

Castle

The Journal of The Royal Anglian Regiment



MAY, 1972

“

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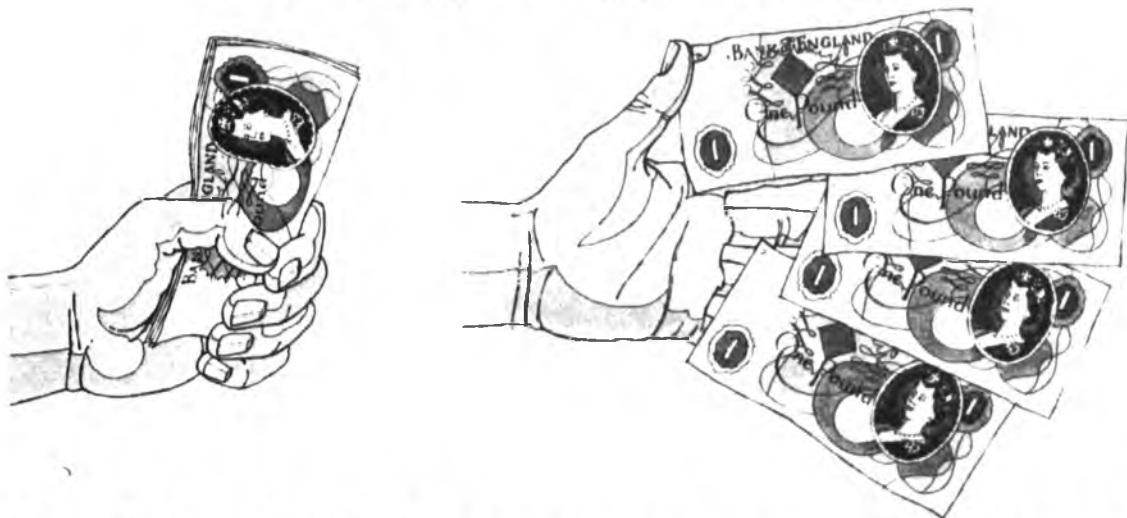
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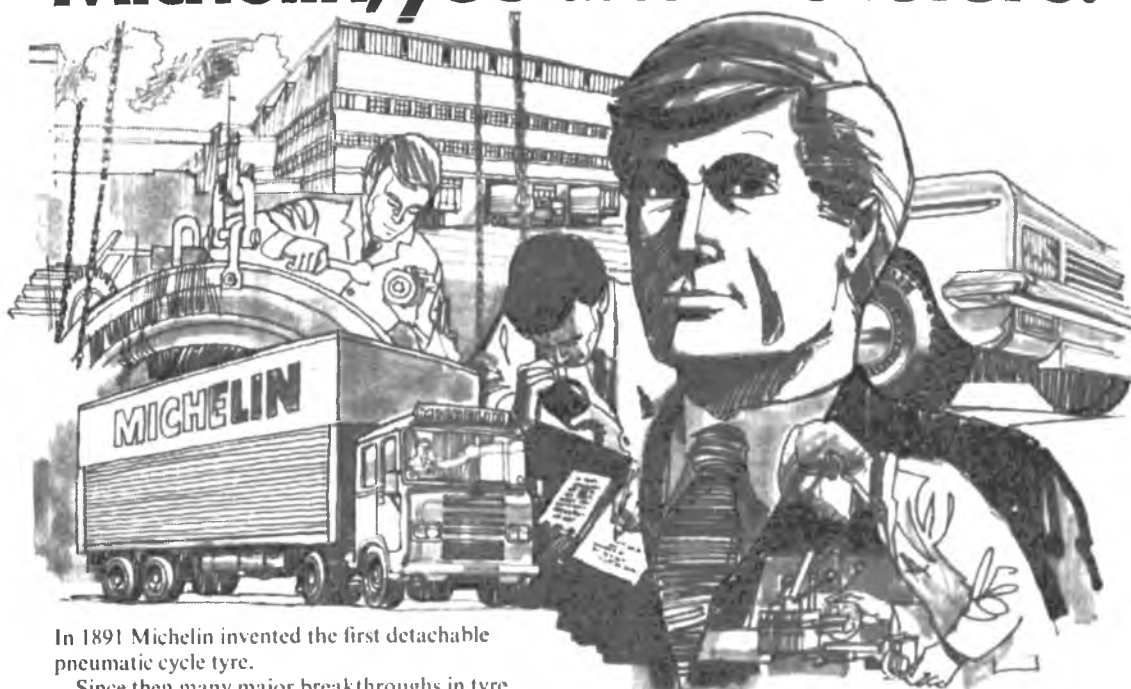
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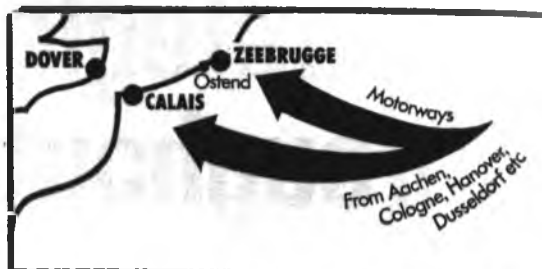


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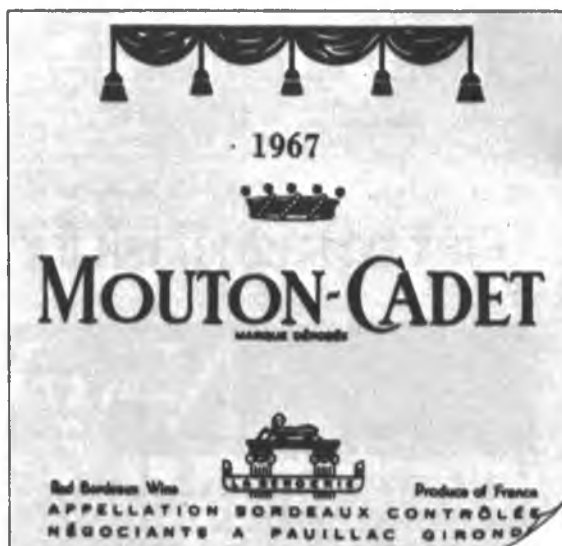
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Castle

The Journal of the Royal Anglian Regiment

MAY 1972

Vol. 4 No. 3

Contents

Page

- 3-6 Pte. Angle
- 7-9 Mainly About People
- 10-13 Pompadours
- 14-19 Tiger Company
- 20-26 Around the Branches
- 27-31 5th (Volunteer) Battalion
- 32-46 1st Battalion
- 46-49 6th (Volunteer) Battalion
- 49-53 Army Cadets
- 54-58 The Poachers
- 59-62 Sports Report
- 63-70 Marriages, Births, Obituaries, Deaths



Editor:

Lt.-Col. Murray Brown, DSO
(retd.)

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6th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment
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The Lincoln and Welland Regiment
The Essex and Kent Scottish

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The Gibraltar Regiment

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Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

Regimental Headquarters: Blenheim Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.
Telephone: Bury St. Edmunds 2394.

