT. R. J. LEE.
 LIEUT. J. R. CALLINGHAM.
 LIEUT. B. C. STAIG.
 LIEUT. W. J. HASTIE.
 2/LIEUT. C. V. ROWE.
 2/LIEUT. G. DAVIES.
 CAPT. G. F. A. INGLIS, E.R.D., R.A.P.C.
 CAPT. W. G. TAIT, R.A.M.C.

4th WILTSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

HON. COLONEL BRIG. E. L. LUCE, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C.
 D.L.
 MAJ. G. G. DREW, T.D.
 MAJ. G. R. A. PICKFORD, T.D.
 MAJ. P. A. J. BROWN, T.D.
 MAJ. A. J. WRIGHT.
 MAJ. J. F. HARRISON.
 MAJ. W. A. HILL.
 CAPT. R. G. HOARE.
 CAPT. C. R. W. STONE.
 CAPT. D. C. COURTMAN.
 CAPT. M. V. COUPLAND.
 CAPT. N. ST. G. HYSLOP.
 CAPT. W. W. R. VALLIS.
 LIEUT. D. MARRIS.
 LIEUT. J. M. LUCE.
 LIEUT. D. J. GIRLING.
 LIEUT. W. J. FRASER.
 LIEUT. T. E. R. GREENAWAY.
 LIEUT. B. G. JONES.
 LIEUT. M. A. R. OAKLEY.
 LIEUT. S. R. BODDINGTON.
 LIEUT. J. B. LEECE.
 LIEUT. W. R. A. KIRKE.
 LIEUT. S. P. SMILES.
 LIEUT. K. G. MOORE.
 LIEUT. P. S. JACKSON.
 2/LIEUT. T. J. PATTEN.
 2/LIEUT. D. C. RYAN.
 LIEUT. (Q.M.) T. H. WHEELER.
 MAJOR R. V. FAWKNER-CORBETT, T.D., R.A.P.C.

COL. L. J. L. HILL, M.C., H.Q., 129 Infantry Brigade (T.A.).
 MAJ. L. T. LANCE, H.Q., Aldershot District.

ROLL OF REGULAR WARRANT OFFICERS AND N.C.Os. OF THE REGIMENT

R.S.M. T. VENN, M.M., H.Q., Kahawa Garrison, E. Africa.
 R.S.M. T. MORTIMER, 1st Battalion.
 R.S.M. M. HAWE, H.Q., 2 Div., B.A.O.R.
 R.S.M. D. MILTON, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 BANDMASTER R. HIBBS, 1st Battalion.
 R.Q.M.S. H. PAY, 1st Battalion.
 C.S.M. A. DUNFORD, M.M., 4/5th Royal Hampshire (T.A.).
 C.S.M. D. BROWN, 1st Royal Hampshire.
 C.S.M. F. LANE, 4/6th Royal Berkshire (T.A.).
 C.S.M. R. CLOUGH, 1st Battalion.
 C.S.M. P. MARTIN, 1st Battalion.
 C.S.M. J. BARROW, 1st Battalion.
 C.S.M. R. MARSH, 1st Battalion.
 C.S.M. M. COLLINS, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 C.S.M. R. HOLLINGSWORTH, All Arms Junior Leaders' Battalion, Tonfanau.
 C.S.M. D. STANTON, 1st Battalion.
 C.S.M. A. AULT, 4/6th Royal Berkshire (T.A.).
 C.S.M. F. YOUNG, 4th Wiltshire (T.A.).
 C.S.M. D. BRIGGS, 1st Battalion.
 C.S.M. J. McLAREN, 1st Battalion.
 C.Q.M.S. A. HAYES, M.Q.A.S., Pembroke Dock.
 C.Q.M.S. W. WHEELER, H.Q., Kahawa Garrison, E. Africa.
 C.Q.M.S. T. HOUGHTON, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 C.Q.M.S. W. SMITH, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 C.Q.M.S. E. MURDOCH, 1st Battalion.
 C.Q.M.S. C. METCALF, 1st Battalion.
 C.Q.M.S. S. DUNN, 1st Glosters.
 C.Q.M.S. B. CROCKETT, 1st Battalion.
 C.Q.M.S. J. DUNKIN, 1st Glosters.
 C.Q.M.S. R. COLLINGS, 1st Royal Hampshire.
 C.Q.M.S. J. WILLIAMS, 17 Gurkha Division.
 C.Q.M.S. F. CROCKFORD, 1st Royal Hampshire.
 C.Q.M.S. K. SZMELTER, 1st Battalion.
 C.Q.M.S. G. CROSS, 1st Battalion.
 C.Q.M.S. R. ALLCOCK, 1st Battalion.
 C.Q.M.S. A. GEIKIE, 1st Battalion.

SJT. M. COWLEY, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. G. KEW, Army Information Office, Reading.
 L/C.Q.M.S. J. OXLEY, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 SJT. H. PERKINS, 3 K.A.R., East Africa.
 SJT. H. BALL, All Arms Junior Leaders' Battalion, Tonfanau.
 SJT. F. PAYNE, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. V. MIDDLECOTE, 4/6th Royal Berkshire (T.A.).
 SJT. J. PETERS, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 SJT. D. WALKER, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. R. BYE, Army Apprentices' School, Arborfield.
 SJT. B. BRETT, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. C. WHITING, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. G. MILLS, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. D. PAYNE, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. J. DUDMAN, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. R. LITCHFIELD, Reinforcement Camp, Aden.
 SJT. T. LEEDER, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 SJT. W. MEADE, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. H. THORNTON, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. F. KNIGHT, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. G. PINCHEN, 4th Wiltshire (T.A.).
 SJT. D. PUFFETT, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. R. PEARSON, Army Apprentices' School, Arborfield.
 SJT. J. DUNFORD, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. R. SIMPSON (721), 1st Battalion.
 SJT. W. HOOKS, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. S. GIBBS, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. F. BRAY, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. L. KING, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. P. TAYLOR, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 SJT. A. BECK, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. G. BENNETT, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. W. DUNSCOMBE, 4th Wiltshire (T.A.).
 SJT. E. SKINNER, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. W. STAFFORD, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. R. SIMPSON (693), 1st Battalion.
 SJT. I. YOUNG, 1st Battalion.

ROLL OF REGULAR WARRANT OFFICERS AND N.C.Os. OF THE REGIMENT—*continued*

SJT. S. PARSONS, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. J. HARRIS, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. J. LYNCH, 4/6th Royal Berkshire (T.A.).
 SJT. P. O'BRIEN, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. J. FISHER.
 SJT. R. TRANTER, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. D. LEDBURY, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. A. WHITFIELD, Army Apprentices' School, Arborfield.
 SJT. D. LARGE, 23 S.A.S. (T.A.).
 SJT. T. ROBERTS, 4th Wiltshire (T.A.).
 SJT. J. COCKEREILL, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. F. SIMPSON, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. A. HOLLOWAY, 4th Wiltshire (T.A.).
 A/SJT. E. BRACKSTONE, Admin. Unit, Dhekelia.
 A/SJT. D. DEAN, 1st Battalion.
 A/SJT. D. LEADBETTER, 1st Battalion.
 A/SJT. D. STEPHENS, 1st Battalion.
 A/SJT. A. TUPPLE, 1st Battalion.
 A/SJT. D. TREVGE, 1st Battalion.
 A/SJT. K. HYDE, 1st Battalion.

Band Sfts.:

C/SJT. D. TODD, 1st Battalion.
 C/SJT. W. CHATFIELD, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 SJT. R. KIRK, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. A. MEYNELL, 1st Battalion.
 SJT. J. CARADICE, 1st Battalion.

Drum Majors:

W.O. H. W. CHOULES, Wessex Brigade Depot.
 C/SJT. S. FORD, 1st Battalion.

Orderly Room Sjt.:

W.O. H. D. CARPENTER, Wessex Brigade Depot.

Long Service List:

W.O. H. E. W. BASTON, D.C.M., H.Q., Rheindahlen
 Garrison, B.A.O.R.
 W.O. H. J. FARELLE, Army Information Office, Salisbury.
 S/SJT. M. MCMFORD, Army Information Office, Bournemouth.
 SJT. R. SMITH, Mons O.C.S., Aldershot.

T. Type Engagement:

W.O. H. C. STANLEY, 4/6th Royal Berkshire (T.A.).

Regular W.Os. and Serjeants of other Regiments serving with the Regiment

R.S.M. R. BATE-JONES, Devon and Dorset—4/6th Royal
 Berkshire (T.A.).

C.S.M. W. BROWN, Glosters—4th Wiltshire (T.A.).

NOTICE

We are indebted to the Editor, The Canadian Geographical Journal and to the Gazette Printing Company of Montreal for allowing us to use their plates for the reproduction of the mural of the Battle of Crysler's Farm.

For technical reasons it has proved impossible to publish a complete picture in this Journal, but it is hoped that any reader interested could, with a little ingenuity, remove the white line and join the two pictures into one.

REGIMENTAL NEWS

The following officers have retired, and we thank them for the part they have played in the life of the Regiment and wish them the best of good fortune in the future:—

Lt.-Col. M. H. Chivers

Lt.-Col. D. A. M. Emms, T.D.

Major G. C. Dale

Lt.-Col. Emms had joined his family business in Norfolk.

Major F. D. Jones, after a short period as a civilian, has joined the Army of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

Capt. J. W. A. Fleming and Lt. A. F. E. Larkman have transferred to the Parachute Regiment.

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We congratulate R.S.M. F. W. Baston, D.C.M., on the award of the Meritorious Service Medal in June this year. Mr. Baston enlisted on 31st July, 1934, and is now serving in BAOR under the long service scheme.

We have only recently learnt of the award of the M.S.M. to the following, all of whom were at one time members of the Regiment:—

Bandmaster L. Fereday, The Royal Hampshire Regiment—One time Bandmaster 1st Wiltshire Regiment and recently Bandmaster The Wessex Brigade Depot. Award published in July, 1961.

W.O. II D. Winter, R.A.O.C.—Originally 5334303 Boy Winter, he enlisted in The Royal Berkshire Regiment on 9th April, 1932. Award published in December, 1960.

Major (Director of Music) W. B. Salmon, M.B.E.—Originally enlisting in The Royal Berkshire Regiment as No. 5328491, he transferred to The Buffs as Bandmaster in 1929. Commissioned in 1947, he became Director of Music, The Royal Artillery. He retired in 1960 after completing 45 years' service. Award published in January, 1960.

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We congratulate Mr. Albert Haines on his award of the British Empire Medal. A Lockinge man, he served in The Royal Berkshire Regiment during the 1914/18 War. After the war he obtained work with the Imperial War Graves Commission and has recently retired after completing 43 years' service with the Commission. He now lives at Arras.

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We have recently heard from Major G. T. L. M. Graham, who expects to return to England in February, 1963. He had been fortunate enough to visit all Commands in Australia. During his tour he had visited the Memorial to the 99th Foot in Hobart. When it was realised that he was a serving member of the Regiment, press and TV cover was supplied in force. Major Graham added that the Memorial is well cared for and a wreath is laid by local ex-Servicemen once a year. (For readers who do not know the facts, the Memorial referred to was erected by the 99th Foot, later the 2nd Bn. The Wiltshire Regiment, in memory of the officers and men who were killed in the first Maori War, 1845/46.)

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Colonel V. St. J. Vigor, O.B.E., has relinquished the appointment of County Cadet Commandant, The Berkshire Army Cadet Force, and has been succeeded by Colonel L. A. G. Creal.

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Colonel J. L. R. Metcalf, O.B.E., after 29 years' service with the Regiment, has relinquished his appointment on the H.Q. of 129 Infantry Brigade (T.A.), and has been succeeded by Colonel L. J. L. Hill, M.C., late of the Regiment.

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Those who served with the 2nd Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment in Egypt will be glad to hear that the stained glass window presented to the Garrison Church, Moascar, in May, 1937, is being installed in the new Garrison Church of St. George, Dhekelia, Cyprus.

A carved wooden plaque of the regimental badge has been presented to the Crysler's Farm Battle Memorial Hall to commemorate the part played by the 49th in defeating the American invasion of Canada. At the same time a corresponding plaque was presented by the Royal Irish Fusiliers on behalf of the 89th Foot.



Plaque presented to the Crysler's Farm Battle Memorial Hall

A cocktail party to entertain regimental guests and to bid farewell to the 1st Battalion was held at The Tidworth Club on 20th October.

This occasion offered an opportunity for many members of the Regiment to see for the first time the portrait of the Colonel-in-Chief recently completed by Major A. C. Davidson Houston.

The silver statuette of the Colonel-in-Chief, commissioned by the Serjeants' Mess, the 1st Battalion, was also on display.

ENGAGEMENTS

ASHLEY—FOWLER.—The engagement is announced between Nigel Richard, son of Lt.-Col. R. Ashley, late The Wiltshire Regiment, of Fleet, Hants, and of the late Mrs. P. Ashley, and Penelope Ann, daughter of Mrs. E. I. Fowler and the late Mr. S. B. S. Fowler of Oakham and Cambridge.



Silver Statuette of the Colonel of the Regiment
(referred to on opposite page)

AYLIN—ELLIOTT.—The engagement is announced between Capt. Clyde Aylin, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, elder son of Major and Mrs. C. V. Aylin of Dereham, Norfolk, and Jill, daughter of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. J. D. Elliott of Fleet, Hants.

BIRTHS

AWDRY.—On 1st August, 1962, at Aldershot, to Belinda, wife of Lt.-Col. John Awdry, The Parachute Regiment, a son (Piers Bain).

MATTHEWS.—On 21st July, 1962, at Tidworth, to Jennie, wife of Lt. R. E. Matthews, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, a son (Andrew Paul).

TREMELLEN.—On 20th July, 1962, at Aldershot, to Norma, wife of Capt. L. C. Tremellen, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, twins, a boy and a girl (Richard and Tessa).

CANNING.—On 3rd June, 1962, at Burghelere, near Newbury, to Anne, wife of Capt. H. D. Canning, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, a daughter.

HARTLEY-RUSSELL.—On 3rd October, 1962, in Reading, to Pamela, wife of Major Derek Hartley-Russell, T.D., late 4 6th Royal Berkshire Regiment (T.A.), a son.

RIDLEY.—On 11th May, 1962, at Barton Stacey, to Stephanie, wife of Capt. Vivian Ridley, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, a daughter (Alison Claire).

CARTER.—On 14th May, 1962, at Moretonhampstead, to Primrose, wife of Major Tony Carter, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, a daughter (Louise Claire).

OLDFIELD.—On 7th October, 1962, at Akrotiri, Cyprus, to Edwina, wife of Capt. R. P. M. Oldfield, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, a son.

DEATHS

FRASER.—On 30th June, 1962, at Seend, Wilts, Major Alexander James Fraser, M.C., late The Royal Berkshire Regiment, aged 81. Son of Col. A. H. Fraser, who commanded the 2nd Battalion in 1896-99. Served in the South African War with Brabant's Horse, and was awarded the Queen's Medal with four clasps. Joined the Regiment in 1901. Adjutant, 2nd Battalion, 1909-12. Served in France with 2nd Battalion and on the staff. Twice wounded, mentioned in despatches, and awarded the M.C. As a result of wounds incurred during the war he retired for medical reasons in 1920.

THORNTON.—On 13th July, 1962, Brig.-General William Brooke Thornton, D.S.O., late The Royal Berkshire Regiment, aged 86. He joined the 2nd Battalion in 1896. Served throughout the South African War, gaining the Queen's and King's Medals. Returning from India with the 2nd Battalion in 1914, he was severely wounded at Neuve Chapelle and awarded the D.S.O. Promoted Temporary Brigadier-General in 1918, he afterwards commanded the 5th Sherwood Foresters on the Rhine, the 1st Battalion in Mesopotamia and N.W. Persia, and the 2nd Battalion in Dublin. Promoted Colonel in 1922, he retired in 1924. In 1912 he married Miss Fraser, whose father, brother and nephew all served in the Regiment. He was High Sheriff of Bedfordshire in 1934.

SAWYER.—On 14th August, 1962, at Shawford, Winchester, Lt.-Col. Guy Henry Sawyer, D.S.O., late The Royal Berkshire Regiment, aged 80. Commissioned in 1901, he served in the latter part of the South African War, gaining the King's South African Medal. Except for a tour of duty as Adjutant of the 4th Battalion, he served continuously with the Regiment. Returning from India in 1914, he went to France with the 2nd Battalion. Promoted Temporary Lt.-Colonel in 1916, he remained in command of a battalion until October, 1919, when he assumed command of the Depot. For his services in the War he was awarded the D.S.O. and bar, and the Croix de Guerre. He rejoined the 2nd Battalion in Plymouth in 1922, before retiring in 1925.

ROBBINS.—On 5th November, 1962, Mary, wife of Lt.-Col. D. I. M. Robbins, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

QUICK.—The death of Major H. T. W. Quick, M.C., late The Royal Berkshire Regiment, was reported in the March, 1962, Army List. Enlisting in The Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1889, he was awarded the Ashanti Star for service in West Africa in 1895. He was awarded the Queen's and King's Medals and mentioned in despatches for services in the South

African War. R.S.M. of the 2nd Battalion in 1905. Commissioned in 1914, he served with the 2nd Battalion in France, was several times mentioned in despatches and awarded the M.C. He was also the possessor of the L.S. and G.C. Medal and the Delhi Durbar Medal. He retired in 1920 and must have been 90 years old at the time of his death.

PETRI.—Also reported in the March, 1962, Army List: Lt.-Col. A. V. Petri, O.B.E., The East Surrey Regiment, who commanded the 2nd Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment from October, 1941, to December, 1942.

ROLFE.—On 31st August, 1962, in Wokingham, No. 4269 David Rolfe, late The Royal Berkshire Regiment. Englisting in 1894, he served in the South African War and was discharged to the Reserve in 1906. Returning to the Colours in 1914, he reached the rank of Serjeant-Major. Employed with Reading Corporation Tramways he became a Chief Inspector being retiring in 1938. He remained a keen supporter of the Regiment and of the O.C.A. until his death.