Regimental Secretary: Lt.-Colonel C. R. Murray Brown, DSO.

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major C. J. S. McMillen.

Regimental Secretaries:

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" (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire) - Colonel W. A. Heal, OBE
" (Lincolnshire) - Major E. Jessup
" (Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire) - Major D. Baxter.
" (Essex) - Major T. R. Stead, DL.
" (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) - Major D. T. Tewkesbury, MBE, DL.
" (Leicestershire and Rutland) - Major J. T. Dudley.

Pte. Angle

On Northern Ireland

The 1st Battalion finally left Londonderry on 11th March after a full accompanied tour. We wish them a well deserved and enjoyable tour in Cyprus.

The 3rd Battalion went to Belfast in March and walked straight into trouble in the Divis Flats area. The Battalion lost two of its members to I.R.A. bullets. Lieutenant Nicholas Hull and Pte. John Ballard. To their families all Royal Anglians express their deepest sympathy. Obituaries appear on page 65.

The 2nd Battalion are due to go to Belfast, their second tour, in August.



You must be joking! Medal in the 1st Battalion Officers' Mess.

On Colours for the Gibraltar Regiment

The Gibraltar Regiment received its first colours from Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Varyl Begg, Governor and Commander-in-Chief, on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen, at a parade held on 25th September, 1971. At this parade the Regiment was represented by General Jack Dye, who was accompanied by Mrs. Dye. Other Royal Anglians present to wish our Allied



Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Varyl Begg, presenting the Regimental Colour to the Colour Ensign, Lieutenant Billy Jardim.

Regiment all good fortune were Colonel Jimmy Hughes and Majors Stuart Green and John Hutchins. Also present, on leave from Germany, was Capt. Fofi Casciaro, who is at present serving on an exchange appointment with 2 R. Anglian.

There was much to-ing and fro-ing and string-pulling to try to find some way of sending one of our Bands to Gibraltar for the ceremony. Two frigates were actually standing by when MoD, in their infinite wisdom, said 'Sorry, no insurance'.

The Band and Drums of the 3rd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers played during the Presentation of Colours parade, then led the parade on its march down Main Street to the House of Assembly where the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. J. J. Porral, received the Freedom of the City from the Mayor. The formalities, over, the regiment marched off to enjoy well earned refreshments which had been prepared by fifteen ACC Cooks specially flown from London District to handle the catering arrangements. The reception held at the Officers' Mess was attended by over five hundred guests, including Colonel Sir Thomas Roberts, Bart., the first Commanding Officer of the unit after its foundation in 1939, who had flown from England to be present at the parade.

The Regiment was formed just before the

outbreak of the Second World War, as the Gibraltar Defence Force, a Voluntary Territorial organization. It was founded and built up by the then Governor, General, later Field Marshal Lord Ironside. He established a small anti-aircraft unit which later grew to Battery strength and was in action during the early part of the war. As hostilities in the Mediterranean decreased the force was slowly demobilized. After the war conscripts continued to be trained as gunners, till 1956 when to meet the changing needs of war the role of the Force was changed, and the renamed Gibraltar Regiment continued, this time primarily as an infantry unit. Until October 1971 the Regiment, with a permanent staff of forty together with a volunteer reserve of seventy, continued to train conscripts and reservists. With the recent abolition of compulsory military service on the Rock, The Gibraltar Regiment has become a T & AVR unit. The establishment comprises a headquarters, one infantry company, and one artillery battery, with a heavy troop of 9.2 guns and light air defence troop equipped with L40/70.

The people of Gibraltar take great pride in their Regiment and the 25th September will long be remembered as a proud day in the history of a regiment which, to quote the words of the Commanding Officer, is 'young in age and spirit'.



The CO, Lt.-Col. John Porral, receives the casket containing the Freedom Scroll from the Mayor of Gibraltar.

On Recruiting

This is not the platform from which to expound details of what we are doing about it. Suffice it to say that it is an expensive, exhausting and continuing exercise which is being pursued with the utmost vigour by all serving elements of the Regiment.

Any help, any prod in the right direction to a good young man, or any advice from our retired readers could mean the difference between sinking and swimming. WE INTEND TO SWIM. Please help. Officers and soldiers are needed and they must choose us, not any old regiment.

On Gibraltar Memories

I am reminded of the subaltern serving with one of our distinguished former regiments on the Rock just before World War II. Things were pretty tough then . . . Garrison HQ had just published a Routine Order to the effect that 'Officers would not appear in the Yacht Club before ten o'clock in the morning'. The Garrison Commander 'Hot Lunches' Curry ordered a practice emergency turn-out. The subaltern, now equally distinguished as a Member of Parliament, was Officer of the Guard on the Frontier Post. He had been learning Japanese at the same time as studying his military manuals! He took size ten in tin hats and was nicknamed 'Soup'. Hot Lunches said to Soup: 'What would you do if a crowd of Spaniards advanced across "no man's land" obviously intent on getting into Gibraltar?' 'Sir, I would send for a magistrate' flashed the answer.

On the Summer Reunion, 1972

Following our policy of moving around our Regimental Area, this year we are running an afternoon and evening function at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, on Saturday, 19th August. Plans are not yet firm; providing a Band is proving difficult with all Battalions abroad and the holiday season in full swing. There will be an officers cocktail party and an all ranks

dance. No. 2 (Royal Lincolnshire) Company 5th (V) Battalion is kindly doing all the catering and overheads and the Lincoln Branch of the 10th Foot Association is generously offering the use of their clubroom.

Information regarding details will be published widely through regimental offices.

On Army Golf

A right rocket was delivered at the Editor's table for the absence in last year's issues of mention of the result of the Argyll and Sutherland Bowl inter-regimental team knock-out. The winners were the 2nd Battalion Team consisting of five from Colonel Tony Noble, Brigadier Robert Osborne-Smith, Colonel John Akehurst, Brigadier Ralph Oulton, Lieut.-Colonel Wake Clark, and Lieut.-Colonel Harold Moore.

The same 2nd Battalion team, but including Major Allister Fennell, defended the trophy at Sandwich this year in early May but were unlucky to draw the eventual winners in their first round and were beaten by only one hole. In the final the 1st Battalion Team were beaten by the 2nd Royal Greenjackets by fifteen holes, the team being Captain Ian Pearce, Brigadier Tim Creasey, Lieut.-Colonel Bill Murray Brown, Lieut.-General Sir Ian Freeland and Major Tony Cobbold—the latter braving the sand dunes of Royal St. Georges Golf Club for the first time in place of Colonel Jock Carroll who had unfortunately dislocated his shoulder.

Captain Pearce again did well in the Army Championship, taking the Silver Medal with a 73 after a tie.

On Dates to Remember

On Dates to Remember

July 7th-8th: Regimental Golf, Flempton.

July 29th: Regimental Cricket versus Gentlemen of Suffolk, Ampton.

August 19th: Regimental Reunion, Lincoln.

September 23rd: Warrant Officers and Sergeants Past and Present Dinner, Bassingbourn.

October 6th: Officers Club Dinner, London.

On this Journal

Readers will receive the news that 'Castle' is to be published only once a year, commencing in 1973, with mixed emotions. Some will say 'Thank God, I've always been made to buy one when I didn't want to'—others 'A pity, a sign of the times, just another break with tradition.'

The Regimental Council, after much thought, have concluded that with costs rising every month and advertisers falling out at an alarming rate, the subsidy by regimental funds cannot be sustained. To raise the price from 25p would inevitably mean the loss of a good number of our faithful supporters from the Old Comrades Association of the former regiments and this would make things worse.

The publication date, probably around December 1973, will be notified in the October issue (which will be published in December) together with details of the form of presentation. The price will be 50p, so there will be no increase to the individual pocket over a year.

The Location and Seniority Lists will be published annually with 'Castle' as heretofore.

On HMS Lincoln

Major 'Gus' Segon, accompanied by his wife, represented the Regiment and the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association at the Recommissioning Ceremony of HMS Lincoln at Chatham on 7th August. Extracts from his report read:

'The First Lieutenant, Michael Goodwin, nephew of Lieut.-General Sir Richard Goodwin, reported to the Ship's Captain Michael H. G.

Layard, the ship's company was present and correct. Headed by a Band of HM's Royal Marines, the ship's Guard of Honour marched on parade to the tune of the Poacher (the Regimental March of the 10th Foot) and formed up before the dais for inspection.

'It was a thrill to hear the music of the "Poacher" being played by the Royal Marine Band, BUT, pondered Major Segon—"Had the Colonel of the Regiment accorded the ship this privilege", A former Colonel of the 10th Foot noted the band of the Royal Air Force College had "poached" the Regimental March, and subsequently gave his "official" permission to the R.A.F. College at Cranwell to play the march on all ceremonial occasions—and it is used to the present day.'

And God bless all who sail in her.

On Dress

The Khaki Beret with black patch behind the badge is to be worn by all officers forthwith. This replaces the blue beret. This conforms with the tradition started by the 1st Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, after the war. Not universally popular I understand. Nevertheless it does in some small measure compensate for the fact that the 9th Foot badges and accoutrements did not appear in the Royal Anglian dress to date.

The Service Dress hat is no longer an item of officers dress and the side hat is now a compulsory item.

We are still waiting for a very old officer to walk into RHQ wearing a 'former' regiment's dress!



MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Colonel Arthur Noble on his Knighthood. He has for very many years been associated with Territorial soldiering, having commanded the 4th Battalion, The Essex Regiment, where he was awarded the DSO. He is Honorary Colonel TAVR for Essex and has for many years been a prominent member of the TAVR Council.

To Colonels Geoffrey Howgego and Fergus Mackain-Bremner on their award of the OBE, and to Major Dick Robinson the MBE.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Fergus Mackain-Bremner and Capt. Peter Aplin on being awarded the Sultan of Muscat's Distinguished Service Medal with Gallantry emblem. The former is now GSO I Officers' Wing at the School of Infantry.

To Lieut.-Colonel John Porrall, CO of The Gibraltar Regiment, on his award of the OBE.

Congratulations to the 3rd Battalion on their sporting successes. The Infantry Cup is again theirs after soundly defeating the Kings Own Borderers by 4-1 at Aldershot. Pte. Maxwell won the Army and Combined Services Light Middleweight and was defeated in the finals of the Amateur Boxing Association. Certainly our best boxer for many years and good luck to him in the future.

Major G. R. Yates has been selected for promotion in 1973 to Lieut.-Colonel.

Brigadier Tim Creasey has been appointed Commander, Sultan of Muscats Armed Forces in October with promotion to Major-General.

Lieut.-Colonel John Akehurst is to be Commandant of the Junior Command and Staff Course in September with promotion to Colonel.

Lieut.-Col. Brian Emsden is to be promoted to Colonel in July with an appointment in MOD.





The CO presenting a piece of Derry Wails to Brigadier Cowan when he handed over command of 8th Infantry Brigade on 28th October, 1971.



Gen. Freeland presents the LS and GC medal to Lt. Paul Garman.

The Colonel of the Regiment paid a courtesy call on the Mayor of Bury St. Edmunds on 19th November, 1971, this being his first official function after assuming his appointment.



The Colonel of the Regiment attended a dinner given in his honour by the Lord Mayor of Leicester on 19th January. He visited the Army Recruiting Office in Leicester and next day drove to Northampton, where he called on the Mayor and the Army Recruiting Office. Carrying on his recruiting drive, he visited the Mayor of Norwich and the Recruiting Office on 10th February and paid similar visits to Peterborough on 30th April, attending the Peterborough Show in the evening. He hopes gradually to visit all the main towns in the regimental area.



Lieut.-Colonel Dick Holman, British Defence Attache, Addis Ababa, writes to say that he attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Keren Cemetery last November. There are fifteen Essex Regiment graves there and one Suffolk. The cemetery is in excellent condition as shown in the photograph and the setting remains as peaceful as ever with its backdrop of the very mountains where most of the fighting took place. The Ethiopian Army provided a large Guard of Honour and buglers.



**The Keren Cemetery
1st Battalion**



1st Battalion
Members of 'B' Company
share a joke with the PM.

The following have been granted Commissions in the Regiment. From RMA Sandhurst: 2Lts. Debono, French and Groom. From Mons: 2Lts. Dexter (brother), Shipley and Tomlin. Congratulations and best wishes to them all. Also to Lieut. Edey, commissioned from WO2 from the Queens Regiment.



Felstead School CCF is now affiliated to the Regiment. We hope this will help them, and also provide us with officers in the years to come.



Major J. A. 'Donald' Girdwood has left Regimental Headquarters on being declared redundant due to a cut in the establishment. His patience in dealing with welfare cases and his courteous welcome to all who came to the headquarters will be missed. He was commissioned into the Northamptonshire Regiment in 1937 and retired in 1966 when he came to RHQ as Assistant Regimental Secretary.

He lives in Bury St. Edmunds and now works for the Suffolk Red Cross.



Officers' Dinner Club

The annual dinner will be held at the United Services and Royal Aero Club on Friday, 6th October, 1972. The usual notices to members will be following in due course.

Honours and Awards Congratulations to:



Brigadier Bavin presenting the MSM to WO.I Smith.



**Visit of Col. Sir Harwood Harrison, MP.
Col. Harrison at the controls of a FV432
with Sgt. Waqiaroba.**



The Battalion answers the Commanding Officer's Toast — 'The Pompadours' at the Christmas Lunch.