BOURTON.—On 6th June, 1962, at Tidworth, Colour Serjeant H. J. Bourton, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

MOCKLER.—In August, 1962, No. 5568167 R.S.M. C. Mockler, late The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, who had only retired about a year before.

HARRIS.—In September, 1962, as a result of a traffic accident in Blackpool, T. Harris, one-time Serjeant in the Regiment, who had left the Army only recently under the redundancy terms. He had been a Serjeant in the Mortar Platoon in the 1st Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment in Goslar 1954-55.

1st Battalion

The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment

EDITORIAL

The summer activities were varied and, contrary to expectations, all proved to be interesting and successful. From all its various tasks and activities the Battalion emerged with credit.

April saw the return of "A" Company, bronzed and fit, from their six weeks in British Guiana. When they left Tidworth there was an ugly situation in Georgetown and everyone expected unpleasant internal security duties. However, after the first few days of guards and patrols, they settled down, under command of 1st Bn. Royal Hampshire Regiment, to a pleasant routine, the envy of the remainder of the Battalion in rain- and wind-swept Tidworth.

Early in the year it was stated in a Training Forecast that the Battalion would carry out an amphibious exercise, lasting several days, somewhere in France. Like most forecasts, this proved to be wrong. The Battalion was in the end detailed to take part in the Joint Services Demonstration on Salisbury Plain and to run Bourley C.C.F. Camp near Aldershot.

"B" Company, reinforced by soldiers from "C" Company, took part in the Joint Services Demonstration, their task being to display to the audience a Rifle Company Group mounted in Saracen armoured personnel carriers. The preparation for this demonstration provided useful and novel training, although the constant rehearsals tended to be boring at times.

Bourley C.C.F. Camp was at first viewed with considerable misgivings by all members of the Battalion. However, it was a job to be done and the Battalion buckled down to the task. Careful plans and preparations were made, including demonstrations and training in the correct way to erect the various types of tent. As a result of these careful preparations the erection, running and eventual dismantling of tents went smoothly. At the peak period there were approximately 3,000 all ranks in the camp. Visitors to the camp included the Brigade Commander, the Chief of Staff, Southern Command, the G.O.C., Aldershot District, and the G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Command. The Battalion was congratulated on the way the camp was administered.

In the sporting field the Battalion met unexpected success at athletics and the tug-o'-war (110 stone). In the athletics we won the Divisional and Southern Command Championships

and were third in the Army Championships held at Aldershot. The strength of the team lay in their track performances. If our standards in the field events had matched those on the track we would have won the Army Championships by a street. All members of the team are to be congratulated for their team spirit and will to win. Special mention must be made of Capt. Draper and S.I. Freeman for their leadership and drive during the arduous training sessions. It is regretted that S.I. Freeman cannot come with the Battalion to Malta. He will be missed by all ranks. We wish him the best of fortune in both his military and athletic careers.

In the tug-o'-war (110 stone) the Battalion won the Divisional Competition and was runner-up in both the Southern Command and the Army Championships to the Depot and Training Establishment, R.A.S.C., who have been Army champions for the past four years. All members of the team are to be congratulated on their team work, and Captains Macmillan and Stevens for their work as coaches.

Finally mention must be made of the cricket XI, who succeeded in beating 1 Devon and Dorset to win the final of the Divisional Knockout Competition.

Now, in the autumn, the thoughts of everyone are concentrated on the move to Malta. The advance and rear parties have been detailed and preparations are beginning to be made to pack the thousand and one things a Battalion takes with it.

After three years in Tidworth the Battalion will leave with few regrets. In spite of the excellent barracks, it is still remote and lacks life and sparkle. We look forward to warm sunshine and new experiences in Malta. Whatever we may find, let us ensure that we maintain and enhance the reputation of the Regiment.

"A" COMPANY

On our return from British Guiana the Company quickly settled down into the normal routine of Tidworth.

Our first exercise began on 11th April, when two Platoons left for Keevil Airfield, where they gave assistance to 14 Coy, R.A.S.C. A hard nine days' work resulted in the moving of thousands of gallons of petrol and many tons of ammunition. At the close of the exercise we cleared up the debris and everyone thankfully returned to Tidworth. A letter of thanks was received from H.Q., R.A.S.C. The 19th June saw the Battalion taking part in the 3 Division Athletics Meeting, at which L Cpls. Wray-Bliss and Hall, Cpl. Pavcy and Pte. Turner showed their ability. With their determination they helped the Battalion team to go on to the Army Championships at Aldershot on 25th-26th July, 1962.

On 2nd July the Company moved to Bourley, near Aldershot, to help set up and administer a C.C.F. Camp. The weather was perfect and spirits high. After settling in we started to draw up tents and marquees. The first problem was getting the 160 lb. tents into the space allotted for our C.C.F. Battalion, and after many changes of plans we at last decided on a way. The tents were put up very quickly and C Sjt. Murdoch had trouble in supplying us with tents fast enough. Then came the marquees: five store tents and one office tent were put up in a record time of one and a quarter hours. Our next problem was the cinema tent: it turned out that a four-panel marquee was not wide enough as the tent poles would interfere with the showing of the films, so we put up two four-panel marquees side by side. The sight was awe-inspiring, although we had our doubts as to whether it was going to stay up! Then Cpl. Snoek had a brainwave! He found two telegraph poles and put them up at either end of the tent and lashed the joint to a rope stretched taut between the two. It was lucky we did this as, with the amount of rain that followed, we might have found ourselves with a suspended swimming pool. Some of our Company "wide-boys", i.e. Pte. Walker, would no doubt have cashed in on the commercial value of this. A great deal of credit is due to everyone for the hard work that they all did: even Ptes. Groom and Mullen worked well between moaning.

For the benefit of the Cadets "A" Company laid on a demonstration of Platoon and Section formations and attacks. After many rehearsals Capt. Loe was satisfied and we all felt as if we knew Long Valley like the backs of our hands. Then at last the day came for the Cadets to leave. As they moved out the tents practically fell down about their heads, and in two days all the canvas was gone. On 13th August we were once more in Tidworth.

This year the Company supplied two contingents of marching troops to assist with Keeping the Army in the Public Eye in Wiltshire. They were headed by the Band and Drums. Support

Platoon, commanded by Lt. Goodhart, laid on various displays with their support weapons. The noise of these drew crowds and went down very well.

We were very sorry to say goodbye to Major Sellers, who left us to go on a course at the Joint Services Staff College. Our good wishes go with him, and we hope that it will not be too long before he rejoins the Regiment. The Company has since been commanded by Capt. J. W. Loe up to 2th September, and then by Capt. D. L. B. Reid, who will soon be handing over to Major J. B. Hyslop. At this point the Company would like to take the opportunity of congratulating Major Hyslop on his recent marriage.

We welcome 2/Lt. J. D. C. Hodder and 2/Lt. S. C. I. Whitehouse to the Company. 2/Lt. Hodder joined us from the 1st Bn. The Devon and Dorset Regiment, and 2/Lt. Whitehouse from R.M.A. Sandhurst.

W.O. II Clough has taken over from W.O. II Martin as C.S.M. and we hope his stay will be a happy one. C/Sjt. Allcock has taken over as C.Q.M.S. from C/Sjt. Murdoch.

Marriage

Congratulations to Pte. Lock on his marriage on the 25th August, 1962.

"B" COMPANY

The last six months has seen the Company at low strength, for whilst we have lost the bulk of our National Servicemen we have had few Regular soldier replacements. We are now told that we are to be built up with young Regulars from the Training Wing and are looking forward to their arrival and the thought of having three Rifle Platoons on parade once more.

In March we took part in a Brigade Exercise at Stanford and were given the role of reserve Battalion. "B" Company found the close bridge garrison over the river on the first day and 5 Platoon just managed to get across the river before the bridge was blown in the face of "overwhelming enemy forces". The umpires came in for strongly worded criticism when they wiped out this Platoon with three enemy tanks which came at them through the middle of the minefield. 2/Lt. Searle had not been taught this sort of tactics at the R.M.A.

In April "B" and "C" Companies went to Dartmoor and had a couple of wet days' field firing followed by a day's helicopter exercise. All the men, including cooks and drivers, had a chance of roping down from the helicopters. Platoons and Mortar Section were flown on to the highest tors and at one time a Whirlwind carried 14 men; even the pilot had his fingers crossed! We had a party of Royal Navy Petty Officers attached from H.M.S. *Vernon* whilst on this exercise. They covered a lot of ground, shot all weapons and certainly seemed to enjoy themselves.

At the beginning of May a man was heard to ask: "What does KAPE stand for, and is it part of NATO?" Soon everyone knew, as for a couple of weeks the Company was busy keeping the Army in the Public Eye in the County of Berkshire. We did marches through the towns of Newbury, Highworth and Faringdon, and mock battle demonstrations at military displays in Abingdon, Newbury and Didcot. Later in the year we again did the mock battle at the Reading Agricultural Show, where we drew the biggest crowd of the year, mainly people who had been watching the beauty competition sited conveniently next door to the arena. Some lucky soldiers were presented with bouquets of flowers by the contestants. Who says combat kit doesn't add to sex appeal!

Later in May a Battalion inter-Company shooting competition was held. Bren, Rifle and Sterling teams competed and, besides having our fair share of individual prizewinners, "B" Company were the overall winners from "A" Company by a short head.

On 7th June the Company, made up to full strength by "C" Company, took part in the Joint Services Demonstration "Noisy Nora" at Larkhill. We had our first introduction to A.P.Cs., and in the opening serial showed the spectators what an infantry Company mounted in A.P.Cs. looked like. In the last serial we did an attack in A.P.Cs. supported by an artillery and tank fire plan. Although the demonstration meant many rehearsals and a lot of waiting about, we all had the opportunity of a grandstand view of the Army's latest equipment, a parachute drop, the R.A.F. demonstration and many other items besides. Our A.P.Cs. were driven by men of the Black Watch, whose language brought a blush even to the C.S.M.'s face.

Enough has been written elsewhere in the Journal about the pleasures of Bourley C.C.F. Camp; it will suffice here to say that "B" Company had two Cadet camps to put up and take

down compared with the other Rifle Companies' one each. We did it just as fast and are all now seasoned tent pitchers. Although we all thought we would hate Bourley, there were few who didn't enjoy at least their off-duty hours. Could this have been due to the W.R.A.C. (T.A.)?

Our final fling was another visit to Dartmoor at the end of September, this time for an escape and evasion exercise. Parties of three were released and had to make their way through a series of agent posts to make good their escape over the River Tamar. Only a few managed to evade the combined force of the Reece Platoon and the Devon Constabulary and Special Constables who were mobilised against them. Cpl. Wright 15, Wright 76 and Cripps were the first home, followed closely by Ptes. Green and Hatt. Ptes. Leahy and Curthoys made good their escape singly after the other members of their parties had been captured—both fine efforts. Lt. Gedge and 2 Lt. Searle were pipped at the post by a policeman in civilian clothes who offered them a lift within a mile of freedom. His popularity was, however, quickly restored after his wife cooked them a good meal and offered the living room of the house for the night. Records do not tell whether the husband was on duty that night or not!

The men who were captured during the exercise were taken to a PW cage run by the C.S.M. and the R.M.P. Although the prisoners' boots were unkindly removed, spirits remained high and several made good their escape only to walk into the arms of a police patrol in Okehampton. After this exercise we have no doubt about the efficiency of the Devon Constabulary and, having had a sight of the high walls of Princetown Prison, we prefer to remain on the outside.

In the sporting world the Company fielded a vigorous cricket side which won all but one of its matches. Capt. Edwards was our star bat, ably supported by Pte. McPherson and the rest of the team. Our strength was in our bowling, where Pte. Davis 38, Wilson and Rothwell did sterling work to skittle our opponents out for low scores. In the athletics field we did not shine, although Pte. Mapplethorpe threw the javelin for the Battalion and Cpl. Hughes ran. We hope to get some new talent out of our hoped-for recruits, and to do better next year.

Just before going to press "D" Company was disbanded and the Training Wing became part of "B" Company. Our strength now looks quite impressive on paper and we hope to retain a large number when they have finished their training.

To all National Servicemen who have left us we send our best wishes. We will think of you when we are basking in the Mediterranean sunshine next year.

We offer our congratulations to the following: Capt. Rose, Lt. Gedge, Cpls. Hughes and Lambell, and L/Cpls. Medforth and Simpson on their promotions; Cpl. Hole, and Ptes. Tucker, Harvey, Orchard and McPherson on their marriages; Capt. Rose and Pte. Downs on the births of their daughters and L/Cpl. Temple on the birth of his son.

"C" COMPANY

Spring began with an icy blast when the Company went to Dartmoor from 9th to 13th April for field firing and training with helicopters. All ranks of the Company fired the 3.5 R.L. and in spite of the poor weather our spell on the moor was enjoyable—particularly as we thrashed "B" Company in a soccer match.

The highlights of the sports world in the Battalion was the Company's success in the athletics, which we won. L/Cpl. Blake, Ptes. Openshaw, Chandler and Bantam were outstanding in our decisive victory. Several of our Company athletes were selected to represent the Battalion in the Army Championships. We were not so successful in the Battalion Shooting, in which we came last; the rain was pouring down and we had the worst of it. Certainly Major Crafter and the others with glasses were blinded by it. However, the prize of the day was taken by Lt. Spence and C.S.M. Stanton, who fired as an L.M.G. pair and scored one point between them out of one hundred and fifty!

The Company was selected as advance party to put up the Battalion camp at Bourley in preparation for the arrival of the main body and then 2,000 C.C.F. Cadets. Tents and tent pegs were used in hundreds erecting the camp and the Company worked hard and well. Fortunately the sun shone for the whole of the period whilst we were erecting the camp for the Battalion. We needed all the fine weather we could get as the time was very short. A "flap" for a quick Battalion move to the West Indies cut short the time which we were allowed to

do our task at Bourley. However, with an extra effort from the Company, the job was completed. Was it 659 or 660 tents we put up?

Whilst at Bourley and after the Cadets had arrived a party from the Company went to see the Royal Tournament at Earls Court. Another trip was arranged to the Museum at R.M.A. Sandhurst.

It is with regret that we learnt of the death of L/Cpl. Powell's father on 26th September. We were all very sorry to learn of the illness of C.S.M. Stanton during block leave; we wish him a speedy recovery and a quick return to the Battalion. In the meantime we have been fortunate in having C.S.M. Barrow after his tour with the T.A.

The Company had four days on Dartmoor at the end of September. A great deal of ground was covered and the weather was fine and dry for most of the time. It was good to be away from Tidworth for a while.

All the talk and thought now is of our move to Malta. As the sky closes in we hope before long to move out of Tidworth at last and see some sun again.

Support Platoon

Many changes have taken place in Support Platoon during the past six months, with a result that new men had to be trained right from the beginning. Lt. Spence now commands the Platoon and Sgt. Dudman keeps the anti-tank flag flying when he is with us. He is now getting fit with the Duke of Edinburgh's Trophy team. All the gun numbers are new with the exception of Pte. Mallows, who got married in August; best of luck to you both. Cpl. Ablett will be leaving us in November to serve his last six months in U.K. His lasting memory of the anti-tanks may well be the Mobat which Pte. Dando was towing upside down on Dartmoor. Fortunately all was well and we heard the familiar phrase "Drive on" once more—unfortunately right over L/Cpl. Watton's hand!

The Mortars have at last been given a Serjeant—Sgt. Simpson, who returned from the T.A. to scream all about "that there drainpipe". He is being prepared for a Netheravon Course by Cpl. Cross, who completed his course in August—just too late to join us at Bourley. Our latest recruit to the Platoon is Pte. Comley, who is now highly trained in water duties—whatever that may mean! If memories count for anything, our week on Dartmoor last month was far and away the best weeks' training of the year. As we hand in our guns and mortars we look forward to training in the sunny island of Malta, about which we have heard so much.

7 Platoon

Whilst at Bourley Ptes. Haines, Chard, Jones 17 and King found their vocations in swinging a heavy wooden mallet with great gusto, if at first with not a great deal of skill. By the end of three weeks' hard work the camp was complete. When it came to marking out the tent areas Ptes. Beckey, Day and Davis seemed to master the principles after an initial trial on the Company Lines area. Never have more strings and tapes been interlocked! Pte. Beckey is now an expert at knitting!

The problem of matching the tents to the areas fell upon several, now almost grey-headed parties who were led by Sgts. Dudman and Thornton, Cpls. Smart, Warden and Treuge. (We must congratulate Cpl. Treuge on his recent promotion to Serjeant.)

During the recent spell on Dartmoor most of the Platoon found the beauties of the moor more than they could resist and dashed off—all over the place—in small well directed parties. The great problem came in finding out where they had all gone! Had it not been for Ptes. Scott, Carr and party breaking the 8-mile track record, the camping ground might never have been found. As it was Pte. Newman had to squeeze his 3-ton vehicle through lanes which looked considerably narrower than his truck.

There was some contention about the camping site, as Ptes. Ball, Gassom and Edmonds were most adamant about this. They tried to persuade us to move two miles south to their site.

After being warned of the dangers of trying to swim in the bogs of Dartmoor and the immediate action to be taken on the disappearance of any of the Platoon, Ptes. Dean and Scott promptly dived into the nearest bog to the great amusement of their comrades. The victims were lucky in being able to struggle free with only wet clothes as a handicap. All in all a jolly time was had by the Platoon. We soldier on and look forward to Malta.

"D" COMPANY

Company Commanders may come and go, Company Serjeant Majors may come and go, but "D" Company goes on even when disbanded.

Since the beginning of this year we have seen numerous changes in the Training Company. Capt. J. W. Loe left us to take over "A" Company and Capt. J. B. Hyslop, who had rejoined us from that sunny island of Jamaica, took command. Rumours were thick and fast that the whole of the West India Regiment had come to join him!

C.S.M. ("Snudge") Young has left to reorganise the 4th Bn. The Wiltshire Regiment (T.A.), and with him went "D" Company—or so it seems. C.Sjt. Cross, that hardened bachelor, took over the "Q" from C.S.M. McLaren and is in the advance advance-party taking over quarters for the marrieds in Malta!