Pompadours

The end of a hectic training season brought brief respite, for soon we were hard at it preparing for our annual FFR. The Mech Companies were warned for IS ops and the BG HQ and Echelon elements for inspection in a BAOR role. A last-minute change of plan by the Brigade Commander caught Comd Company and Admin Company by surprise, but they recovered quickly and apart from a few UN blue steel helmets noted on the Commanding

Officer's preliminary inspection, quickly painted, the Battalion was pretty well on the ball and the result was a most satisfactory report.

In November we had a change of command and welcomed Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Hall-Tipping, saying goodbye to Lieutenant Colonel Keith Burch, who departed for Warminster to rewrite 'The Infantry Battalion in Battle'.

The Padre, Reverend James Symonds, alias Santa Claus, hands out presents at the Children's Christ Party.



In December there appeared to be a never-ending list of Christmas functions from company parties, children's parties, Mess functions to the Micky Hayes Show. Christmas was thoroughly enjoyed by all, though it proved to be pretty exhausting.

Suddenly it was 1972 and the PRE was held in the first week of January. Again we were hard at it cleaning, oiling and painting, and again we were rewarded by an excellent report.

cal headaches, in some cases, for the luckless sections operating against them. All very valuable training.

Drumhead Service

A Drumhead Service, conducted by the Padre, the Reverend James Symonds, was held on the Battalion Square on the eve of the departure of the Advance Party to Northern



Commanding Officer's Orders? No—AIKIDO training with 'C' Company. L to r: Pte. Lowe, The Commanding Officer, Pte. Burman and the Adjutant.

IS Training

Our IS training in preparation for our forthcoming tour in Northern Ireland started with the FFR in November last year and has increased in intensity, culminating in individual company exercises and a final, very realistic, three-day Battalion Exercise to add the finishing touches before our arrival in the Falls in April. Buildings and roads within the Barracks were renamed, and bombs, riots and snipers became commonplace. The Recce Platoon and the LAD provided us with an elusive and determined subversive element and kept us very much on our toes. As rioters they must surely be deserving of Oscars for their performance. They certainly provided both mental and physi-

Ireland. Few can remember when we last held a service of this kind, which was attended on this occasion by our families and a few guests, who included the Commander of 20 Armoured Brigade, Brigadier R. G. Lawson. It was a moving ceremony and was followed by drinks and buffet lunches in company clubs and messes.

Northern Ireland

We now feel fully and well prepared for our four months' stint in Northern Ireland. The Battalion will have taken over from 1 Glosters by the middle of April, in Belfast. At the time of writing the Pre Advance Party is already there and the Advance Party about to leave.

Visitors

The first few months of the year have brought a number of visitors to the Battalion. Our new Divisional Commander, Major General A. H. Farrar-Hockley, whom we last saw when he was commanding 16 Parachute Brigade in Aldershot, and our new Brigade Commander, Brigadier R. G. Lawson, DSO, OBE, have both paid us visits. So, too, has Major General J. B. Dye, CBE, MC, the Colonel Commandant of The Queen's Division.

We were, of course, delighted to have the Colonel of the Regiment when he came to see the Battalion for two days in February. He saw companies training and was entertained by the officers at a Regimental Dinner Night. He also opened our new Wives' Club which will serve as a meeting place for the wives whilst the Battalion is in Belfast.



Visit of The Colonel of The Regiment—meeting CSM 'A' Company WO.II Brunning. L to r: The Adjutant, Captain C. Groves, The Colonel of The Regiment, WO.II Brunning, Captain M. J. Peele, MC, and the Commanding Officer.



The Commander 4th Division, Major-General A. H. Farrar Hockley, DSO, MBE, MC, discussing IS Training with Pte. Dowell of 'B' Company.

Gen. Freeland with Mrs. Hall-Tipping, Mrs. Woodisse, Mrs. Veitch and Mrs. Downes at the opening of the Wives' Club.



Miss Lesley Lodemore, Miss Anglia 1971, who visited the Pompadours in March, Her father was a Pompadour.

Miss Anglia

A beautiful and charming Miss Anglia, Miss Lesley Lodemore, visited the Pompadours on the 25th, 26th and 27th March. Accompanied by an Anglia Television team, she met many soldiers from East Anglia, attended the All Ranks Dance on the 26th March and the

Drumhead Service the next day. She was a very popular dancing partner at the All Ranks Dance and must have been very weary when the time came for us to regretfully wave her goodbye as she left to visit the 2nd Battalion in Munster.



The Corps of Drums on the Ceremonial Changing of the Guard.

TIGER COMPANY

Tiger Company has had little time to relax during the six months since October, and indeed some readers may be surprised to learn that the Company is now in Gibraltar on a six-month unaccompanied tour.

On the 14th October the Company was visited by our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester. An account of her visit will be found elsewhere in these notes. Just one month later, after a certain joyful resignation had set in to spend a second year providing the Demonstration Platoons at Sandhurst and Mons, the Company was warned for an Emergency Tour in Gibraltar, to begin in late January. It might be of interest to note that in Gibraltar the Company took over from those 'other' Tigers, the representative Company of the Royal Hampshire Regiment, who returned to England early to be reformed, as indeed did their predecessors here, the Company of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. We hope that it may be third time lucky, too.

We handed over our Sandhurst and Mons duties to the 1/7 Gurkhas just before Christmas, though we did carry out one exercise at Sandhurst in the New Year by their special request, namely Exercise . . . would you believe?

. . . TIGER—which many a Sandhurst-trained officer might remember under its former title of PEGASUS—where our professional NCOs show cadet riflemen just how a platoon really operates in war.

'A' Platoon

For us the Sandhurst demonstration role is temporarily over. We left after a summer season which, according to ardent demonstration-goers, was the best ever since the previous summer. In view of the falling box office returns and the prospect of doing, for the eighth time, that timeless thriller 'The Platoon in the Advance to Contact', in thick fog with only the coughs of an unseen audience by which to maintain direction, we left the winter season to a band of strolling Gurkhas.

For the actors in 'A' Troupe, no more the agony of awaiting the publication of audition results—'Oh! You're always point section' . . . 'It's not fair. Why do I always get the 84 mm.' . . . 'My lead scout has so much more pathos than yours. Your dying in rubbish.' No more the painstaking 'blacking up' in front of vehicle mirrors. No more of Sunray's newly-found expertise following his 'A' grading on the Unit

Ceremonial Guard Changes on the Frontier. Left to right: Pte. Hedges, Pte. Mann, CSM Spalding, Major Heggs, Cpl. Fuller, Cpl. Kerr.

Magician Course—who else could demonstrate the 38 man Platoon attack with 22 men and with only a collection of coloured helmets as props? No more the prompters cry 'Look to your front; you will NOW see the point section deploying' echoing time and time again over the Barossa Stage, as the PA system fades to a tinny whisper and a lone harassed corporal strains his well-camouflaged ear towards the spectators. No more the joy of watching two officers' wives on horseback unknowingly trot into the killing zone of an area ambush—oblivious to the two Arabs crouched by the oasis and the terrorist gang tiptoeing out of the dripping fir trees. No more the 'Act One, Scene Two, Take Two' as the missing half of the audience appears like a green crocodile behind a sweating Captain and his dog—Stage left: twenty minutes after the show had started.