The regulars amongst "D" Company—Pte. Wagstaff! our efficient Company Clerk (how was it he managed to go on leave when the C.S.M. left the Company?); Pte. Perkins (two of everything), Storeman, and Pte. Poynter (three-quarters of everything), W.T. Storeman; Roussel, that hardened Cyprus veteran and Arms Storeman—have all staked their claims in various E.R.E. departments (within the Battalion)!

Intakes come fast and furiously these days and are known to the permanent staff as "outputs". Lt. Curtis, our overworked Training Officer from the Royal Hampshire Regiment, maintains that he has lost all count of time; he seems to regain consciousness at week-ends.

Sjts. Mills, Beek, Cockerill and, recently, Sjt. Bray have all turned a willing and enthusiastic hand in the training of Mons. Marne and Ypres Platoons. The training now includes a river crossing using improvised hay rafts. This has proved most popular with all the instructors and a graph is now kept showing the number of "ducks" per intake.

Cpls. Gaseoigne, Bunsell and Pavey, our "regular" squad instructors, have continued to give good instruction and help to the recruits undergoing continuation training.

It is hoped that Cpl. ("Bunter") Gaseoigne will continue to go on cross country runs when with "B" Company. However, running is not confined to the trainees and a marathon between the Training Officer and the Company Commander can occasionally be seen by the observant!

Finally, the Company Commander would like to thank all those who have so loyally served him in "D" Company, and for their conscientious effort in maintaining the interest of the recruits undergoing training by their enthusiasm, drive and good example.

HEADQUARTER COMPANY

Company H.Q.

Major Newman left us in June to go to 4/6th Royal Berks, taking with him a new mini-van. We are sure that the Major and his "charger" will both go far.

C.S.M. Ault left in September to go as P.S.I., H.Q. Coy., 4/6th Royal Berks. We were all very sorry to see him go, except, of course, for a few persistent malingerers who always (in vain) hope for more leave or less duties than their share. C.S.M. Briggs moves over to become No. 1 C.S.M. and we welcome that ace documentation king and amateur mountaineer, C.S.M. McLaren, as No. 2 C.S.M. Pte. Tedbury continues as Company Clerk and finds life an uphill struggle to train the new Company Commander to the mysteries of the Tedbury system. Ptes. Campbell, Mills and Whitlock, who have been excellent storemen, leave us shortly and are being replaced by Ptes. Poynter and Perkins from "D" Company and Pte. Snow, who has been the G.O.C.'s groom. Pte. Mathews joins us from the Intelligence Section as second Company Clerk.

The Company has had a large number of new soldiers who have finished their continuation training and is now, with one or two exceptions, well up to strength with regular soldiers for our tour of duty in Malta.

The task of providing the command and administrative support for the rifle companies in the strategic reserve role has been at times difficult and with many disappointments, but we feel we have done our share to give the Battalion its high reputation. We now look forward to the change of surroundings and Mediterranean climate with enthusiasm. We modestly anticipate the performance of more wonders in Malta and North Africa next year.

Orderly Room

Since the last issue of the Journal, rumour has proved to be true and it is now an established fact that we will be on our way to Malta at the end of this year.

The O.R.Q.M.S., being the good Chief Clerk that he is, decided that before we departed these shores we had to have as many course-trained clerks as he could fit into the limited time available. Consequently we have seen Cpl. Robertson, Cpl. Evans and Pte. Donne disappear, at various dates, in the direction of Warminster. We must congratulate Cpls. Robertson and Evans on the excellent results gained on their courses. Congratulations are in order for Cpl. Robertson, Cpl. Evans and L/Cpl. Berrett on gaining the ultimate of military clerking, the B.I. Trade Test.

In between courses and the preparation for the move to Malta the Battalion made a short journey to Bourley C.C.F. Camp to look after 2,000 Cadets at their annual camp. This entailed additional administration, which very nearly broke down when the Orderly Room tent collapsed in a storm. Heath fires did nothing to help either. All these events the O.R.Q.M.S. and Sjt. Brett countered with innumerable cups of tea; could it have been laced with something a bit stronger? We welcome the O.R.Q.M.S. to the merry band of combatant type clerks. Well done, sir: a great comeback.

Away from home ties it was noticed that members of the staff spread their wings. L/Cpl. Marrack frequently decided that a five-day cricket match could be stretched to ten days. Cpl. Robertson spent most of his time in and out of Chinese restaurants. L/Cpl. Berrett made frequent dates with a little W.R.A.C. (T.A.) Private. The Chief Clerk bought himself a set of starting blocks to get a flying start to Tidworth at 4.30 every other week-end. Sjt. Brett, for the purposes of Bourley Camp, was attached as an adviser to M.T.; whether it was for work or the quickest route to Tidworth we never found out. Pte. Donne put in overtime with a "French line". With the move to Malta in view a ball and chain has been ordered for all members of the Orderly Room staff to curb their spare-time hobbies!

We would like to congratulate Pte. Camm on the birth of a son; and W.O. II Carpenter on being awarded his L.S.C.G. Medal (well deserved).

Finally, as this goes to press we are constantly reminded by Pte. Foot that his time in the Army is running short. Therefore we would like to take this opportunity of thanking him for the considerable amount of work and help he has given us in the past, and his jovial presence will be missed by all. Well done, and good luck in civil life.

Intelligence Section

The well-known cry of "Journal Notes—or else" has yet again sung out from H.Q. Company Office. With the parting shot of "and no farewell to old faces or water under bridges" we withdrew to "chez intelligence" to consider our notes—without those overworked journal phrases. All other work in the Section must stop, even on our latest project, a 6-inch to the mile model of Malta.

Cpl. Franklin, our artist, draughtsman and handyman-in-chief, must take the biggest bow for this project. He has worked steadily on throughout many weeks undaunted by questions of "But what are you going to do with it?" from the uninitiated and suggestions of what he can do with it from our uncouth neighbours—yes, the Signal Platoon, as you have already guessed. Cpl. Franklin has been ably assisted by our latest members, Ptes. Schäfer and Welham.

Shortly after joining the Section, Schäfer and Welham were, somewhat reluctantly, accepted on an air photo reading course which was designed for officers and N.C.Os. We are pleased to announce that Pte. Welham surprised the directing staff by passing out top in the final examination.

Cpl. Franklin has, for the third year running, been selected for the Duke of Edinburgh's Trophy team and we wish him luck in his quest for those elusive trophy medals. Our congratulations to Sjt. Leadbetter on the birth of his son Ian, and also to Cpl. Franklin on his promotion.

Finally, we should like to dispel all the unsavoury rumours concerning Cpl. Franklin's and Pte. Schäfer's conquests during their touring holiday in Ireland. No one, even in the "bird brain" section, could have been that lucky!

The Signal Platoon

Early this year we said farewell to Capt. J. A. H. Macmillan, who left us to instruct the more select at the Signal Wing of the School of Infantry, Hythe. We welcome to our fold Lt. M. A. Draper and congratulate him on his promotion to Captain.

Sjt. ("Tieh") Dunscombe, who has finally taken the plunge into matrimonial circles, has left us for duties with the T.A.; his position is now filled by Sjt. Young, who has joined us from the Signals Wing, Hythe.

The result of our last cadre was very satisfactory: 99 per cent passed the classification and these were Ptes. Martin, Rickards, Aldridge, Cole, Hardingham, Paterson, Plunkett, Long, Jones, Hook and Drewett.

Congratulations go to L/Cpls. Bilby and Millard on their promotion to Corporal, and to Ptes. Burke, Byng, Chaffey, Haynes and Hayden on their promotion to L/Corporal.

We would like to congratulate the following on additions to their families: L/Cpl. Haynes, Ptes. Aldridge, Scott and Turner, with a 100 per cent turnout of girls.

Wedding bells have rung for Ptes. Webb and Plunkett and soon will be ringing again for Cpl. Freelove, and finally it has been seen on two walls that Pte. Pretlove is getting engaged.

Reconnaissance Platoon

Time has passed quickly since our last report. The first event of consequence was the period of the Cadet Camp at Bourley. As far as the actual camp was concerned, our only commitment was to pitch 77 tents. By virtue of possessing the machine gun directors we can safely claim to have had the straightest rows in the whole camp!

Before the arrival of the Cadet contingents there was ample opportunity to carry out some useful training and to visit some of the local places of interest. A machine gun shoot at Hangmoor was very beneficial and the results obtained were most pleasing. It was the first open range shoot we have conducted but all targets were, surprisingly, hit. In view of the somewhat spasmodic training with the guns, and that they are really of secondary importance to our proper role, much credit is due to Sjt. Walker who supervised the training.

On a less serious note, we were well positioned at Bourley for trips to the National Army Museum, the Royal Tournament, the Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst, and Simonds' Brewery. These are all highly recommended and we would rather not state our preferences here.

Ptes. Chambers and Smith were posted to the Platoon at Bourley, straight from the Junior Leaders Battalion at Oswestry. They were able to put the Platoon Commander wise to a few of the dodges there, all in preparation for his posting in November.

On our return to Tidworth from Bourley we were again plunged into recruiting displays, this time at Reading. Our piece is known as an "alarm race", although it is difficult to assess who is alarmed the most by it. It will probably be the Colour Serjeant when we try to hand in our combat suits after scrambling over barbed wire fifty times this summer, in the quest of recruits.

Block leave was very welcome as usual. Leave ended abruptly with Exercise "Fleet Foot", where we acted as "Z" cars to small parties from "B" Company who were practising escape and evasion across Dartmoor. It was good fun and we naturally cheated in order to keep them on the run. Our best capture was in Widecombe (of Uncle Tom Cobbleigh fame), where one party of "hard-pressed and desperate escapers" were found picnicing with holidaymakers on the village green.

We ate 24-hr. individual rations on the exercise. There was plenty of scope for the imaginative cook, but while the detachments lived in style, the food in Platoon headquarters left something to be desired. O'Sullivan produced numerous dreadful meals and was finally sacked. Watkins, his replacement, also showed no culinary ability whatsoever, so the Platoon Commander lived on tinned cheese only for the last three days of the exercise. We anticipate a field cooking cadre for some of our members in the near future.

We are about to "alarm" Swindon with our race as part of the last Tattoo before the Battalion goes abroad. This will give our Swindonians (Hill, Gadd and Wise) a chance to show their talents to an eager audience.

We congratulate Cpl. Hyde on his promotion to Serjeant; he has left us for "A" Company. L/Cpl. Richards got married and became of age within the space of two months. That is not a joke, by the way, and we congratulate him on both.

Our next instalment will come from Malta.

The Assault Pioneer Platoon

Since the last edition the Assault Pioneer Platoon has undergone considerable changes.

The last of the National Servicemen are leaving and their craftsmanship will be missed by the Battalion as a whole. In the years of National Service the tradesmen pioneers have contributed a great deal to the Battalion and our thanks are due to all of them.

However, their places are rapidly being taken by new young Regular soldiers and we welcome Ptes. White, Jones, Sprigg, Parker and Bond to the Platoon.

Congratulations to Sjt. Puffet on obtaining an "A" grading at the School of Military Engineering at Chatham and on his taking command of the Platoon. Also to Pte. Mulvaney on his promotion to L/Corporal, and to Pte. Price on the birth of his daughter.

A special note must be added with regard to that old stalwart of the Platoon, Cpl. Tipple. His platoon and pioneering knowledge have been enormous; our warmest congratulations go to him on his promotion to Serjeant and transfer to "B" Company. He, too, will be sorely missed in the Platoon.

Corps of Drums

On 6th December the Battalion will sail for the sunny island of Malta G.C., and after three years in Tidworth this will certainly make a very welcome change.

During the last three or four months the Corps of Drums, with the Regimental Band, have covered all the main towns in Berkshire and Wiltshire recruiting for the Battalion. The Corps of Drums have also for the first time branched out alone for paid engagements, which have been very successful. One in particular that the Corps of Drums enjoyed was a return to Newport, I.O.W., to take part in the Newport Carnival. Our last engagement before sailing for Malta will be the Remembrance Sunday Parade at Salisbury on 11th November.

The Commanding Officer's Silver Bugle Competition will shortly be upon us, and the competition among the buglers for this honour is extremely keen. No one can forecast the eventual winner but we shall let readers know the result in the next Regimental Journal.

Drummer Edwards, who served in the Corps of Drums for five years, has now returned to the rigours of civilian life and, as if that wasn't enough, also decided to get married. Courage, indeed!

M.T. Platoon

From a quick glance at the Platoon nominal roll it is apparent that only the elite join this happy band of hard-working, fast-driving comedians known as the M.T. Platoon. This is one reason, at any rate, given for the temporary short-fall of drivers.

Since our last notes went to press we have experienced big changes within the Platoon. Capt. R. G. Tomkins has left us for the 4th Bn. The Wiltshire Regiment (T.A.), Devizes, and we wish him all the best in his civilian-type job. Before leaving he was presented with an engraved shooting stick by the youngest member of the Platoon, Pte. Watkins.

There was great speculation by all on the arrival of our new M.T.O., Lt. J. Price, who has recently joined us from the 4/6th Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment (T.A.), Reading. However, I am happy to say that we have all settled down now and he is, at the moment, attending his M.T.O.'s course at Bordon.

We were very sorry to lose Pte. "Inky" Lister, whose trade mark can be seen in the polished appearance of most of the Battalion vehicles. He considered that what a clout from his hammer could not do, nothing else could! His work constantly kept the figures of the Claims Commission down to the minimum and we wish to thank him for every swipe of his hammer. Our only hope is that Pte. "Shorty" Hardingham can do the same after he has successfully negotiated all necessary passing-in tests on civilian cars.

The M.T. Clerk, Pte. Davies, apart from being a shop steward in his early life, has settled down very well. When asked for higher speeds on his new dual-control typewriter, he states that "there is no war on". This attitude has been evident since his appointment as 2 i/c H.Q. Company Football.

The move up to Bourley was uneventful and we were soon settled into the old familiar 160-pounders. The first two weeks were all hustle and bustle, with tents going up all over the place and the M.T. working flat out. It was strange to find that vehicles were shooting off to the petrol point when only in need of two or three gallons. Female petrol point attendants,

who not only kept the tanks filled but boosted M.T. morale in the evenings, was the simple explanation, as the M.T. Sjt. discovered later. The first downpour of rain soon made our grassy park into a ploughed field and all one-way signs had to be changed round at a moment's notice in order to keep the vehicles from disappearing into the swamps.

In closing we would like to congratulate L/Cpl. Johnson on his promotion to Corporal and Pte. Buckland on his promotion to L Corporal.

Administration Platoon

Since the last Journal this department has lost some men and gained others, so that we are still contriving to keep the Battalion supplied with the necessary items: though, with the clothing required after Bourley, things were really "dodgy".

Bourley Cadet Camp meant a lot of work for some of the staff, i.e. Cpl. Tredwell with his "Black Watch Battalion," but at least it gave our rear party a chance to tidy up in preparation for getting swamped with returned items.

In this quarter there have been two major events: the Battalion block leave, which the whole staff voted a godsend in this hectic department; and the Quartermaster's tour of Europe on the way to Malta, which he voted "Cor-r!"

At the present time we are working frantically, contrary to popular belief, in a vain endeavour to straighten out the horrible mess before we leave for Malta. We will therefore close with the warning: "If you smell cooking from this area, ignore it." Please!

The Cooks

We have reorganised ourselves into a Platoon on a regimental cooks' basis. The A.C.C. personnel have faded out with the exception of W.O. H Beatson, Sjt. Morley and Cpl. Maddinson. We have continued to improve our multiple service and a steady stream of visitors have been to see how it is operated. The A.C.C. convention tried to pull us to pieces but ended with nothing but praise. It has been boasted that we put on thirty-one different choices for lunch daily.

We moved to Bourley C.C.F. Camp in July and only wished that we could have catered for the whole camp, as we certainly could have improved on the contractors' service. The equipment that we cooked on was superior to that at Tidworth. The only complaints came from the civilian labour, who did not see why they should pay for their meals. Their pay parades had to be seen—and heard—to be believed and the Messing Officer has not yet fully recovered.

Now we are back at Tidworth and looking forward to our move to Malta, where we hope to have an uninterrupted stay. Congratulations to L Cpls. Codling and Swift on passing the Junior N.C.Os.' Cook's Course which was run by the A.C.C. We gather that they taught the A.C.C. quite a bit too. Congratulations also to L/Cpls. Choules and Stallard on their promotion.

Only one serious complaint has been received and that was from a soldier requiring a late meal who was surprised when there were only twelve choices left to choose from.

REGIMENTAL BAND

With the summer over we can now write a few paragraphs about our activities during those sunny, windy, dull and rainy months. We have given concerts at Marlborough College, Plymouth, Brighton, Reading, Bath and Bristol, and marching displays at Andover, Petersfield, Downton, Salisbury and Wishford. In addition we participated to the full in the Battalion's K.A.P.E. programme and also took part in the Taunton Army Week and the Bath Tattoo. The Bath Tattoo was packed to capacity at each performance and provided £4,000 for Service charities. The Dance Band Section was also warmly received at sponsored dances in Newbury and Swindon.

We have enjoyed playing in the many towns and villages of the West Country during the last three years. When we are in Malta we will remember the happy occasions and the kindness, enthusiasm and congratulations which the inhabitants have always extended to us.

Major Roden has succeeded Major Freer-Smith as Band President and we welcome him into his new armoury of trumpet, cornet and drums. He is very keen to see us smartly turned out, but we hope that he is not getting "Blues in the Night".

We have said farewell to L/Cpl. Barlow, who has transferred to the Band of the Scots Guards, and we extend good wishes and good luck both to him and his wife. Before we leave for Malta we also lose our last National Serviceman, Bdsm. Rowe. All members of the Band wish him the best of luck in civilian life.

Bdsm. Callandine, Bawden and Yates have been selected to go on a year's course at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, and we wish them the best of luck in their studies. Cpl. Bill Spry, who has been at Kneller Hall for the last six months, has passed his probationary period as a student bandmaster; we wish him success in the rest of his further studies to become a bandmaster.