But already the actors of 'A' Troupe are reminiscing; long arguments as to who was the best Chinese dhobi-man in the farce 'Duties of a Sentry', or who was prettiest in the front rank of that pageant 'Organisation of the Rifle Platoon'. Next season we open with the Spectacular Musical Drama 'The Platoon in Defence' . . . Overture — Starters — Curtains — Helmets on . . .

Congratulations to two successive Platoon Sergeants who have received 'B' Gradings at Netley—one has been asked to return as an Instructor after our final term of demonstrating.

'B' Platoon

It had been one of those days which we had come to regard as typical of Dartmoor, having returned there for the third time with Mons OCS on Exercise 'Baskerville'. It had been a long and cold day and we were grateful for what was to be an early night because of the early rise the following morning.

Private Cooper, the OC's driver, brought news of Major Heggs' arrival at Oakhampton Camp, late on that evening at the end of October, with the message that the Major wanted to see all NCOs and the Platoon Commander immediately. With that we crammed into a small room and Major Heggs arrived. We all must have thought back over the past few days wondering what it was that had gone wrong(so very very wrong that the OC felt he had to



come all the way from Aldershot to see us. His voice was serious but quiet; it had to be an dynamic pronouncement . . . 'Gibraltar January!'

And so it was. Our world under the guise of Fantasians or El Bingo's Gang, and the Helmet Identification Board, was for a time at least over. Not that it hadn't been enjoyable. Who else can claim to have come off a fighting patrol in the middle of Sennybridge, returned to his tented camp, and be offered five choices of main course for tea (thank you, Corporal Turvey), before settling down to watch a film? But we had done ten months, and, great fun though it was, a change was very welcome.

We handed over to the Gurkhas before Christmas, but not without leaving them with one or two problems. We had *almost* passed as local shepherds on Dartmoor (apart from the inevitable DMS boot, and the unlikely tale of a Geordie having been born and been brought up as a local). But when you don't even speak English, you could have problems!

A generous Christmas break brought us all back to Aldershot, much in need of the short

but intensive training period we underwent. Ten months of demonstrating made us almost certainly masters of the Platoon Attack (so long as it was at Grid Reference 782983) and of Section Battle Drills (so long as we had a Football Pitch), but basic drills and shooting had to be polished up, and duly were.

And so here we are—Dartmoor being a very far cry from Gibraltar.

Gibraltar

The Advance Party arrived in Gibraltar on the 20th January, with the Main Body coming a week later. The soldiers, in the same way as they euphemistically called the jungles of Malaysia 'the woods', soon named the Rock 'the High Ground', which is a good military term anyway. The Company are carrying out the same role here as did the 2nd Battalion in 1969, only it has only half the number of men. As the North Front Company it guards the Gibraltar-Spain frontier—some 1,200 metres long—for three weeks in every four (each platoon does one week), while 1 RRF does each fourth week. This task is a tedious one, but seems to be carried out effectively as, to date, the Super Soldiers of 6 SBS haven't yet managed to violate the integrity of the frontier security.

We see a lot of the Gibraltar Regiment, who are affiliated to us, though we have not yet exercised with them. Captain Tony Taylor has just left 'the High Ground' after eighteen months as their Training Officer, while the Fortress Headquarters has as its GSO 1 Lt.-Col. Jimmy Hughes, and as its GSO 2 (Intelligence) Major Stuart Green—the Blue Mafia. 1 RRF, the Resident Battalion here, contains a number

of former, temporary Royal Anglians: Captain Simon Yates (Tigers—Bahrain) is Adjutant; Lt. David Daniels (Tigers—Bahrain) is Mortar Officer; Capt. David Hoyle (Vikings—Ulster) is a Company Second-in-Command; WO.II Edwards (a longstanding Tiger) is to be RQMS in May, while Cpl. Keightley, and Ptes. Matthews and Carr (all ex-Tigers), and WO.II Hill (a former Poacher) are now Fusiliers. Fusilier Stephens has returned to us as a Private, after eighteen months—at his own request.

The Tigers' Den used to be the name of our Company Club at Mons. Well, now it is the name of one of the bars in the 'Gibraltar Arms', that well-known drinking place in Gibraltar's Main Street. Kindly lent by Mr. Louis Stagnetto, the bar is for the exclusive use of the soldiers of Tiger Company, and is resplendent with the predictable Tigerskin on the wall.

The Royal Air Force are our kind hosts here, as we live in their accommodation and work around their airfield. They call it RAF Gibraltar; we Devils Tower Barracks. The usual friendly rivalry exists between us and the Junior Service, but, even though we don't have double-glazing, we are always happy to let them use our enormous parade ground as a runway!

The Corps of Drums

Because of our pending tour in Gibraltar and its associated tourist attractions, it was decided to form a Corps of Drums. We were very lucky to have in the Company two former members of the 4th Battalion Corps of Drums, namely drummer Cpl. Carter and bugler L/Cpl. Cripps. These two have proved outstanding teachers since the Drums' formation on 6th December.

Pte. Colman observe Spain.



We are particularly grateful to the City of Leicester for letting us have back five silver sidedrums, the two tenor drums and the base drum, as these, worn with tigerskins, provide such a splendid sight as compared with the issue ones.

In Gibraltar the Corps of Drums is the pride of the Company and the toast of 'the High Ground'; their tricky stickwork has set this place talking—even the Fusiliers are endeavouring to copy it. The limitations to the music which can be supplied by only eight buglers is fully understood, but for all that ours play enthusiastically and tunefully. There is a splash of colour, martial music and military precision each Thursday morning at the Frontier Gates when the Ceremonial Changing of the Guard takes place. Large numbers of tourists flock to watch this—and the summer hasn't even started yet! In addition to this the Drummers have played, to the great admiration of the spectators, at the officers' and at the sergeants' Welcoming Cocktail Parties, and on stage at a Charity Variety Show. L/Cpl. Cripps is one of our three who play at sunset on the Frontier each evening, and he himself has been called on to play the Last Post (!) at a recent wedding, as well as in front of the American CBS TV cameras which were doing a documentary on British Imperialism!

Any drummers or buglers in other Battalions who desire a life in the sun under the admiring gaze of tourists, put in your transfer to the Tigers NOW.

Support Platoon

The addition of a Support Platoon to Tiger Company provided a unique structure within the framework of present day Infantry Organisation, by bringing together within one platoon two 81 mm. mortars, two Wombats and three GPMGs (SF). This formation was forced on the Company by the operational requirements for its emergency tour in Gibraltar.

The Platoon first gathered together on 7th January, drawing some of its expertise from the 2nd Battalion in the persons of that old Tiger Sgt. Hurry, and of Cpls. Wright and Walker, while from the 3rd Battalion came Sgt. King and L/Cpls. Harriot and Starbuck. Lt. Robert Pepper arrived from Munster to command the platoon, and our own Cpl. Harrison retained command of the machine guns.

The Platoon was given one week's training before they 'concentrated' under the critical eyes of the experts at Netheravon. Regardless of the fact that it was to use Wombats in Gibraltar, it nevertheless carried out initial training on the Combats of 1/7 GR at Church Crookham, who very kindly made all their facilities available. In the meantime the Machine Gun Section trained under the CASC at Mons. In the second week, whilst the machine gunners 'live fired' on Ash Ranges, the other two sections went down to the Support Weapons Wing at Netheravon, and whilst there achieved quite remarkable results. Of the forty round of Prac Ammo allocated to the Anti Tank guns, thirty-nine hits were recorded on the Tank hulks



Support Platoon with additional FGA provided by a Hawker Hunter of 229 Sqn. OCU.

(though rumour does not have the range, gun to target!). On the other side of the Ranges the mortars took part in the Officers' Division Part I Shoot, and caused a certain consternation by producing a 25 metre belt on their very first shoot. The 'Dog and Gun' with its push-penny and sawdust floor, is remembered with affection.

The platoon has settled down quickly here in Gibraltar and look forward to completing a good tour. We have a confusing number of roles to play: at one moment a conventional Support Platoon, the next an IS Rifle Platoon, and the next a GD Platoon on frontier security duty. Fortunately we are not required to do all three at once!

Company Headquarters and the Administrative Platoon

The strength (paper strength that is, for we provide the bridge and the engine-room of this outfit) of this sub-sub-unit fluctuates daily, and we have a high rate of turn-over of personnel. Capt. John Childs has left us after almost a year as Second-in-Command, and we wish him well on his temporary tour in Ulster and on his more permanent one in BFPO I; he is believed to be one of the few who can claim to have been a Viking, a Poacher, a Pompadour and a Tiger. In his place we welcome Capt. Michael Goldschmidt, who has returned after twenty months chatting up the Sheilas and stirring martinis in Western Australia.

We have had a battery of Company Sergeant Majors these last six weeks. Sergeant Major Spalding left us at the beginning of March after seven years' service with the 4th Battalion. We wish him well in the 1st Battalion in Cyprus. WO.II Jones took over as CSM and now he too, on 6th April, has left us, after seventeen years a Tiger, to become a Poacher. We welcome Sergeant Major Aldridge from the Vikings.

The Company office has also worked commendably hard under severe manning restrictions: our temporary Chief Clerk Cpl. Spelman is waiting for Cpl. Longland to arrive from Aldershot, where the latter is awaiting a birth—we are not sure whether it is a birth of a baby, or a berth on an aeroplane; and then L/Cpl. Finbow pushed off for a swan just when the paper needed to be pumped out at an even faster rate!



Pte. Hedges, who believes Bishops can only move sideways.

Visits

Since our arrival in Gibraltar we have been visited by the Deputy Fortress Commander, Brigadier N. Birbeck, and by the Bishop of Croydon, the Bishop to the Forces. The latter was shown round the Frontier defences and Pte. Hedges was playing a game of chess in the Guardroom at the time; when asked why the Bishop did not actually come into the Guardroom, Hedges replied 'Well, he was facing the Guardroom door, and bishops can only move diagonally.'

Colonel Mike Pallot, our Deputy Colonel, and the Lord Mayor of Leicester, Alderman Percy Watts, visited Tiger Company from 4th to 8th April. The Lord Mayor was accompanied by his Town Clerk, Mr. Robert Thornton, and his Secretary, Mr. Stanley Smith. A report of this visit will appear in the next edition of the CASTLE.

Visit of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester to Tiger Company

On the morning of 14th October, 1971, the skies cleared, the wind dropped and a helicopter of the Royal Flight landed on the Square at Mons in bright sunshine.

Her Royal Highness was met by the Commandant of Mons OCS, Brigadier Sir Jeffrey Darrell, and the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Colonel M. St. G. Pallot. There immediately followed a photograph of all ranks of Tiger Company with Her Royal Highness, Colonel Pallot and Major John Dudley, the Regimental Secretary for Leicestershire and Rutland. Her Royal Highness then drove to the



Left to right: Major Hegg,
H.R.H., Lt. Shalders, Pte.
Jones.

Officers' Mess and was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Tina, the seven-year-old daughter of Cpl. and Mrs. J. Harrison. Coffee was served and Her Royal Highness met informally the soldiers of the Company and their wives.

After coffee, 'B' Platoon, commanded by Lt. Peter Field, put on a demonstration of Section Battle Drills. Her Royal Highness was particularly amused by the antics of Pte. Newby and Cpl. Rushton, who both gave a brilliant display of how it should not be done.

Her Royal Highness then travelled by road to Government House at RMA Sandhurst, for lunch with Major-General and Mrs. Tower. In the afternoon, it was the turn of Lt. Peter

Shalders, 'A' Platoon, and they put on a demonstration of anti-riot drills, and showed to Her Royal Highness some of the latest IS equipment.

It was at this stage that the only hitch occurred in the programme. Prior to the visit Lt.-Col. Simon Bland, the Private Secretary to Her Royal Highness, had indicated that he was very interested in the rubber bullet, and said he would like to fire one. However, Lt. Shalders had got so carried away with his demonstration that by the time it came to Colonel Bland's turn, there was no ammunition left. Thank you, Lt. Shalders.

After inspecting the Churchill Hall, Her Royal Highness boarded the Royal helicopter, and as she departed all ranks formed in hollow square and gave three cheers for the Deputy Colonel-in-Chief.

The final event of the day was the social held in the Tigers' Den at Mons that evening, which was attended by Colonel Pallot and by all ranks of the Company. The 14th October, 1971, was the most proud and unforgettable day in our short history.



Left to right: Mrs. Silver, Pte. Silver, Mrs.
Howliston, Cpl. Kingshott, H.R.H., Mrs. Kingshot.

Around the Branches

10th FOOT ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

We have lost a staunch supporter of our Association and regimental activities with the passing at an early age of Colonel Jack Bennett.

Our Chelsea In-Pensioners 'Roll Call' has increased to four with ex-4797409 Sgt. T. Grice joining ex-Sgt. S. Edwards, ex-Sgt. J. P. Leonard and ex-Pte. H. S. Palmer and we are looking forward to them all joining us at our Annual Reunion in September.

Annual Reunion 1972

The Annual Reunion will again be held at the 'Beacholme', Humberstone, near Cleethorpes, Lincs., as follows:

Saturday, 23rd September, 1972

Annual General Committee Meeting at 2.30 p.m., followed by

Annual meeting at 4.00 p.m.

Dinner 7 for 7.30 p.m.

Dancing and other entertainment will follow the dinner.

Delightful chalet accommodation, meals, etc., are available for those wishing to stay at the 'Beacholme', which is a first class holiday centre. Full details and dinner tickets can be obtained from the Lincoln Branch Hon. Secretary, Captain W. H. Lewin, 192 Riseholme Road, Lincoln. Tel: Waterside 2768.