To replace these temporary deficiencies we welcome Bdsm. Blake and Wiggins from Wessex Brigade.

Congratulations are extended to Bdsm. Silsby on his marriage; Sjt. Meynell, L/Cpl. Brewerton and Bdsm. Marles on the births of their daughters; and Sjt. Mure on his promotion.

SERGEANTS' MESS

"Now is the winter of our Tidworth gloom Made glorious summer by this sun of York;
And all the clouds that lour'd upon our house In the deep bosom of the ocean buried."
—*Richard III, Act, 1, Scene 1*

This, to paraphrase the Bard, summed up the thoughts of those who knew him of old when we learnt that W.O. II Joe Clough was returning to the Battalion to carry out the duties of R.S.M. until the arrival of W.O. I D. C. Mortimer. This was consequent on the retirement of W.O. I L. R. Hodges which was reported in the last issue of the Regimental Journal.

Mr. Hodges was dined out on 17th April. After dinner a presentation, on behalf of the Sergeants' Mess, was made by R.Q.M.S. T. Pay. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges were given a canteen of cutlery with the best wishes of the members. Before leaving the dining room the members of the Regimental Band, which had played during dinner, asked Mr. Hodges to take up the baton, and with obvious pleasure he conducted them in a very spirited rendering of "The Dashing White Serjeant". The Commanding Officer and senior officers of the Battalion were our guests to drinks after dinner.

In May, Colour Serjeant Bourton died suddenly. He was a former Wiltshire man, his service beginning in 1947. He was a very accomplished games player and kept goal for the Battalion soccer team for many years, as well as being a forceful bat in the Mess cricket team. He was also of great assistance to the Wives' Club. C/Sjt. Bourton was buried in the Tidworth Military Cemetery. Many representatives from the other units in the Garrison came to pay their last respects.

July and part of August saw us under canvas in Bourley C.C.F. Camp. By all standards it was a most successful camp. The early days of preparing the camp were fraught with danger in the shape of the very frequent inspections. On meeting up with the inspecting party one felt duty bound to raise the lid of the nearest grease trap.

The layout of the tent lines for 2,000 Cadets and the Battalion as sponsor unit, the speed and precision with which the tents were pitched reflects credit on the planners and particularly on our soldiers, who worked extremely well during the whole period of the camp and fully deserved the gratitude and praise which was expressed at all levels by C.C.F. Units and visitors to the camp.

We are all looking forward to our move to Malta, if only for the 340 days of uninterrupted sunshine the travel agents write about. Tidworth has been in many respects a dull station and three years is much too long for a unit to stay there. We are perhaps fortunate in that we are a Southern County Regiment and the majority of men are close to their homes.

Being in the Strategic Reserve has had its headaches and disappointments, such as being warned to prepare to move to some outpost of the Empire and then stood down, but it has all been valuable training and we feel sure that having listed, packed and weighed our boxes and prepared flight manifests so many times during the last three years, there can be few major units who could better us at it. We hope that our field training in North Africa from Malta will provide us with ample scope to exploit the "know-how" gathered during our time spent "Aldershotting" it on Salisbury Plain.

ATHLETICS

3rd Division Inter-Unit Championships	...	...	First
Southern Command Inter-Unit Championships	...	...	Second
Army Inter-Unit Championships	...	...	Third

Above are the bare bones of the Battalion's athletic achievements during 1962.

The Inter-Company Meeting at the end of April showed that considerable talent existed within the Battalion. This was soon harnessed and put into training. The main difficulty was in finding opponents, since most other Units had not formed their teams and civilian clubs are not exactly numerous in the Tidworth area.

The team continued the trend of the two previous seasons by being much stronger on the track than in field events. In the 3rd Division competition the team won all the track events and also two of the field. At the Southern Command stage the Battalion won four races and two field events.



Charles Green, Garrison Photographer, Tidworth

1st Battalion Athletics Team, 1962

The Army Finals at Aldershot were between eight teams and competition was razor keen. The Battalion won two very close races, the 4 × 440 yards and the 4 × 880 yards, in each case just beating a strong team from 1 Trg. Regt. R.E. In the remainder of the races our positions were:—4 × 110 yards, 5th; 4 × 220 yards, 4th; one mile team race, 3rd; three miles team race, 4th; 4 × 120 yards hurdles, 3rd.

Our field events men did their best but in some cases were outclassed, and we gained few points from their efforts.

The final Unit placings were:—

1st	...	1st Bn. Cheshire Regiment
2nd	...	1 Training Regiment, R.E.
3rd	...	1st Bn. Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment
4th	...	1st Bn. Green Howards
5th	...	2nd Bn. Grenadier Guards
6th	...	4/7th Dragoon Guards
7th	...	Guards Depot
8th	...	9th Bn. R.A.O.C.

No team from either of the amalgamated Regiments had reached the Army Finals since before the war and all members of the team are to be congratulated on their fine achievement. Two runners, however, deserve special mention: S.I. Freeman and L/Cpl. Wray-Bliss were selected to run for the Army, and Sjt. Freeman crowned a year's efforts by winning the Inter-Services three miles.

4/6th Battalion

The Royal Berkshire Regiment

(Princess Charlotte of Wales's) (T.A.)

EDITORIAL

Since our last notes the activities of the Battalion have remained as varied as ever. A very full training year is coming to a close with, we hope, many satisfied customers.

In March we carried out an extremely interesting and full exercise on the Plain called "Spring Fever". Together with 881 Amphibious Observation Battery R.A. (T.A.) and 226 Field Squadron R.E. (T.A.) the Battalion set out to capture the Fakir of Imber who with his insurgents, for purposes of the exercise, was deemed to have infiltrated a friendly Middle East State. After various ambushes, a night march and a Company attack he and his followers were duly dealt with.

During Whitsun our keener foot-sloggers took part in the 43 Wessex Division Ten Tors expedition and, whilst everyone seemed to enjoy it, it could not however be considered one of our greater successes. We plan on doing better next time.

Our Annual Camp at Penhale was, by general acclaim, one of the most successful in recent years. By chance it coincided with the National Summer and, with the experience previously gained whilst there last year, we were able to make full use of the "amenities" of the area—not to mention the training ground!

Our Corps of Drums and Band especially benefited from the R.S.M.'s personal instruction and practice in foot drill and ceremonial and a very high standard was reached by all.

The Band were particularly in demand and had the pleasure of Beating Retreat in the presence of the Mayor of Newquay and a vast concourse of holidaymakers. In addition they participated at the opening of the Holywell Bay Lifesaving Hutment. Our attendance at camp was 94.6 per cent—highest in the Division.

Immediately following camp our Bisley team of Capt. C. A. Shaw-Stewart, Capt. H. U. Bailey, Sjt. Simmonds and Cpl. Byles were off to do their best. Their best was very good indeed and the Battalion came away with the Hamilton Leigh Cup. Capt. Shaw-Stewart personally took the Officers Cup (329) and the Officers Silver Jewel for best score in final championship stage. It was particularly rewarding to get the Hamilton Leigh Cup back, since we won it in 1960. We hope now to retain it for some time!

Our Regimental Rifle Meeting was held in mid-August, on Ash No. 2 Range, in fine weather as usual. There was a very good attendance throughout, with no less than ten visiting teams, one of which seemed to think they would take the falling plate! On the Saturday we were very pleased to see our Honorary Colonel, Brigadier D. W. B. T. Hogg, C.B.E., who, we hope, enjoyed his visit. The prizes were presented by Brigadier S. H. Kent, O.B.E., Brigade Commander, 128 Infantry Brigade.

September proved very hectic, starting with our anti-tank gunners going with Capt. Heavens to Lulworth Cove for a week-end practice firing.

We followed that with the nation-wide Exercise "Fallex", in which we practised our mobilisation drills and administration. Having moved around a bit we returned from whence we came, wiser men we hope.

Then to Exercise "Wessex Wade". This was a 4 5th Bn. Royal Hampshire Regiment (T.A.) exercise to which we were invited to send 80 men. Representatives came from all Companies and together formed a composite Company under the command of Major W. T. M. Williams, T.D. The exercise involved a move in transport to H.M.S. *Vernon*, thence by minesweeper frigate H.M.S. *Bossington* and *Carron* to Jersey. Here the Company formed the first wave in the assault and, landing on the beach from D.U.K.Ws., stormed the St. Aubyns Fort. After spending the remainder of the day marching and attacking various strongpoints on the island, the exercise was completed and the remainder of the period was put over to amusement and pleasure. Recrossing by the same ships on the Sunday a very tired but happy group of Royal Berkshiremen returned to the bosom of their families.

Whilst the main element of those on duty over the week-end 22nd 23rd September were beating it up in Jersey, it must not be forgotten that a small select body of men were giving their all on Exercise "Chard" at a very secret location: not a very exciting duty but one well done under trying circumstances.



4 6th Royal Berkshire Regiment (T.A.)

Group taken at the Dinner on Friday, 12th October, 1962

The Mayors of Newbury and Wokingham are on the right of the Honorary Colonel
The Mayors of Reading and Wallingford on the left on the Commanding Officer

(referred to on opposite page)

October commenced on ceremonial duties. On 7th October 110 men of the Battalion, with drums beating, bayonets fixed and Colours flying, marched past the Mayor of Newbury, who took the salute. Later the Mayor and his Council visited the Drill Hall.

At the week-end 13th/14th October we marched through Wallingford, Reading and Wokingham. It is hoped that as a result of our efforts we shall be remembered by the youngsters of Berkshire, who can be sure of a hearty welcome, good fellowship and tough and worthwhile service with us.

There is mention elsewhere of our more recent arrivals and departures, but we must make special mention of the departure of R.S.M. Price and the arrival of R.S.M. Bate-Jones. We wish Mr. Price all the very best for the future and thank him for his hard work and help which we were privileged to have. To Mr. Bate-Jones we extend our welcome and hope that he will enjoy his stay with us.

Among our P.S.Is. we have said goodbye to C.S.M. Pearson after 23 years' service. Having hung up his boots G.S., we hope to see something of him as a civilian as he is joining the "Q" stores of Lebus, the furniture people at Woodley, near Reading. To C.S.M. Ault, his relief, and Sjt. Middlecote, soon to join us, we wish the best of luck and a happy tour.

Sjt. Meade will be returning to the Duke of Edinburgh's in time for Malta and we send him our thanks and best wishes for the future.

Major D. A. M. Emms, T.D., has left us for civilian life and is now in Essex. His hard work is much appreciated in the Battalion and we wish him every success for the future. To Major P. D. Newman, his relief, we extend a warm welcome.

OFFICERS' MESS

We are indeed lucky to have our old Mess in working order once again, and have to thank Major and Mrs. Emms for their artistic and colourful choice of decorations. Now that Sjt. Jones is in office all the time we can offer meals at most times and have taken full opportunity to use his invaluable services. In early May we dined out Major Lance, and a month later we held a most successful Wine and Cheese Party for approximately 100 guests. The Band and Drums Beat Retreat beforehand, much to the delight of many of our guests who had not seen Retreat for many years.

We now look forward to a heavy programme before Christmas: a Dinner for the Mayors of Berkshire, another Wine and Cheese Party, and our Annual Battalion Dinner.

WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERJEANTS' MESS

It is fitting to open these notes by congratulating the following new members on being recipients of the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate, presented at the parade on 28th April last at Brock Barracks:—W.O. I J. Taylor, W.O. II H. G. Beckley, C/Sjts. G. S. Hayward and J. Sutcliffe, Sjt. G. W. Bishop.

Also to the following, who received their Territorial Efficiency Medals:—C/Sjts. H. Sessions and G. S. Hayward, Sjts. F. Cook, L. Beckley, A. Prior and Pittick.

Clasps were awarded to:—W.O. I J. Taylor, W.O. II H. Beckley, Sjt. A. Roberts.

Whilst on the subject of congratulations, we welcome Sjts. Hall, Owen, Howe and Beckman on joining the Mess following their recent promotions, and also C/Sjt. Raymond on his step up the ladder. Mention is also made of Sjt. F. Cook, who recently obtained a very good report on completion of a drill course at the Guards Depot at Gravesend.

During the past few months a very full training programme has kept us all busy and Annual Camp was upon us before we knew where we were. For some members, attendance at Penhale Camp proved to be their third visit since the T.A. was re-formed, and its delightful situation was enhanced by the excellent weather which did indeed get us 'browned-off'!

A most popular (?) innovation this year was the introduction of early morning drill parades for Officers, W.Os. and Sjts. Such was the rush to join the proceedings that even the "non-combatants" were begging to be allowed to execute arms drill. Reports were also received from spectators witnessing what appeared to be a fantastic version of Crown and Anchor. This is called "hunting the crown" and the rules seem to be known only to the most senior members, who were seen moving around on hands and knees muttering incoherently, and then confusing the whole issue by announcing that the crown was never lost at all but was in so-and-so's bunk!

Sportsmen were catered for during the fortnight and apart from the much enjoyed recreational afternoon, a cricket match was arranged between the Officers and Serjeants. Unfortunately we lost by a small margin and a smashed window; but we are informed on good authority that the Serjeants' Mess was the "mostest".

One of the highlights of the camp was the dinner, at which the guests were the C.O., 2IC., Q.M., Adj., Major Newman, Coy. Comds., Camp Comdt. and his staff, and our thanks must be recorded to the Messing Committee, the cooks and everyone concerned for the very fine meal which was produced. Afterwards, all the officers were entertained in the Mess, where various games were introduced which proved very interesting. Lobby Ludd, of course, was amongst us although at that time his identity was not known, which was probably just as well!

On the middle Sunday we were once again most generously invited to the Officers' Mess for drinks, during which we witnessed episode 5 of Drill Sgt. Paxton's parades. This annual event is not to be missed and, apart from acquiring some useful assorted phrases, we understand from an ex-Guards Sergeant now in the Mess that this was the genuine article!

Our camp social life ended with a games evening, where the remainder of the bar stocks were disposed of, to the accompaniment of prize distribution from the giant draw.

Mess members' shooting ability was again apparent at the Autumn Regimental Rifle Meeting held on Saturday and Sunday, 18th 19th August, this year on Ash Ranges. Our congratulations go to Sgt. R. Rockall on winning the Battalion Championship and the W.Os. and Sjs. Match, in which Sgt. J. Hall took second place with a very good shoot. C.S.M. G. Stanley very expertly (!) weighed in with top score in the Permanent Staff Match, although we understand this was entirely due to his powers of concentration! On what, or whom, we have yet to learn.

We were again very lucky with the weather and were pleased to see and entertain members' wives, families and friends on the Sunday, an outing which we feel sure they enjoy as much as we ourselves do.

By the time these notes appear in print we will have passed our next social event, which will take the form of a dance and party. It is here that we shall, unfortunately, be bidding our official farewell to C.S.M. Johnnie Pearson, who has been P.S.I. to H.Q. Company for the past three years. We feel sure that he will look us up, however, when the opportunity arises, and we look forward to welcoming him and Mrs. Pearson many times in the future.

In the next month or so it is hoped to set a new standard in sartorial elegance by obtaining Mess dress, when we shall expect to get a mention in "Tailor and Cutter" every time it is worn. This will, perhaps, provide an excuse for arranging more social events in the entertainments calendar.

To end with there are two things which we would like information on, and readers are invited to write to the P.M.C., marking their envelope "Public Enquiry" and enclosing a postal order to the value of 21/- . Informants should also head the letter "Without Prejudice" as an additional safeguard. A reward of £1 1s. 0d. will be paid: -

- (a) What *really* caused the Drum Major to drop the mace on parade?
- (b) Which Coy. Comd. referred to the Colours as "flags" when speaking to the R.S.M.?

HEADQUARTER COMPANY

The period April-September, 1962, has probably been one of the most active and busy periods we have had for many a long day and it would take more than our allotted space here to recall all the details of what we have been doing. So, briefly, we spent the first part of the period consolidating ourselves in our new quarters and drill hall which we took over last year. Much to the joy of the M.T.O. and M.T. Platoon, our garages have been completed and it is now true to say that, with the extra facilities that these now afford us, our unit vehicles in appearance and maintenance are second to none, and great credit to all those who have worked so hard to produce the very high standard achieved. Our week-end training at this time was given over to activities on the Churn Range combined with week-end Company exercises, and the standard of shooting in the Company has improved beyond measure; again great credit goes to our new recruits, who fired their annual classification under appalling conditions but achieved such excellent results. And, talking of new recruits, great achievements have been attained here by the Company and we extend a very hearty welcome to all those who have

joined the Company during this period. With the appearance of Sjt. Beckman (late Brigade of Guards), Brock Barracks sounds more like Wellington Barracks on Tuesdays and Thursdays these days!

From the Company's point of view, camp this year was one of the best we have ever had and everybody thorough enjoyed themselves, and we are only too sorry that we can't go back to Cornwall next year. The success of camp, we thought, was well summed up by the comment: "Good grub and good training", and there is no doubt it was. Through excellent teamwork we won the Sports Cup yet again and had the drill competition taken place, C.S.M. Wyatt had no doubt as to who would have won it—and well done that man who called him "Sid" in camp! On our return from camp, much thought was given to our recruiting campaign, which provided such excellent results with everybody pulling their weight and bringing in recruits as fast as they could come, and indeed they are still rolling in. We are all delighted with the splendid results of Capt. Shaw-Stewart and his merry men at Bisley. Our congratulations also to Sjt. Bishop on receiving his Certificate for Meritorious Service, which was presented to him by the Lord Lieutenant. We are pleased to record that the Company also distinguished itself in the Searchlight Tattoo which was held in Prospect Park, Reading, and certainly the honours here went to the Signals Platoon for maintaining such excellent communications under fearful conditions. It has also been a splendid year for the Dragon Club. Our activities have increased by leaps and bounds and our social activities are now a byword in Reading, the great highlight being the five Smith's coaches which took us on our annual outing to Hayling Island. Here, congratulations must go to the members of the Club Committee and their helpers for the incredibly hard work they have put in to make the Dragon Club such a success; and our thanks to Mrs. Jones for all that she has done as well.

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Dennis and L/Cpl. Prout on their promotions to Corporal, and also to Ptes. Wyatt, Powell and Sharp to L/Corporal.

In conclusion we send best wishes and our thanks to all those who have had to leave the Company during this period and especially to C.S.M. Pearson, who is leaving us and the Army. He has been a tower of strength to the Company and will be sadly missed, both as a personality, a sportsman and a soldier. To him and Mrs. Pearson we wish many happy days in the future. We are pleased to know they are staying in Reading and we look forward to their presence at the Dragon Club in the future.

"A" COMPANY

"Arms and the Man" has been the Company keynote for the past six months, and what an improvement this has proved to be in the handling of weapons by the Company. One sees the serene look of satisfaction on the P.S.I.'s once stern countenance as he smartly enters the "squad area" to the sounds of bolt manipulation of rifles.

Annual Camp again proved to be a complete success and the Company members once again on very familiar ground entered into the training with a zest that gives them credit. This, topped by the "get-together" during the first week for a social evening, proved to clinch the camp on the whole. A special welcome to Lt. Lee, who has joined the Company in recent months; we feel we have a "winner" who, besides the regular "half o' bitter and plate of cockles", really gets down to the job on hand.

Exercises have again shown the splendid results of our weeding out in the earlier parts of this training year. Attendances on these exercises have topped all previous records, and the local employers must be thinking in terms of loss and profit insurance for the future.

The Channel Islands proved the best of the exercises of the year. Travelling at the expense of the Royal Navy and with a free issue of sea-sickness pills so thoughtfully provided by the P.S.I.'s wife to Company reps., set them on the seas for a grand long week-end exercise. Aftermath: it is known that the local chiropodist has increased his turnover for the month ending September!

So finally to the end of another training year, and what a fitting conclusion—a grand march through Newbury on Sunday, 7th October, by the Battalion with our Colours so proudly displayed and the Regimental Band excelling themselves as they grow older (not in age we must add, but in enthusiasm for the occasion).

The Company are proud of the officer who in a dress cap many sizes too large for him diligently followed the white lines through the town to eventually arrive, still carrying the Colours, with head held high and eyes in a fixed downward hypnotic gaze, which was only cured after a half of bitter!

Social efforts have again proved that by keeping the younger element of the Company active brings in recruits, as will be shown by the welcome we extend to Ptes. Brownell, Turner, Maule and Heaven.

"B" COMPANY

Our mass exodus as reported in the previous notes has now halted, but in their place we welcome many new faces, thanks to Operation "Volunteer", into which much effort was put. The Mayor of Abingdon inspected a Guard of Honour prior to seeing the film "Guns of Navarone". Certain members of the Company went into the strangest places looking for recruits, and many brought results.

Annual Camp was again held at Penhale, much to members' delight, although our percentage was not very bright. On the whole it was enjoyed and many lessons were learnt. As the training year draws to a close things have eased, but with the new one around the corner we look forward to more interesting training and more recruits.

Socially things are beginning to swing and a very enjoyable outing to the Royal Tournament was attended by everyone. At the moment we are busy sharpening our arrows for numerous darts matches. The appearance of wives at drill evenings is also a welcome sight, as this all helps socially and militarily.

Our shooting in certain quarters is still quite high and we congratulate Sjts. Rockall, Simmonds and Groom on winning the falling plate in the Royal Hampshire's Rifle Meeting. The same trio represented the Battalion at the Brigade Meeting. Congratulations again to Sjt. Rockall on winning four cups at our own Battalion Rifle Meeting; also to Sjt. Hall on winning the Veterans' Cup, and our P.S.I. for runner-up in the Permanent Staff Cup.

We welcome the following to the Company and hope that their stay will be a worthwhile and happy one: Ptes. Paris, Danks, King, Highsmith, Archibald, Davies, Woodmore, Spicer, Hughes, Knight, Stroud, Chambers, Mace, Smith and Townsend.

Congratulations to the following on their promotion: - Sjts. Hall and Owen, L Cpl. Danks, L Cpl. Chambers, L Cpl. Day and L Cpl. Leach. Our especial congratulations to L Cpl. Palmer, who was married on 14th July, and to L Cpl. Day, who was married on 25th August this year.

"C" COMPANY

Annual Camp was a great success and once again the Company attendance was such that the Benyon Bowl (awarded for the highest percentage attendance) is back on our piano. The bowl was ceremonially trooped during a social evening held to say goodbye to our P.S.I., Sjt. Meade.

The Officers and Serjeants of the Company held a dinner to mark this occasion and we were pleased to welcome Mr. Bate-Jones, C.S.Ms. Stanley and Lane, and our new P.S.I., Sjt. Middlecote.

The Company sent a contingent to our exercise in the Channel Islands and everyone enjoyed an interesting if somewhat strenuous week-end.

We wish Ptes. Trillow, A. D. Beckley, Shaw, Rogerson and Rose, who have joined the Regular Army, every success in their new career. As people say at weddings, their gain is our loss.

We welcome our new recruits and hope that for a little while at least they will not find the Regular Army too alluring a prospect.

Autumn is upon us and we hope that during the winter our activities will result in an even bigger and more efficient Company.

"D" COMPANY

Since we last wrote our numbers have continued to increase and our strength now stands at an all-time high of 58.

We are delighted to have with us 2 Lt. Tony Calton, of the Dorsets, who seems to be getting used to sorting out the sordid condition of our vehicles. Welcome also to Cpl. Byles, Ptes.

R. Richardson, Empson, Ball, Stephens, Lee, Tristram, Hawkins, Garaty, Podmore, Isaacs, Collins, Coxhead and Warburton (our Roger). In addition, family links have brought Richardson, A., Rose, Reader, J., and Grainger, D., to join their brothers.

L/Cpl. Bolton, M., decided that as his younger brother, L/Cpl. Bolton, R., was already in the Company he had to go further to increase our strength and has become a proud father. Our many congratulations to him and Mrs. Bolton.

Also congratulations are due to Cpl. Newdick on being awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal, and to Sgt. Howe, Cpl. Taylor and L/Cpls. Tilley and Bolton on their promotions.

The 3-inch Mortars, trained by Capt. Henry Bailey, Sgt. Vaughan and Sgt. Joel, were chosen to represent the Battalion in the Brigade Competition and we are proud that they won. Much credit to them and especially to L/Cpl. Wood who, due to a last-minute absentee, stepped into the shoes of the M.F.C. and carried out his duties perfectly.

Some 37 of us went to camp at Penhale to renew our acquaintance with Penhale Sands and the night life of Newquay. As is mentioned elsewhere in the Magazine, for the first week we were split up into cadres but in the second week acted as a skeleton company in the main exercise. There was always plenty to do and the sun smiled on us, but Major Spackman, who had recently gained an "A" on a First Aid course, was seen to glance enviously at the expert attention given to odd casualties by the professionals.

Immediately after camp Capt. Bailey and Cpl. Byles joined the Battalion Rifle Team at Bisley and in an exciting contest helped to win the Hamilton Leigh Trophy for the falling plate. Cpl. Byles qualified for the T.A. "50" and with other members of the Company did well with the cash prizes. Soon everyone was involved in rehearsals for the Bracknell and Binfield Carnivals and out of seeming chaos presented demonstrations of an infantry section in the attack supported by 3-inch mortars. With plenty of smoke, thunderflashes, Verey lights and blank to lend realism, the attack was impressive and the crowds enjoyed it, with the exception of one dear lady who was heard to scream at C.S.M. Reader "Fascist!"

However, the demands on our time for the Carnivals interrupted our normal training and we found ourselves at a slight disadvantage at the Battalion Rifle Meeting. Unfortunately the date was moved to coincide with the Binfield Carnival, but on the Sunday, in brilliant sunshine, the Company teams won the Inter-Company, China Cup and falling plate competitions and, but for a mistake, would have swept the board. Individually, Cpl. Byles won the Stephens Baird Shoot and, under his expert guidance, his wife won the Ladies' Shoot. Lt. Long came second in the Officers Cup and just pipped Cpl. Byles for third place in the Championship. Pte. Ball won the Recruits Cup, and Pte. Grainger, D., came third.

At the Royal Hampshire Rifle Meeting, Major Spackman, Capt. Bailey, Lt. Long and Cpl. Byles took part in the Visitors Falling Plate and came second in the Visitors Cup.

Our key and rear parties excelled themselves in Exercise "Kandy" and while some stayed behind to help in Exercise "Chard" the following week-end, 18 of us were fortunate enough to take part in the Royal Hampshire's invasion of Jersey, Exercise "Wessex-Wade II". Unfortunately, due to limited accommodation we had to travel in different ships, but we all had a perfect crossing. The exercise will probably be mentioned elsewhere but no account would be complete without at least a mention of the beautiful girl who, awakened by noise of battle, hastily dressed in black tights and black sweater and greeted the invasion army. It was a happy augury for the week-end! But St. Helier had much to offer to compensate for blisters, and we returned stacked with duty-free cigarettes and happy that we had had an opportunity to do something different.

Socially, we had a great party after camp in the "Castle Inn" at Hurst, memorable as the evening when Roger really let his hair down. With a visit to the Royal Tournament and a Club outing by steamer from Tower Bridge to Southend and return, our Club funds have taken a caning. We propose to put this right in the near future, if we can induce the public to twist in a drill hall more associated with the quadrille.

We are training hard for the Brigade First Aid Competition and in our "spare time" relax in the Club which, newly painted and curtained, is really a monument to C.S.M. Reader and a small band of enthusiastic if unprofessional decorators, headed by Pte. Dance, who in one mad week-end transformed it.

In conclusion, our thanks to Capt. Burton-Brown and C/Sjt. Sutcliffe who, as unpaid but very effective debt collectors, have rounded up the lost sheep and helped to restore our fortunes, as well as carrying out their normal duties. To Lt. Cowan for his shouldering the organisation of more Welsh Walkabouts, to continue the work started by Major Lance. And, finally, to Mr. (ex-C.S.M.) Binder and Mrs. Binder for their diligence in looking after the Club on drill nights and club nights in the week.

4th Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment

(Duke of Edinburgh's) (T.A.)

EDITORIAL

In this number of the Journal we cover, in addition to the usual Company notes, two very successful excursions across the Channel. The first by a party from H.Q. Company, retracing the ground covered by the 4th Battalion through France, Belgium and Germany after the Normandy landings. The second, a Battalion exercise in Jersey, C.I. Exercise "White Horse"—from 12th to 14th October, 1962. We hope both visits will stimulate training, which is still a major problem. Though our figures show an improvement they are still not sufficient to counteract effectively the present rate of discharge. We bring this matter to the notice of readers in the hope that they will be able to exert their influence in every corner of the County in order to step up the rate of recruiting in Wiltshire.

Annual Camp this year was once again spent at Okehampton where, in spite of rain and mist, and two very arduous exercises, the majority managed to enjoy themselves.

Readers will be pleased to know that the Sports Ground in Le Marchant Barracks is once again looking as trim and green as ever. It has now been taken over by the Wiltshire T. & A.F. Association. From funds provided by the Association and the 4th Battalion new equipment has been purchased. The pavilion was redecorated and the showers repaired as a "self-help" project.

Already both the football and hockey fields have been put to good use, the latter by the Devizes Ladies' Hockey Club. We hope that the cricket square will also be used next year.

It gives the 4th Battalion great pleasure now to be closely connected with the arrangements for the annual O.C.A. reunion at Devizes. It is a duty which we feel honoured to perform and hope that we will be able to improve on our efforts each year.

"A" COMPANY (Salisbury)

Much of the summer period has been devoted to some small scale recruiting expeditions to local villages and housing estates in Salisbury. These ventures offer good publicity and if the many children who show so much interest on these occasions apply to join when they are grown up, we should need a waiting list to accommodate them!

Everyone knows that the best way to recruit is for members of the Company to bring in their friends. This is being done most effectively in areas particularly outside the City, but a little more effort nearer our doorstep would help us get to the "heart of the matter". A few additions to our strength in the more populated areas would be very gratifying.

Camp this year was once again at Okehampton and is reported elsewhere in this issue. It is sufficient to say that much useful training was achieved and the little hardship and endurance experienced on Dartmoor was also a very good test of temper. This was the last camp for Capt. Hyslop, who has commanded the Company since Major Hart retired. He himself relinquishes command in favour of Capt. Hoare, who has just joined the Company from "B" Company.

We also welcome Lt. K. Moore, who is fast adapting himself to infantry work. His experience on the M.T. side will be of much value in the future.

Drill hall training this autumn continues apace and the newly acquired shinty set has already provided some lively sport. We must get some more practice in before challenging other Companies, and perhaps it is this that has prompted the Brigade First Aid Competition?

Our next social date is on 26th October, when we join with the Yeomanry and Club members with the object of a good night out and the opportunity of getting to know our neighbours better.

"B" COMPANY (Warminster)

Since the last issue of this Journal there have been many changes in the Company. In the first place, Major Pickford and Capt. Hoare have left us; we wish them both good fortune in their new posts, and we welcome Major Hill and congratulate him on his promotion.

The shooting season has not been without its rewards. We gave H.Q. Company a good run for their money in the Battalion Practice Shoot and showed them how to do it on the actual day. Besides this we came seventh in the All England T.A. Small-bore Match and managed to capture the .22 Inter-Company Trophy.

Recruiting has played an important part in our programme. The Drill Hall at Westbury has now been reopened, thanks to the untiring efforts of our late P.S.I., Sjt. Simpson, and the Senior N.C.Os. of the Company. We are all extremely grateful to Sjt. and Mrs. Simpson for the time and effort that they devoted to getting this contingent under way.



"B" Company, 4th Wiltshire Regiment (T.A.)

Display of Trophies

It can hardly be said that the Mob week-end at Tilshead can be considered as intensive training, but the monthly initiative tests instigated by Major Hill promise to get the best out of everyone taking part, even if this is only to dispel the mistaken impression that we do nothing else but shoot!

Our congratulations to Mrs. Howard on having caught him—at last!

We are sorry to hear of the various family illnesses in the Company and we send our best wishes to all concerned, hoping to see them "fighting fit" soon.

Finally, we extend a welcome to our new P.S.I., Sjt. Roberts, and we wish him many happy and hard-working days with this Company.

"C" COMPANY (Chippenham)

We did much at Annual Camp this year which will be remembered for a very long time. We all know Dartmoor very well now and have the satisfaction of knowing that we can cross the dreaded bogs without sinking further than up to the armpits! The chaps in the Company tackled this very well, but they soon found that more practice in cooking would be an advantage. However we all came home fitter than when we went to camp.

At this year's Battalion Rifle Meeting we did not repeat the success which we had last year, but once again our young soldiers did very well in winning the Young Soldiers Falling Plate and L.M.G. competitions. We were pleased to see the more senior soldiers win the Inter-Company S.M.C. Competition. The final position was that the Company came equal second with "B" Company in the overall placings. We look forward to doing better next year and regaining the championship.

We congratulate Lt. D. Marris on being runner-up in the Pistol Competition, and C.Q.M.S. Rogers on being runner-up to the Battalion Individual Champion Shot.

It is with regret that we record the death of Pte. P. Hand as the result of a fatal road accident in July. Pat Hand, one of the older members of the Company, having served for almost eight years, was a great character, always full of fun, but his keenest interest was in motor cycling and he was a member of the Battalion motor cycle team on many occasions in Army Championship Trials.

We congratulate Lt. W. R. A. Kirke on his marriage, and we welcome to the Company 2 Lt. P. Jackson with the promise of much hard work, and hope that he will enjoy it for many years. We congratulate L.Cpl. Hyde on his promotion as M.T. N.C.O.

Since camp Ptes. Wilkes, Buckle, Rogers and Bickerstaff have joined the Company as recruits.

"D" COMPANY (Swindon)

On the whole the last twelve months saw a steady improvement within the Company, both from the point of view of numbers and standard of training. The following were welcomed into the Company: —Ptes. Allatt, Boulton, Mathews, Palmer and Stagg.

We were very unfortunate to lose Capt. Courtman, who has moved to Devon, but we welcome Lt. Smiles, who will command the Marlborough Platoon.

The Company is taking a full part in Battalion activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Trophy training, and we hope to be represented in the team. Exercise "Normandy" provided many of the young soldiers with their first view of the Continent and the week-end proved both interesting and enjoyable to all concerned.

Annual Camp at Okehampton was not as well attended as it might have been, but those who did attend, in particular the younger soldiers, acquitted themselves well, especially during the arduous Brigade exercise.

There have been two Company exercises, both of which were successful. The first, a patrolling exercise, took place on Salisbury Plain and tested both stamina and a knowledge of the compass. The second was an advance to contact exercise in the Cotswolds.

Shooting this year seems to have improved. 2 Lt. Ryan, Ptes. Summerhays, Murray and Watson won the Young Soldiers' Sten Gun Competition, and the general classification results were better than previous years.

The new P.S.I., Sjt. Holloway, has settled in and is already making his presence felt amongst us. 2 Lt. Ryan and Pte. Dorrington were married in July; our congratulations to both of them. Sjt. Smith won the forced march competition for the second year in succession, and our Company also won the tug of war competition.

Whilst it is true to say that there has been a notable advance during the past year, there is still room for much further improvement, especially in the matters of recruiting and getting down to really serious training.

HEADQUARTER COMPANY (Devizes)

Autumn is on us and winter approaches as these notes are committed to paper, but what a successful summer we have had and what an interesting and successful winter we hope to have!

Camp in Okehampton for the third time in ten years was certainly a camp with a difference. It was difficult at times to know just how many units were in camp with us, and while every

attempt was made to ensure that the training was plentiful and interesting, it wasn't until we took the field on Exercise "Dragon Rampant" that the Company showed its true worth. All ranks acquitted themselves admirably in the most difficult and trying conditions and it is a matter of some pride, especially when the youth and inexperience of some of our members is taken into account, to know that they made a considerable impression on the P.S.Is. whose ideas as to the capabilities of T.A. soldiers up to this time had been somewhat limited. The camp will be remembered for a long time as one of the hardest but most worthwhile.