Sunday, 24th September, 1972

Divine Service—details later.

Annual Reunion, 1971

The Annual Reunion was held at the 'Beachholme' on Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th September, 1971.

At the General Committee Meeting after a welcome from our President, Major-General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, Major C. H. Macklam, who so kindly 'stood in' for our Secretary who was unable to be present due to his wife's serious illness, gave a detailed report

of the activities of the Executive Committee during the year. He also presented our Honorary Secretary and Treasurer's report on the year's activities. He expressed thanks for the grants received from the Army Benevolent Fund, the Royal Anglian Regimental Benevolent Fund, donations from Branches, subscriptions from all members, and for the assistance given by the many voluntary organisations in investigating our benevolent cases.

The General Meeting followed and our President welcomed all those present and gave a resumé of the business transacted at the General Committee Meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting and the accounts were approved.

Yet another record attendance at the Annual Dinner when 415 members and guests sat down to an excellent meal in the 'Starlight Room'. Our President presided and welcomed our guests who came from many parts of the world including Captain and Mrs. Charles Adams and Mr. and Mrs. Keith Aubrey from Bermuda and our great friend Colonel Vincent Kehoe and his wife from USA. The 'Ode to the Fallen' was recited by Captain Guy Bray, Chairman of the Spalding Branch. The 'highlight' of the evening was Captain Adams presenting to our President a plaque to commemorate the long association of the Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps Association with our Regiment, which now has a permanent place in our Regimental Museum at Lincoln. It was grand to have as guests our three Chelsea Pensioners who had travelled up for the weekend, and they really did enjoy themselves. Thanks to Lincoln Branch for looking after them so well.

Afterwards a very good time was had by all with the usual festivities.

We must express our appreciation for the excellent arrangements carried out by our small but active Spalding Branch under Captain Guy Bray, his Committee and Members, and great credit is due to them all for their personal efforts which gave us all such an enjoyable Reunion.

A well-attended Drum Head Service was held on Sunday morning with the Rev. Hugh Toft

Oakes kindly taking the Service, and our President reading the Lesson.

Lincoln Branch

Lincoln, like so many other industrial towns has had its share of 'cut backs' bringing redundancy and unemployment. This unfortunately has affected quite a few of our members, and naturally some have had to seek employment outside the city. One of these, a popular well-liked member for a number of years (way back to the old Sergeants' Mess days) is our good friend Reg Kennedy, who with his wife Joyce, has taken up the position of 'mine host' at the 'Torksey Golf Club'. We wish both of them success in their new venture.

Social activities continue. Our ladies are making a name in the Darts League. None of the Branch social evenings were put off by the 'high risk' periods of the power cuts, thanks to all members who brought along candles, Tilley lamps and the like.

The Branch Annual Dinner held at the Silvergate Restaurant, Lincoln, on 12th February, 1972, was attended by some 240 members and their guests. This turned out to be like a 'mini' reunion, as many of our friends from Grimsby, Louth and London Branches attended, many of whom have now joined our Branch since the closing of Louth and London Branches. We welcomed as guests Major and Mrs. Macklam, and our Secretary of the Regimental Association, Major Eric Jessup. The Dinner will be held at the same place on Saturday, 10th February, 1973. We are hoping that many ex-Lincolns will come along and make it a real 'Sobraon' celebration.

About 25 Lincoln members attended Grimsby Branch Dinner on 11th March, at the Winter Gardens, Cleethorpes. We all enjoyed a very good meal, and a pleasant evening with our friends.

Spalding Branch

With early planning, running of a raffle on 'The Derby', gifts of prizes and donations from our tradesmen and residents of Spalding who always remember the Regiment with pride, the Reunion at 'Beacholme', which was our responsibility this year, was a big success in every way. Special thanks to our Treasurer, Mr. N. Dalton, for controlling the finances so successfully, even producing a little credit, Mr. B. Broughton for organising the raffles, prizes, etc., our Stewards Mr. S. Goodwin and Mr. B. Coles, assisted by Mr. F. Rains, and last but not least our Secre-

tary Mr. A. Waterfall. There is much pride which Branches take in being the host for our Association's Annual Reunion.

We record with sadness the passing of ex-CSM Horace Shipley, who has been such a keen and loyal supporter of our Branch, serving as a Committee Members since reforming in 1946.

The Lonely Grave

(An echo from the past of the 10th of Foot)

By MAJOR K. T. FRENCH, MBE, RCT.

You come across some unexpected things in the Far East, and Malaysia has as many surprises as any other country in this mysterious and exciting part of the world. Who would expect to find a beautifully tended military grave on the outskirts of a Malaysian kampong, and the 10th of Foot, The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment at that! But this is the case.

About a mile to the south of Seremban is the kampong, Rasah New Village, I have mentioned. On the edge of this village, hidden by a patch of scrub and some rather untidy plots of maize is the grave.

The grave and its memorial stone are in a plot of grass about the size of half a tennis court, fenced off by white concrete posts which also enclose three small cannon contemporary with the soldiers in the grave. The year was 1875! The grass is lush, close sown and well trimmed—another unusual thing for those parts, and it seems that the peace and neatness of this little haven in such wild surroundings is due to Mr. Kim Koo Lim, a Chinese Depot Superintendent. It is not certain that he 'found' the grave, but he tends it regularly and has done so for many years.

The solemnity of this little oasis is somewhat shaken by a curious notice planted near the grave. It reads:

NOTICE

BY ORDER OF THE DISTRICT OFFICER
SEREMBAN NO ONE SHOULD COME TO
PRAY FOR NUMBERS 'LOTTERY' OR
TRESPASS INTO THIS GRAVEYARD.
TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED.

This is repeated in Chinese.

An explanation is due here. The Malaysians, especially the Chinese component, are great gamblers and very superstitious. The numbers of the tickets for the National Lottery and other

lotteries is the subject of much serious consideration, discussion and even prayer. In the Chinese philosophy, the death of Sergeant Owen and his friends 'absorbed' a great deal of bad luck, therefore there must be a corresponding amount of good luck floating around somewhere. Had they been known, even the regimental numbers of these soldiers would have been used with complete faith for permutations. The charm of the graveyard is somehow enhanced by this strange notice so seriously intended.

As a Grimbarian whose first Army unit was the then Lincolnshire Regiment, I was most interested and touched to discover this 'corner of some foreign field' which will be for ever Lincolnshire.

The *History of the 10th of Foot* (Lee, published 1910) covers the period in question. The unsettled times (1872 et seq.) are described, and how companies of the 10th were deployed to Penang and Malacca. It is worth reading.

THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

The Annual Reunion dinner was held at the T.A.V.R. Centre, Aylsham Road, Norwich, on 25th September, 1971, which was attended by 330 members. The following day there was a large congregation at the annual service held in the Regimental Chapel, Norwich Cathedral.