Since camp our time has mainly been concerned with routine training to ensure the firing of range courses, etc., and of course the many and varied activities which go to make up the T.A. training cycle. It is a matter of duty to the members of this Company that whenever a Battalion activity is in progress then there shall be members of the Company involved. In making this statement, it is desired to stress the fact that all members of the Company are encouraged to take part in shooting, Duke of Edinburgh's Trophy training, football, cross country running or motor cycling, to mention a few; but all too often it is found that the same men are training for all of these activities, a position we hope to alter as soon as possible. It is generally thought that because H.Q. Company is the administrative Company they are reluctant to take part, or may not be sufficiently encouraged to take part, in any one particular pursuit. This is not so, and the result is that they are to be found in all activities.

While mention is made elsewhere in this Journal, the Company's trip to North-West Europe cannot be omitted from these notes. We are proud of the fact that certainly for the first time in this unit, and so far as we can ascertain, the Territorial Army, a group of T.A. soldiers has made an organised trip of the N.W. European Battlefields, following the route of the 4th and 5th Battalions of the Regiment in 1944-45.



H.Q. Company, 4th Wiltshire Regiment (T.A.)
Champion Company, Battalion Rifle Meeting, 1962

It is significant that this trip should have emanated from the Company and our thanks are recorded to the organisers of the most successful tour. Talk is even now centering round a possible tour of Austria and Italy, but for the time being at least this must remain within the bounds of talk.

Now to mention personalities. We have to record the departure of our P.S.I. who has served us admirably during these past two years, and our good wishes go with C.S.M. Barrow on his return to 1st D.E.R.R., and to Mrs. Barrow and the children. We wish at the same time to extend a hearty welcome to C.S.M. F. E. Young and his wife and family: we are sure C.S.M. Young will leave no stone unturned to maintain the high standard set by his predecessor, C/Sjt. Sheppard, who has been withdrawn from the Company to serve in Battalion Headquarters (though not leaving the Company), has been replaced by Sjt. M. Davis on being promoted to C/Serjeant. We offer him our hearty congratulations, also to Sjt. Wallace and L Cpl. Penny, who have been promoted to Serjeant and L Corporal respectively. Among our new arrivals we welcome Sjt. Haney, R.A.P.C., and Sjt. Butt, R.A.M.C., and we hope they will settle down well with us. There are a number of younger men who are welcomed also, though too numerous to mention by name. We are glad to have them with us and are sure that they will like the life when they know more about it. We should, however, mention Ptes. Noyes and Randall, both of whom have served a Regular engagement and both of whom have served in this unit before. They are most welcome recoveries.

The Corps of Drums is still flourishing but we can do with more recruits. We have taken on three in the last three months but we have lost Boys Cripps and Dufall to the Regular Army: they go with our very good wishes for the future and we look forward to seeing them while on leave. While it may not be generally acknowledged, we encourage recruiting for the Regular Army in this Company and are very pleased at the successes we have had in the past and are confident of more successes in the future.

The Corps is now looking forward to a number of engagements in company with the Band and will be operating in Swindon for the Remembrance Day Parade this year.

With the coming of winter our social season is ahead of us, and we are looking forward to the seasonal activities which arise at Christmas and the New Year: but more of this in the next issue. In the meantime we continue with our main object in life, which is to further the interests of our Regiment.

SIGNAL PLATOON

Our chief memories of camp are a series of astonishing exercises. We manpacked sets over vast distances on Dartmoor in icy winds, though we were more fortunate than some, having acquired on loan A.41s which were much lighter than the 62 sets. Pte. Adams kept up the morale with an unending supply of jokes, etc. At "stand to" during one bitter exercise, the R.S.M., being somewhat reduced to a normal volume of speech undoubtedly caused by the weather conditions, found the Signal Platoon convulsed with laughter.

The Battalion Practice Rifle Meeting astonished everyone, including ourselves, when the Trowbridge contingent won the Falling Plate Competition for which a barrel of beer was given. Such cynical phrases as "donkeys and carrots" were to be heard, but nevertheless we managed to pull it off again at the Battalion Rifle Meeting proper, this time winning the cup.

The "Mob." week-end took place on 14th to 16th September, 1962, when Sjt. Gunning, accompanied by the stalwart few, worked most of the Friday night laying lines from Battalion H.Q. to Company Offices. This was very useful training for us since we have not carried out such training for a considerable time.

We welcome all new comrades to our Platoon, and hope they will enjoy their training which will ultimately lead to them being classified signallers by next Spring.

M.T.

It is with the deepest regret we report the death of Pte. ("Pat") Hand, who died as a result of a road accident at Chippenham. He was a member of "C" Company M.T. Section, also the Battalion Motor Cycle Trials team. A man of great character and cheerfulness, he will be missed very much by us all.

The Battalion exercise to Normandy gave drivers the opportunity to practise with L.C.Ts., loading and unloading of vehicles. We hope our standard was not judged by the performance of a certain 1-ton vehicle (not showing the 51 sign) which had to be rescued on two occasions!

We will not forget the look of relief on the face of a certain officer when he arrived at Le Marchant Barracks from Marchwood to see no vehicles on the square. Relief soon turned to despair when he was told everybody else had dispersed. We can only assume that he did not check the route card!

Our Annual Camp at Okehampton gave us a good opportunity to prove that we could walk as well as drive. Drivers soon adapted themselves to the call of "Nets on" and "Shovels out"; this they did very energetically. Great enthusiasm was shown when "A" Ech. was attacked by we don't know who (though we did hear rumours from Brigade H.Q.). It will never be known how C.Q.M.S. Winslade escaped the net!

L/Cpl. Stuart has now left our Civilian Permanent Staff to take employment elsewhere. He still remains with the Battalion in his T.A. capacity, so will be available to drive Defence Platoon vehicles. We welcome Mr. Randall to our Civilian Permanent Staff and hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

The A.D.M.E. inspection is again with us, and the Permanent Staff are working tremendously hard to ensure we maintain our very high standard. We also appreciate the help from Company M.T. Sections on this occasion.

BAND

Although having crossed our fingers for a fine weather camp, having had previous experience of the elements of Okehampton, we cannot say, in the words of L/Cpl. Titcombe (the Band humourist), that the weather was "salubrious". We remember a mention of this word before!

Again, as in previous years, we thank the R.S.M. for his fatherly interest in our well-being and deportment, i.e. R.S.M.'s parades, and can truthfully add that we enjoyed them.

We also proudly report the honour conferred upon us when being entrusted with the custody of the camp during the absence of the Battalion on their two-day exercise, in carrying out Battalion Quarter Guard, and congratulate our two N.C.Os., Cpl. Bryant and L/Cpl. Lubieniecki, upon their volunteering (or did they?) to do the duty of Guard Commander twice running!

On the occasion of our last visit to Okehampton we gave a band concert at the Old People's Homes and it gave us great pleasure to receive an invitation from the Matron and Committee to give another performance. Mention should be made of an impromptu item given by Cpl. Wilson (piano) and the Band choir in their rendering of the "old-time" songs which was undoubtedly the hit of the programme. For a modest fee Companies may engage their choir for their social evenings!

Our return from camp saw us, together with our Drummer friends, once again Beating the Retreat on the Depot square on the occasion of the Old Comrades' Reunion, and it was pleasing to receive praise from many of the "old sweats" to our smartness and bearing, undoubtedly due to the R.S.M.'s parades at camp.

It gave us great pleasure to perform at Brigadier Wort's garden party upon his becoming President of the Devizes Branch of the Old Comrades' Association. We remember the interest he always took in the Band during his tour as Commanding Officer. We also remind our two clarinet players, Cpl. Wilson and L/Cpl. Titcombe, that their instruments are issued to them for the purpose of making music and should not be used as cushions for their chairs. If sat upon they are liable to break at the seams. But take comfort: you are not the first to make this mistake!

We extend a warm welcome to Ptes. Powell and Steel, trombone and saxophone respectively, and we hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one. We still require more players and can assure them of a happy comradeship.

In conclusion, congratulations to L/Cpl. Lubieniecki on receiving his well deserved second tape, and to Bds. Titcombe and Hill upon promotion to L/Corporal; also to Sgt. Ernie Smith upon his becoming a grandpa for the second time.

Q.M. DEPARTMENT

Major J. W. Harrowing has now departed and sought refuge at the Wessex Brigade Depot. We await with interest a report on the gastronomical delights he will undoubtedly produce as a result of his "A" grading on his Messing Officer's course. We offer him our congratulations on attaining his majority and wonder if this will have any "major" bearing on his endeavours to produce the runner bean to beat all runner beans.

Capt. R. G. Tomkins has now finally settled in our midst after a fleeting visit during our period of annual camp at Okehampton. This venue was instrumental in causing a further change in our personnel, in that Mr. Jones has now departed to earn his living at Salisbury. That something was afoot became obvious when, on our return from Okehampton, the said worthy would depart each Friday on the dot and return the following Monday in a somewhat dubious state of well-being. We were assured that this was due to the strain of hitch-hiking to Okehampton and back. His eventual departure to Salisbury was caused, we understand, by the residence of a certain lady from Devon and it is rumoured that the banns are due any moment. Fortunately Mr. Churchill, unabashed by this reduction in staff, continued to cope in his normal unruffled manner until a replacement was found. This vacancy has now been filled by Mr. Holdforth, erstwhile Clerk Storeman at H.Q. Company, Devizes, who is now established as a clerk. We welcome him and hope his stay is long and pleasant.

It will be of interest no doubt to mention that Messrs. "Willie and Bert" are still with us, and that the standard and frequency of their "brews" remain unaltered.

The playing fields, for so long unused, have now taken on a new lease of life, but this will no doubt be recorded elsewhere. However, in the course of the "rejuvenation phase" the Q.M. was saddled with the responsibility of putting the pavilion shipshape (at no cost to the public or anyone else, naturally). With a Q.M.'s inherent or acquired lack of conscience, he succeeded in obtaining all the necessary electrical equipment for interior lighting, having previously noted that the ceiling roses were fitted, but pendants, lampshades, etc., missing. The next requirement was for a master tradesman to carry out the electrical fitting and here the need was readily met in the guise of Sjt. Wardingham. The work was duly completed and all that remained was for the electric bulbs to be supplied and the "switch-on" ceremony could take place. That morning an insidious rumour was "current". Although the pavilion was wired internally when it was originally built, it was more in hope than anything else, for the supply was never laid on to the building. And so it remains, to this day.

Quod erat desperandum!

COMMUNIST GUERILLAS ROUTED IN JERSEY

Whenever Autumn approaches the 4th Battalion seem to be involved in some sort of politico-military incident, and this year proved no exception.

The normal East-West world tension had recently flared into several acts of aggression, which ranged from China advancing into Northern India and Indo-China, Russia advancing into Cuba, to the inundation of the West Country of England by a profusion of Chinese restaurants which could only have a very sinister portent.

One of the patterns of this aggression has been the infiltration by guerilla forces into many islands hitherto belonging to the West. The Channel Islands had been invaded early in October, 1962, and although the regular garrisons had resisted strongly, reinforcements were wanted at once. The Regular Army was fully engaged as usual, and it was fortunate that the 4th Battalion had had a recent Mobilization exercise and were therefore ready for anything. On 10th October the Commander of 129 Brigade sent for the C.O. of 4 Wilts and told him that the situation in Jersey was very grim. It was necessary to send the Battalion at once to reinforce the Island, and as the airfield there was overrun, they would have to go by sea in H.M.S. *Plorer* and *Rampart*. The Communists, who seemed to be mainly Mongolians led by Europeans, had captured several armoured cars from the Garrison and were using these to advantage. They had no other vehicles except commandeered ones and were a mixture of soldiers and sailors who had been landed by submarines. The C.O. of 4 Wilts was told to report himself to the Garrison Commander, and no doubt his orders would be to wipe out the enemy as soon as possible. On these sketchy terms the Battalion sent an advance party forward to Jersey on 11th October and the main party followed up on 12th October.

The dawn landing was achieved and the marching troops married up with their vehicles in St. Helier, and then worked their way in the half-light round to Noirmont Point in the south of the Island, which was still in our hands. A quick reorganisation, and a splendid breakfast of eggs, sausages, bacon and "char" was produced by the Quartermaster and eaten in a howling gale. The Battalion's orders were to advance from the south tip of the Island to the north, clearing the guerillas as they went. Intelligence reports indicated that strong opposition was liable to be met in the area of the racecourse, the coastal plain and the plateau of Millais. The Battalion was organised on a two-company group basis with the Recce Platoon in operation on the flanks. They advanced by foot on two separate axes and, after shaking out for three or four miles, "D" Company, on the right, was ambushed by a fierce Mongolian group of approximately 20. A platoon attack was required to clear this opposition, and the advance continued.

Meanwhile the Reconnaissance Platoon had surprised an enemy armoured car and had captured it. There were casualties on both sides, and it was fortunate that a section of 129 Field Ambulance was with us. On reaching the dune area of the golf and race courses, the enemy, who appeared to be undisciplined, directed a fusillade of fire at the advancing sections. This disclosed several of their positions and it was possible for both Companies to launch separate attacks on to the area. A running fight ensued, and after a couple of hours the area was cleared completely.

A quick reorganisation was followed by an advance of "A" Company on the coastal plain and "D" Company along the high ridge. Good time was made by the Battalion, who for this venture had been reinforced by cadets of the C.C.F. Marlborough College and Dauntsey's School. The enemy were, in fact, represented by a squadron of the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry and 40 Jersey Sea Cadets. They made a formidable group of about 80 strong.

At mid-day it was possible for "A" Echelon to produce a hot meal and bring it forward for the Companies. It was unfortunate that "D" Company was attacked during their meal, but they were able to drive off the guerillas without the loss of a dixie!

The Battalion pushed on and reached the escarpment of Mont du Vallet. The Battalion C.O., Major Drew, had gone forward with his "R" Group and his Battery Commander from "R" Battery, 299 Field Regiment, to make a plan for the final clearance of the high ground. It was evident that the guerillas had taken up a position defending Grosnez Castle and it was decided to put in a full scale Battalion attack with artillery support to wipe them out. The attack was across gorse land and disused rifle ranges and so there was plenty of cover for infantrymen. The attack began at 1500 hours and was carried out with great dash by the Companies, who had marched by this time for a distance of at least 15 miles. Fire and movement was carried out and there was a liberal use of 2-inch mortar smoke. Needless to say the enemy were completely routed and a reorganisation was carried out near the castle.

At this stage some newspaper reporters mentioned that a large fire had started to our rear and it is true to say that the proceedings had to be quickly reorganised so that the fire, which had inadvertently been started by the smoke bombs, could be put out. The enemy and ourselves joined in this with gusto, but after an hour the Jersey Fire Brigade had to be called to our assistance. This was an unfortunate end to an otherwise very successful exercise, but it is an end to which many of us are now accustomed!

The aim of the exercise had been to practise a limited amphibious operation and to co-operate with the Royal Navy and with elements of as many of our affiliated Regiments as possible. The tactical side was aimed at practising deployment and Company and Battalion attacks. Although this was a tall order, it can safely be said that much of it was achieved in the limited time at our disposal. The change of scenery and the different setting of the exercise, and the co-operation of so many different units, all helped to make the week-end a tremendous success.

OFFICERS' MESS

Okehampton Camp is by now a familiar venue to most of us but, thanks to a lot of re-equipping, the amenities have improved beyond all recognition. Unfortunately we did not have time really to appreciate them!

Two Guests Nights were held. The Brigade Commander and Brigade Major were our guests on the first occasion and, at the second, Regimental friends, including the Colonel of the Regiment, our Honorary Colonel, and Lt.-Colonels Gilson and Ballantine.

The Mess in Le Marchant Barracks is now fully established and we have had several successful functions.

On the 30th June we dined out Richard Oldfield and Jim Harrowing, who have left us for Cyprus and Exeter respectively. We are grateful to them both for all the hard work they have done on our behalf. We also offer our congratulations to them both: To Richard for becoming the father of a son born in Cyprus on 7th October, 1962 (we hear he already has his father's figure!); to Jim, on his promotion.

In their places we welcome John Stone, recently returned from Ghana, and Roy Tomkins from the 1st Battalion.

The Quarterly Cocktails and Buffet Luncheons are proving very popular. Many old friends attended on Sunday, 24th June, during the O.C.A. week-end, and on Sunday, 30th September, after the 4.5th Battalion's Annual Dinner.

In conclusion we congratulate Bill Hill on his promotion to Major, and Tony Kirke and David Ryan on their marriages. Incidentally, we gather there is a spate of weddings due in the New Year.

Newcomers to the Mess are Peter Jackson, Kevin Moore, Peter Smiles and Alan Pettitt. We trust this influx of young blood will continue.

SERJEANTS' MESS

In our last notes we stated that a fully furnished and well-stocked Mess was to be opened in Le Marchant Barracks, Devizes. This is now a reality and we are pleased to report that a house warming party was held on 21st July. Present and past Mess members attending the O.C.A. week-end were warm in their praise of the new accommodation and made full use of it. R.S.M. Hawe and a small band of volunteers from Devizes have put in a lot of hard work to make our "new home" comfortable, and we have been most fortunate in receiving a very sympathetic and generous hand from the Wiltshire T. & A.F. Association. The new Mess is to be open on week-ends and probably a day in mid-week. We hope that all members and ex-members will make full use of it.

At the time of preparation of these notes the Duke of Edinburgh's Trophy team are going flat out and the Mess representatives are to be selected from C/Sjt. Davis, C/Sjt. Fenner, Sjt. McIntosh and Sjt. Rodwell. George Donkin, the P.T.I., is aiming to get them down to 14 minutes for the three miles, and if anyone can talk them into doing it, George is the man! In addition to slimming down our Trophy team, he is persuading a number of the Mess members to enter the football trials with the T.A. Cup in view, and Sjt. Holloway, our Swindon P.S.L., has caught his eye. C.S.M. Tony Tirrell has also emerged as a very agile goalkeeper. Come to think of it, if we could only get a few more to put their jugs down we might even produce a team!

Under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, that part of Devon known as Dartmoor is open to the public. Higher authority decided that we should have a look at it this year. We had a good look at it! We scrambled all over it, fell in it, lost and found things in it, and ate parts of it! For an Annual Camp Dartmoor is not everyone's cup of tea, but it is an excellent, tough training ground and even now, months after, we still laugh at the plight some of us were in when we moved to take this or that tor. But on occasions we were able to savour the delights of good old friendly Okehampton, and once again the Police were invited to a Mess social and we believe they thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

As the major unit at the Southern Command Battle Camp we had the pleasure of acting as hosts to H.Q. 129 Infantry Brigade, 129 Field Ambulance, 129 Infantry Workshops, R.E.M.E., 341 Signal Squadron, and "R" Battery, 299 Regiment R.A. (T.A.). Even with our large numbers we did very well, and we must add that the facilities of the camp were much improved on our earlier camp visit in 1958.

Although it is a good step from Wiltshire a number of wives braved the trip through Honiton and the Exeter By-pass to be with their husbands for the middle week-end of camp and were accommodated in the town. Another social evening was held, when we were delighted to have as guests the Glosters and a few members of 72 Independent Company, W.R.A.C. This was particularly pleasant for one or two of our attached members as their wives were serving with the W.R.A.C. Company.

Departures from the Mess are P.S.Is., C.S.M. Barrow, Sgt. Ron Simpson and Sgt. Eric Skinner. They return to the 1st Battalion and are replaced from 1 D.E.R.R. by C.S.M. Young, Sgt. Roberts and Sgt. Dunscombe, respectively. New Mess members are Sgt. Griffin, newly promoted in "C" Company, Chippenham, and R.A.P.C. Sjts. Wallace and Haney. Our congratulations on their promotion go to C.S.M. Crawley of Chippenham, C/Sjt. "Doc" Rogers also of Chippenham, C/Sjt. M. Davies of Devizes, and the aforementioned Sjts. Wallace of Devizes and Griffin of Chippenham.

Writing of departures, etc., reminds us that we saw George Butcher, formerly P.S.I. with us at Trowbridge, at our Annual Rifle Meeting. George has finished his Colour Service but cannot resist the uniform and is doing his stuff with the Royal Berkshires. In his civilian capacity George is something of a Nat Gouldian character. He tells us that as a security officer with a well-known Lambourn racing stable, he has access to Tattersalls and is on lucrative nodding terms with several famous trainers and jockeys. He could probably explain to us (the uninitiated) the account we recently saw: "Edwina Black never promised and Little Miss Muffet was mastered close home by Mr. Hasty"!

With autumn upon us we look forward to socials and inevitably the Mess Ball.

SHOOTING

Although the shooting team did not win any major prizes at the Divisional Meeting or Bisley they gave a good account of themselves, and will no doubt live on to shoot another year.

The most successful part of the shooting season was the Battalion Rifle week-end, followed by the Battalion Rifle Meeting. In the former, the programme was designed to enable Companies to enter a large number of likely shots on a competitive basis so that they could select their teams for the latter. This was held at the end of June and fired on a lovely day at the Kings Playdown Range, where scores were good and competition keen. Honours between Companies were very even, with H.Q. Devizes emerging Champion Company. C/Sjt. Davis made a rare appearance and really set out to show that marriage had not dulled his vision nor shaken his nerves! He proved this by dropping only five points in all practices to become Champion Shot.

S.L.Rs. were used at the Wiltshire County Meeting in competition shooting for the first time, and scores were, if anything, higher. We quite look forward to their being used in the future.

MOTOR CYCLING

Our congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Winslade, Cpl. Davis and Pte. Wilson on winning the T.A. Team Championship in the Southern Command Motor Cycle Trials held at Bordon on Sunday, 2nd September, 1962. In addition to the team championship, Cpl. Davis won the T.A. Individual and C.Q.M.S. Winslade was third Individual. By winning the championship they now go forward to the Army Trials which are to be held at Pirbright on 13th/14th October.

At the moment we are waiting for the results of the Bristol Motor Cycle Rally in which our "A" team took part.

We have now formed a "B" team, with our younger members, Ptes. Hambleton, Bailey and McCallum, and they will be taking part in the following trials, together with the "A" team:—R.A. Southern Command Motor Cycle Trials (Phipps Cup) at Bovington, and the Dartmoor Motor Cycle Trials at Okehampton.

During the "At Home" day held at Devizes in July we challenged the local "ton-up" boys to see if they really could ride a motor cycle by riding over obstacles set up on the Green opposite the Drill Hall, and they all agreed there is a lot to learn.

There is a rumour that W.O. II Alexander is coming out of retirement for the next trial!

CANOEING

Canoeing in the Devizes to Westminster race (Easter, 1962) proved to be much harder than last year, due to the elements and bad luck. We entered three crews and this time only got one through to the finish.

The "C" Company crew, Ptes. T. Gibson and C. Snelling, made a good start but after some three hours retired, when Snelling became ill.

Our H.Q. Company second crew, Ptes. D. Jones and I. Mortimer, did somewhat better, retiring at Newbury after making good time for the first few hours. Here it was Pte. Jones who succumbed to the elements.

Our star crew, Ptes. N. Bailey and S. Hambleton, did extremely well; they got to London and again, for the third time running, they knocked time off their previous record.

This year they made the time of 27 hours and 59 minutes, which is very good indeed for part-time canoeists. Coupled with this, they had a very bad tear in the boat which delayed them some two hours, and also a paddle broke. To cope with this they had to burn the wooden end out with their gas cooker before repairs could be completed; this again delayed them some considerable time.

It is only by extreme effort and will power that the goal is reached, and Bailey and Hambleton are now known to all the race officials as the Moonrakers who never give up – a worthy title for them indeed.

Our thanks then to all of them for a good effort, because it is really a tough race and it does show that the Regiment takes some interest in a local sport. It is hoped to start training again in the near future.

RETURN TO NORTH-WEST EUROPE

On 17th August, 1962, a party of the 4th Battalion, headed by Major P. A. J. Brown, T.D., and including twenty serving Territorials of H.Q. Company and three Old Comrades, left Devizes on the first stage of one of the most interesting and successful tours undertaken by T.A. soldiers in peacetime. Their purpose was to trace the route taken by the 4th Wiltshires in 1944 from Arromanches to Bremen, a journey of over 2,000 miles.

Most of the organisation was done by C Sjt. F. G. Sheppard who, by referring to the 4th and 5th Battalions' official histories, worked out a daily itinerary which followed the route with only one or two deviations for pleasure. The cost, borne by each individual, was £16, excluding spending money.

The party travelled from Boulogne to Rouen and then on to Arromanches via Caen and Bayeux. It was at Arromanches that the historical value of the trip began. C.S.M. Alexander and Old Comrades J. Mills and R. Dew were able to point out to the party the actual landing places of the Regiment 18 years before and much colour was lent to their description by the presence of the remnants of Mulberry Harbour still off shore, the German gun emplacements and, of course, the magnificent museum and orientation table showing the panoramic views of the landings.

They moved on the third and fourth days from Arromanches through Normandy to the Seine at Vernon. This particular journey cannot lightly be passed over, as 18 years before the Battalions fought several major battles, including Hill 112 and Mount Pincon. Both these sites were visited and on Hill 112, in particular, many souvenirs in the form of shrapnel, bits of weapons and equipment were recovered even after this long period. The veterans brought much realism to the visit by indicating vital points of interest on the ground, such as where one brewed up a cup of tea, and another where his carrier struck a mine, or where the Battalion H.Q. was, or indeed his own slit trench.

The tremendous interest shown by the younger members of the party, most of whom were still infants at the time these events took place, was most gratifying.

One evening was spent at Maltot, where they camped in the fields of a farmhouse which was literally on the 4th Battalion's axis of advance during this memorable Wiltshire battle. It is now a children's holiday camp run by a religious organisation and was, in fact, just a few hundred yards short of the Chateau de Fontaine where was fought one of the bloodiest battles of the 43rd Division. Here C.S.M. Alexander was able to recover a soldier's water bottle in just about the position where he helped to bury members of the Royal Hampshire Regiment. Vernon itself, which was the site of the 4th and 5th Battalions crossing the Seine, was of great interest. The official histories showed in great detail the actual crossing places and these details were studied closely.

Time was taken all along the route to visit the many cemeteries and the graves of fallen comrades. No tribute can be paid too highly to the Imperial War Graves Commission for the meticulous care taken of these cemeteries and the immaculate condition in which they are kept.

The party left memorial crosses at a number of the cemeteries, and in all cases signed the visitors' book as a party.

The fifth day was spent in Paris, the sixth and seventh days in moving through Beauvais, Bapaume, Mons, Waterloo and eventually to Herenthout, near Antwerp in Belgium.

The Waterloo Memorial and panoramic views of the battlefields engaged their interest for two hours and was an interesting diversion from the more modern ideas of war which had so far been seen.

Herenthout was a moving visit. The Battalion had been billeted in the town prior to its move forward to the Nijmegen battle and lasting friendships were struck up. The townspeople knew the party were coming and gave them a civic reception. The Mayor entertained them to wine and cigars and a friendly welcoming speech, and in return Major Brown presented him and his townsfolk with a Regimental Plaque and a copy of the Regiment history for inclusion in the town library. In the evening there were open houses for all, and they were entertained hospitably by the citizens in their homes and cafes. The party were sorry to have to leave the town next morning, having had such an enjoyable time and a good night's rest in the local school, but the programme had to be followed strictly.

Everywhere they went, in France, Belgium or Holland, our men were most royally received and welcomed. In Germany they were equally well received, but in a more polite, formal and less friendly manner.

During the eighth, ninth and tenth days they crossed the Dutch/German border and visited Eindhoven, Nijmegen, Elst and Arnhem, together with the Reichswald Forest area, Kleve, Goch and Xanten. A wealth of interest was in this area: they visited the Overloon Netherlands War Museum which is set in the open park which was actually the battlefield, and spent two very happy hours there, and that night camped close by before crossing into Germany. At Groesbeek they visited the Canadian War Cemetery, on which is recorded the names of all those soldiers who fell in the battle for the Low Countries and for whom there is no known grave. Seven names from our Regiment are recorded and here also was placed a Regimental cross.

The Reichswald gave all a reminder of the bitter fighting which took place in such closely wooded country. The Arnhem and Nijmegen bridges were a marvellous sight to behold, and with the help of Jim Mills, who pointed out the church tower from which he had observed the Arnhem bridge in company with a Gunner officer, and by reference to the war histories, they were able to picture the immense task confronting the Airborne Division, and indeed the 43rd Division who tried so hard to extricate them.

They were now over the Rhine and stayed the night between Wesel and Emmerich and not too far from Cloppenburg, which the Dorsets captured. The eleventh day virtually saw the end of the route when they visited Bremen, the town which was the last objective of the Battalion in the war. It is now beautifully rebuilt and evidence of much thought and planning is well to the fore.

From Bremen they moved to Bergen/Belsen and Fallingbomel. In this area the 4th Battalion finally broke up in 1946, Major Brown being the only one of the party who was present at that time, C.S.M. Alexander having been demobilised a couple of months before. They were, however, able to locate the various mess billets in the villages concerned, and all were impressed by the visit to the site of Belsen Concentration Camp. The 4th Battalion's H.Q. was in the barracks attached to this camp in 1945-46, and the most beautiful memorials which now exist were a fantastic contrast to what the site was like 17 years ago. Many of the younger members who had only heard of Belsen and Buchenwald as names in war books were noticeably impressed by the mass graves, and it was a most solemn part of the tour.

The twelfth day was one of travel—nearly 300 miles southwards on the German Autobahn to Geilenkirchen, a wonderful experience for some of the younger members.

Geilenkirchen was the site of one battle which, for routeing reasons, they were obliged to see on the way back, but it was good to be able to deviate to visit Brunssum War Cemetery where Ron Dew found the grave of his brother who was killed with the 5th Battalion.

Homeward bent now, the fourteenth and fifteenth days took them back to Belgium and an afternoon in Brussels, shopping for presents and viewing this beautiful city.

Towards Dunkirk on the fifteen day they passed places of Great War fame, such as Lille and Arras, and it was a great pleasure to be able to find at Tournai the grave of our driver's father who had been killed in 1918.

And so to Dunkirk, where they laid the one remaining cross on the beautiful Dunkirk Memorial which records a number of names of the 2nd Battalion who fell in the withdrawal of 1940. It was a fitting climax to the tour.

At 11.15 a.m. on Sunday, the 2nd September, the exhausted party arrived back at the T.A. Centre at Devizes, having spent 16 days away and having travelled in all some 2,374 miles on a tour which began as a chance remark and finished as a magnificent and successful reality.

BIRTHS

BISHOP.—On 5th September, 1962, at Devizes, to the wife of 22965599 Cpl. G. P. Bishop, R.E.M.E. (H.Q.), a daughter (Amanda Julie).

WALLACE.—On 17th March, 1962, at Clapton, London, to the wife of 23397645 Sjt. J. P. Wallace, R.A.P.C. (H.Q.), a daughter (Sandra Rosemary).

MARRIAGES

LUCE—HANKIN.—On 27th May, 1961, at Urchfont, Wilts, 443076 Lt. J. M. Luce, H.Q. Company, to Priscilla Jane Hankin.

RYAN—MORRISSEY.—On 21st July, 1962, at Yeovil, Somerset, 469474 2/Lt. D. C. Ryan, "D" Company, to Elizabeth Almina Morrissey.

STOCKLEY—BROWN.—On 26th May, 1962, at Market Lavington, Wilts, 23717711 Pte. R. Stockely, H.Q. Company, to Georgina Mary Brown.

DEATHS

HAND.—On 4th July, 1962, at Chippenham, due to a traffic accident, 22656814 Pte. P. W. J. Hand, "C" Company.

MORTIMER.—On 6th October, 1962, at Broad Chalke, Wilts, due to a tractor accident whilst at work, 23896903 Pte. A. H. Mortimer, "A" Company.

WESSEX BRIGADE DEPOT

The Regiment is well represented at the Depot. Major J. W. Harrowing has taken over as Q.M. W.O. I Milton, struggling under the title of Superintending Clerk, manages with the help of Cpl. F. P. B. Wintle to keep the Brigade Orderly Room under impecceable control. The Recruiting Wing has Capt. P. T. Dunn, C Sjt. J. Oxley and L Cpl. N. J. Pointer to encourage recruiters, and to establish a Brigade Information Room and Museum which does not favour any one particular Regiment. C.S.M. M. C. Collins is seen frequently addressing groups of holdees, on what not to do when they reach the Battalion. That hockey player, C Sjt. T. Houghton, between games manages to keep most of the Depot well clothed. Also seen from time to time is Sjt. R. Litchfield.

The number of brandywine flashes worn by the Permanent Staff in Training Company these days seems to remain fairly constant. Sjt. T. Leeder is the only Regimental Serjeant left, with Lt. A. M. Forbes as the only officer, but Cpls. Brown, Dick and Head and Pte. Threadgill as Q.M.S.I.'s storeman keep the flag flying. Cpl. V. H. Leadbetter unfortunately has been invalided out of the Army.

The Junior Soldiers Wing is becoming another preserve of the Regiment. Lt. D. Jones has taken over the Junior Soldiers Platoon, where he is assisted by Sjts. Peters and Taylor. The Band still has C Sjt. Chatfield. Bandmaster L. Fereday, late of the Wiltshires, has now retired to take up a most lucrative post somewhere in Norfolk and he and his wife will be sadly missed by many, especially the Junior Soldiers. Amongst the Junior Soldiers, J Cpl. Yeates has frequently run for the Depot and will be a useful member of any athletics team in years to come.

The Drums have Sjt. Osborne and, of course, Drum Major W. Choules. Perhaps it would not be out of place to put on record the Choules family contribution to the Wessex Brigade. At the last count the following were found:—

W.O. II Drum Major W. Choules	...	...	...	Brigade Depot
J/Dmr. J. Choules	...	...	...	Junior Soldiers Wing (———)
Pte. J. Choules	...	...	...	1st Battalion (nephew)
J/Bdsm. M. Choules	...	...	...	Devon (T.A.) (son)
J/Bdsm. J. Choules	...	...	...	Devon (T.A.) (son)
Cpl. T. Choules	...	...	...	4/6th Royal Berks (T.A.) (cousin)
Cpl. R. Choules	...	...	...	4/6th Royal Berks (T.A.) (cousin)

whilst these have retired:—

Pte. D. Choules	...	...	...	ex-Royal Berks (cousin)
Dmr. R. Choules	...	...	...	ex Royal Berks (brother)
Pte. C. Choules	...	...	...	ex A.T.S., Royal Berks Company (wife)

Finally, congratulations to W.O. I D. Milton and W.O. II Collins on the award of their L.S. & G.C. Medals, which were presented to them by the G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Command, at a Depot parade on 26th October, 1962.

THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

The Annual Reunion was held on the 28th and 29th July at Brock Barracks.

Colonel L. à B. Robinson took the chair at the General Meeting, which was attended by about 110 members. Some suggestions were made for the improvement of the Reunion and for wider advertisement of it, and these suggestions are being considered by the Committee.

As a result of the referendum to all known members it was decided that the last Saturday in July would normally be the date for the Reunion. It is hoped that members will spread this information as widely as they can.

Over 300 were present at the Reunion and 75 members spent the night in accommodation lent to us by the Berkshire Territorial Association.

On Sunday, the 29th, the Service at the Cenotaph was conducted by the Rev. A. K. H. Jones, a war-time officer of the 10th Battalion and now Vicar of St. Barnabas, Reading.

After the Service many members and their families continued the Reunion in the Drill Hall.

Once again our thanks are due to the members of the 4/6th Battalion who so cheerfully gave their time and effort to making the Reunion a success.

Branch news seems extremely scarce. We have heard the the 10th Battalion Annual Reunion is to be held at the Lower Ship Hotel in Reading on 10th November, and will therefore have taken place before this copy of the Journal is published.

Thirty-five members of the Regiment employed by Messrs. H. & G. Simonds of Reading have formed a Branch of their own, and many of their members are also members of the Reading Branch.

In an earlier page we have congratulated Mr. Albert Haines on his award of the B.E.M. We have recently heard from him, and he states that he was a Drummer in the 2/4th Battalion under Drum Major Jack Davey, although he also served in the 1/4th and 3/4th. His number was 201112 and he finished his service in the rank of Serjeant.

May we remind members that we are always anxious to obtain the medals and decorations of past members of the Regiment. Once the family have no further use for them we would like to think that they are safeguarded in Reading rather than that they should fall into the hands of dealers or private collectors.

We are grateful to the following for presenting medals to us recently:—Major G. W. Thornton, 5th Fusiliers (decoration and medals of his father, Brig.-Gen. W. B. Thornton),

Colonel L. T. Goodenough (decoration and medals of Lt.-Col. J. N. Aldworth, 1/4th Battalion), Mrs. Sear (decoration and medals of No. 7977 Cpl. A. W. Sear), and Mr. P. G. White, who has presented us with three separate medals of the Tofrek period. We would also like to thank the Curator of Reading Museum in making available to us on permanent loan two medal cases, which will be set up as soon as possible.

THE WILTSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

The Annual Reunion was held at Le Marchant Barracks, Devizes, on the 23rd and 24th June, 1962.

Proceedings started with the Annual General Meeting at 6 p.m., which was attended by 96 members and held in the Main Barrack Block (No. 17). The meeting was presided over by the President of the Association, Major-General B. A. Coad, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. Before starting the meeting the President asked members to stand in silence for one minute as a tribute to the late Mr. W. H. Eales, M.S.M., a former Vice-President of the Association, who died on the 27th March, 1962. The President then welcomed Mr. W. E. Andrews from the South African Branch. Mr. F. J. Denley, another member of the South African Branch who had come to England especially for the Reunion, was unfortunately not able to attend because of illness.

After the meeting the Band and Drums of the 4th Bn. The Wiltshire Regiment (T.A.) Beat Retreat. The bar and a cold buffet supper for 270 members and guests were provided in marquees erected on the playing field near the line of old elm trees. The Band of the 4th Battalion played during supper.

The Annual Reunion Service was held on the 24th June in St. James' Church, Devizes. The Service was taken by the Honorary Chaplain to the Association, The Reverend W. D. C. Williams, O.B.E., B.A., C.F. (Retd.), assisted by the Vicar, The Reverend M. Currah, M.A. The Address was given by the Honorary Chaplain and the Lesson read by the President. The Parade, with the Band of the 1st Bn. The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, was under the command of Colonel N. C. E. Kenrick, D.S.O.

Accommodation for 90 members was provided by the 4th Battalion in the Main Block. These 90 members have the privilege of being the last members of the Regiment to sleep in the Main Block, which has now been altered for the reception of the Regimental Pay Office, R.E.M.E.

The Annual Reunion for 1963 will be held at Le Marchant Barracks, Devizes, on the 22nd and 23rd June.

We regret to report the deaths of the following members of the Wiltshire Regiment:

ADAMS.—Mr. R. Adams, of Lea, Malmesbury, on 9th June, 1962.

BEAK.—Ex. 8086 Sidney Beak, M.M., of Pike Road, Efford, Plymouth, on 5th June, 1962. 2nd Battalion 1908 to 1920.

BLEWETT.—Ex. 200453 W. R. Blewett, of 29 Shurnhold, Melksham, on 16th September, 1962.

BOURTON.—22244770 C.Sjt. Bourton, 1st Bn. The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

BUCKLAND.—Mr. Arthur Buckland, of Westbrook, Hartmoor Road, Devizes, in April, 1962. Aged 67.

CANNINGS.—Ex. 23626 J. Cannings, of Devizes, on 18th May, 1962. 5th and 8th Battalions 1916 to 1920.

COLE.—Mr. S. Cole, of 18 Hawthorn Road, Chippenham, on 9th May, 1962.

CRIPPS.—Ex. C.S.M. Cripps, of Bournemouth, in April, 1962.

DAVIES.—Mr. T. Davies, of 24 Greenway Gardens, Chippenham, on 18th April, 1962.

FELTHAM.—Mr. Feltham, of Chitterne, on 4th March, 1962.

HALE.—Ex 2107 C. Hale, of Devizes, on 31st March, 1962. Aged 93. 1st and 2nd Battalions 1887 to 1895.

HAND.—Mr. P. Hand, of 33 Great Somerford, Chippenham, on 5th July, 1962.

HENLEY.—Mr. W. Henley, of 109 London Road, Calne, on 25th March, 1962. 4th Battalion.

- KENT.—Mr. R. F. Kent, of 21 Aughton, Collingbourne Kingston, Marlborough, on 21st February, 1962. Serjeant Master Cook, 1st Battalion.
- MORSE.—Capt. C. C. Morse, of London, on 2nd December, 1961.
- NASH.—Mr. J. Nash, of Woodbine Cottage, Easterton, on 18th April, 1962. Aged 81.
- ROWE.—Mr. E. P. Rowe, of The Star and Garter Home, Richmond, Surrey, on 9th September, 1962. Commissioned in the Wiltshire Regiment in 1916, seconded to R.F.C. until after the Armistice, when he rejoined the Wiltshire Regiment and served till 1921.
- SHELLEY.—Mr. W. Shelley, of 322 Devizes Road, Salisbury, in August, 1962.
- TITT.—Ex. C.S.M. E. J. Titt, of Drynham Road, Trowbridge, on 9th March, 1962. Aged 83. Veteran of the Boer War and First World War; served with the 4th Battalion in South Africa and France.
- WEATHERALL.—Ex. 4994 S/Major A. Weatherall, 1st Battalion, on 19th March, 1962. Served throughout the South African War and First World War; also served as S/Major of the 51st (Kent) Home Guard Battalion throughout the 1939-45 War.
- WEEKS.—Mr. Sidney Weeks, of Rylease, Potterne, Nr. Devizes, on 11th March, 1962. Aged 81. Joined the Wiltshire Regiment in 1898 and served until 1906; recalled at the outbreak of the 1914-18 War and went to France as an Old Contemptible, and was severely wounded in the leg.

LONDON BRANCH

Much of the time which has elapsed since the appearance of our last notes has been occupied by the "close season". There is thus little to report of activities during the recess. We feel, however, that we must make mention of the Annual Reunion at Devizes on 23rd/24th June, again attended by a large contingent from the London Branch. Again we must record our grateful thanks to Lt.-Colonel Boggis, who, with some help from the weather-man, contrived to stage for us as enjoyable a time as could possibly be arranged. We give him unstinted praise for his efforts to surmount the difficulties which must increase as the years go by. No doubt, from now onwards, Colonel Boggis will receive many suggestions for future Reunions. Some of these may be highly impracticable; others may merit serious attention. But whatever happens, we do know that he will do the best he can for us in the rapidly changing circumstances.

Our first meeting of the new session was attended by over twenty members, and we were delighted to note that among the early arrivals were those two old stalwarts of the London Branch, Capt. Stan Parker and Mr. H. J. Wilkins. I am sure that their continued interest in the Branch is a source of real inspiration to younger members.

Our programme for the winter session follows the usual pattern. For the Remembrance Day functions we shall again be acting for the Regimental Association and all others who wish to pay their annual tribute to the Fallen. This year we shall be reverting to the practice of holding our main Service on the Sunday evening.

Ladies' Night will follow in December, while in February we renew our annual argument with the Devons O.C.A. I need hardly say that we confidently expect that the Rose of Torridge Trophy will still grace our festive board at our Annual Dinner in March. For those who would like to join us in all these social functions, fixture cards are available on application to Ron Garner, 122 Croydon Road, Anerley, London, S.E.22. May I remind all again that we meet at the Feathers Hotel, Westminster (opposite St. James's Park Station), at 7.30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Our short business sessions are followed by a "club," the entrance fee to which is 2s. 6d., which lasts until either the members or the kitty run dry, when it is renewed. At intervals during the session, members drop out for a variety of reasons, the most valid of which appear to be that they either have trains to catch or that the wife is waiting for them. A few, however, always remain until our hostess, Mrs. Davis, quietly asks them to leave, but the manner in which she makes the request indicates that, in spite of the late hour, she still regards them as gentlemen.

THE REGIMENTAL CRICKET WEEK

The Regimental Cricket Week was held this year at Tidworth. It unfortunately clashed with the Battalion being away at Bourley, but was nevertheless a success and four most enjoyable matches were played:—

Thursday, 5th July	...	<i>v.</i> A Wessex Brigade XI
Friday, 6th July	...	<i>v.</i> The Berkshire Gentlemen
Saturday, 7th July	...	<i>v.</i> The Free Foresters
Sunday, 8th July	...	<i>v.</i> The Wiltshire Queries

No matches were won by the Regiment but all had exciting finishes, with the exception of the match against the Free Foresters, who beat us handsomely by 60 runs. The match against the Wiltshire Queries had an extremely exciting finish, the result being a tie.

EXPEDITION TO NORTHERN TURKEY, AUGUST, 1962

The day following the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, two expeditions left London on overland journeys to Asia. One party of eight took two Ford vans to Persia. The other, a party of four 2/Lieutenants representing The Royal Warwickshire Regiment, The Worcestershire Regiment, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment and The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, drove a Land Rover to Northern Turkey. I was a member of the latter engaged in sociological survey of the area.

The idea was born before Christmas, 1961, and during the winter months the initial arrangements were made. Our first successes came when a leading Geographical Society gave the expedition £200 and the Royal Military Academy gave us £40. Food, drink, cigarettes, clothes, shoes, cooking gear and many other useful items followed in a healthy succession. So well were we supported by different firms that we found it impossible to take more than a third of the total supplies received. In addition the Automobile Association gave us a comprehensive outline of routes and of facilities available during the journey.

The Land Rover had to be equipped for such a journey—five thousand miles—and sealed against sun and sand. The numerous documents and visas were eventually secured with only two minor difficulties. The Army would not allow us to enter Bulgaria and no insurance firm would cover one of the members as a driver. Finally, contacts were made in both continents to safeguard against any eventuality. (As it happened, on two occasions we were very glad we had approached the various embassies before we left this country.)

We crossed from Dover to Ostend on the night of the 5th of August. The crossing was eventful inasmuch as we had to unpack all the luggage on the roof rack in order to fit into the car ferry. We docked early the next morning in pouring rain—the last rain we were to see for over four weeks. Past Brussels the weather brightened and we made good time on good roads through Germany, Austria and Yugoslavia.

Most travellers to Yugoslavia still tend to think of it as adventurous, but in fact many parts of the country are as modern as anywhere in Europe. It is true, however, that the Autoput is practically the only serviceable road, and towns not linked by this road are backward and rely purely on agriculture. Yugoslavia is, of course, a Communist country and although it is not typical many features distinguish it from Western Europe. The factory and farm workers, women included, all wear a thick blue serge suit to work in. Those not in this uniform appear to be wearing a very untidy and shapeless military uniform consisting of jackboots and denims. It was in Belgrade that we had our first and only trouble with our vehicle—the water pump collapsed. Previous liaison with the Belgrade military attache proved an asset and the Land Rover was repaired free of charge. While waiting we had an interesting conversation with an army major—a wartime soldier—and he outlined the structure of the Yugoslavian Army. Perhaps the most striking feature was that he had a salary comparable to what we were receiving in our last term at Sandhurst. He told us that everyone, regardless of his occupation or status, had to do eighteen months' service in the ranks and once in civilian clothes were completely out. This explained the mass of uniforms, as on top of conscription there was a large regular force.

Another notable feature about this country was the few vehicles on the roads and yet within three hours of entering we encountered three accidents, two of which were fatal. Having our vehicle back on the road we continued overnight from Belgrade to the Greek border. The Autoput very soon finished abruptly and left us following the telegraph poles as no real road was distinguishable.



Greece we found to be the most pleasant of countries, being surprisingly pro-British. Here we spent an interesting afternoon looking at Second World War battlefields superimposed on far more ancient battlegrounds. We were anxious, however, to continue our journey out of Europe.


Turkey was reached after six days of travelling and we felt we really were leaving civilisation behind. The rural areas were extremely poor. As it happened, however, it was nothing to what we were to encounter in Asia. A day was spent in Istanbul and very impressive it was both day and night. The population was seemingly military, street sellers or American. All important places, including roads and bridges, were of course guarded and have been since the last outbreak of violence. Finally we came to the climax of the expedition and crossed, by ferry, into Asia.

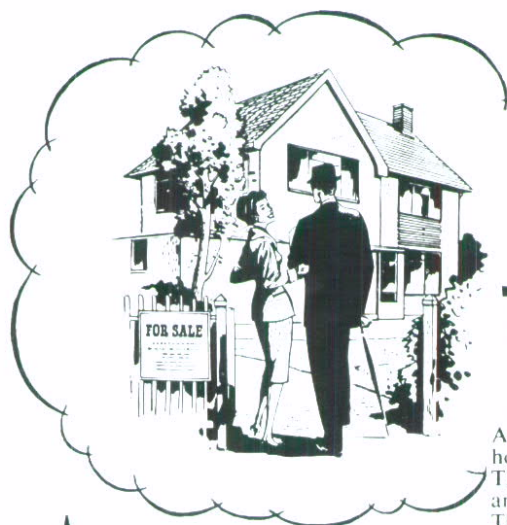
We decided to do one survey north-east and south-east of Ankara. This proved a very wise choice. The first village we went to had a complete Biblical setting. No Europeans had ever been there in living memory and consequently we had to rely entirely on our Turkish. We were royally received by these most charming people. We had tea with the Headman and with the Mayor, as well as many other interesting people. We were taken into the Mosque, a great honour, and up the Minarette tower. We visited the local school, the primitive hospital and the local army post. Everywhere we were met with friendliness and co-operation. We stayed with these people for five days before moving on to another village. Here again, in a village surrounded by old Hittite remains, we had a most enjoyable time. One member at least debated whether to spend a considerable time with these people, the atmosphere being so carefree and relaxing. A farewell gathering made it all the more difficult to leave.

The drive back across Europe was certainly an anti-climax and all too suddenly we hit the raw cold weather of the English summer. We were a healthy colour but very cold.

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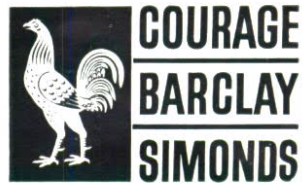
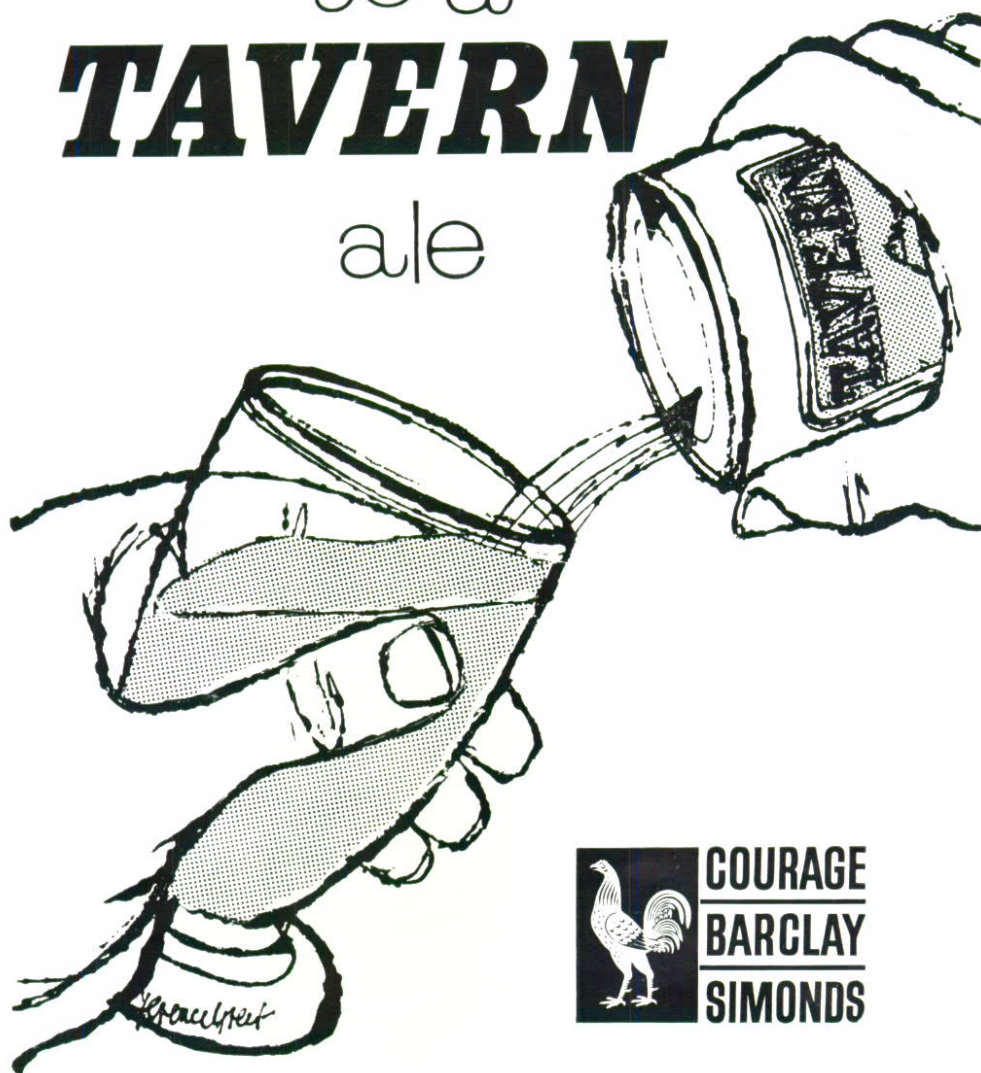
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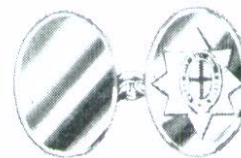
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