Other reunion dinners were held by the London Branch, King's Lynn Branch, the 2/6th

Cyclist Bn (1914-18) and 1st Bn Officers D.V. Club, all of which were very well attended.

V.C. Memorial

The City of Norwich has named the roads on a new housing estate after the names of the five V.C.s awarded to members of the Regiment during the 1939-45 war. A block of old people's flats has also been erected in this area and has been named Britannia Court. A memorial plaque has been placed on the wall of this block suitably inscribed with the names of the recipients of the V.C.s.

The plaque was unveiled on the 15th November by the Lord Mayor of Norwich before a representative gathering of members of the Norwich Corporation and members of the Regiment—including Major David Jamieson, V.C. It was a very moving but simple ceremony with brief but very much to the point speeches by the Lord Mayor and Brigadier F. P. Barclay.

Regimental War Memorial Cottages

On Sunday, 26th September, a ceremony was held at the 1914-18 War Memorial Cottages to mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of these cottages for occupation by disabled members of the Regiment. The ceremony took the form of a short service of Thanksgiving followed by refreshments on the lawn in front of the cottages. The ceremony was attended by H.M. Lieutenant Sir Edmund Bacon, Bart., who, accompanied by Lady Bacon and Brigadier F. P. Barclay, visited the occupants and



The Lord Lieutenant, Sir Edmund Bacon, addressing the gathering at the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the Memorial Cottages.



The Lord Lieutenant talking to Pensioner CSM T. Lawrence. CSM Lawrence was one of the party of Depot Recruits who helped to dig the foundations for the cottages in 1920.

were full of congratulations on the high standard of the cottages and the excellence of the gardens and surrounds.

The Regiment has 12 cottages erected as a War Memorial for those who gave their lives in the 1914-18 war and a further 10 bungalows being a memorial to the fallen in the 1939-45 war. The cottages and six bungalows are located on the outskirts of Norwich and four bungalows at King's Lynn. To qualify for a tenancy the applicant must have served in the Regiment and be in receipt of a disability pension.

Regimental Sweepstake

This will be held again this year on the St. Leger. Tickets can be obtained from the Secretary at Norwich. So far £2,026 has been raised for the Benevolent Fund, all of which is used in assisting those members of the Regiment who are in need.

Royal Norfolk Show

The Regimental Tent will be available to all officers of The Royal Anglian Regiment who may be attending the Royal Norfolk Show, 28th-29th June, 1972.

H.M.S. Norfolk

Norfolk has just completed her first deployment as a fully operational ship, having visited five countries, taken part in three major fleet exercises and steamed 17,000 miles.

On 5th November, whilst at Gibraltar, the Prince of Wales joined for the beginning of his sea training. We are extremely proud of this and congratulate Capt. Cooke, R.N., and the

ship's company on having been selected for this honour.

The ship will soon be undergoing trials and work-up at Portland in March. This will be followed by another deployment to the Mediterranean.

Date for your Diary—1972

April 22nd: 4th Bn O.C.A. dinner, Lamb Inn, 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

April 30th: Annual Commemoration Service, Regimental Chapel, Norwich Cathedral, 10 a.m.

June 4th: London Branch Cenotaph Parade R.V., 11.45 a.m., Horse Guards Parade.

June 28th and 29th: Regimental Tent, Royal Norfolk Show.

September 30th: 50th Anniversary of forming of Regimental Association. Thanksgiving service in Norwich Cathedral, followed by tea in the Cathedral Cloisters, 2.45 p.m.

September 30th: ANNUAL REUNION DINNER, Aylsham Road T.A.V.R. Centre, 7 p.m.

October 14th: Nurse Cavell Memorial Service, Life's Green, Norwich Cathedral, 2 p.m.

October 27th: King's Lynn Branch dinner.

November 18th: London Branch dinner and dance.

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

The Annual Reunion will be held in Northampton on Saturday and Sunday, 1st and 2nd July, 1972. The Dinner will be held at the Drill Hall, Clare Street, Northampton, on Saturday, 1st July, with the Church Parade being held on Sunday, 2nd July. Details may be obtained from the Regimental Secretary at Northampton, Major D. Baxter, Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road, Northampton NN1 3RE.
Northampton Branch

Secretary: Mr. J. R. Matthews, 28 East Park Parade, Northampton.

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held on 10th March, 1972, and the following officers and committee were elected: Chairman, Mr. J. O. Roberts; Treasurer, Mr. W. McNicol, MM; Committee: Messrs. R. Coles, L. Dicks, C. Forsyth, W. A. Hathaway, S. Hornby, T. Jackman, L. Jeynes, MM, J. Johnson, W. McGurk, L. Tebbutt, P. Todd, R. Toseland and J. Turland.

The Club is functioning well and we now await the alterations that are to be made since the GPO have purchased a considerable area of the Barracks.

Grants have been made to several members during sickness, and other cases have been brought to the attention of the Association. All OAP members received a Christmas box.

London Branch

Acting Secretary: Mr. R. Lomas, 10 George Elliston House, Avondale Square, London, SE1.

Mr. Lomas has assumed the mantle of Secretary in addition to his duties as Chairman.

The Branch are busily organising a Buffet Dance, which will have been held by the time these notes are printed, on Saturday, 29th April, 1972.

Two meetings have been held recently and attendance at them has improved. Long may it continue.

Huntingdon Branch

Secretary: Major H. H. Pallash, TD, JP, 11 Orchard Lane, Brampton, Huntingdonshire.

Keeping a small Branch ticking over is rather like walking a tightrope—a false step, or any lack of concentration or enthusiasm on the part of the central figures, and down you go! Maintaining this enthusiasm is our constant concern, and we continue to do this with our regular monthly Committee Meetings, occasional News Letters to all members, the annual Reunion Dinner, and our Christmas Draw and Welfare facilities. All these items have featured in our activities to a greater or lesser degree, and the year concluded with a very satisfactory account balance and the general feeling that our time had not been wasted.

Eddie Lees, our Welfare Officer, has managed these matters very well in recent months and thankfully we have had only one or two cases of real hardship. We always regard this function as one of the main objects of our existence, and the prompt aid we are always able to render has been a great relief in several past cases. The financial affairs, firmly in the hands of ex-RQMS Eddie Dear, are ably handled without recourse to any worries when the balance sheet is presented at the AGM.

A happy and successful Reunion Dinner was again organised by the Branch last October, the fifth of such events since our formation. This occasion was a particular one, with both the Mayor and Mayoress from Huntingdon and St. Ives present as our guests.

As usual at Christmas we had news from several past members of the 5th Battalion who served with the old Support Company at Huntingdon. Those who have not visited the town for some years now would probably need a guide to get their bearings!!

The Annual General Meeting brought no changes in our Committee structure, everyone being only too willing to re-elect en bloc and press on to the next item. Consequently Major Ted Overall continues for another year as Chairman and all other Branch Officers remain unchanged. We were very pleased that agreeable weather has made it possible for Major Bill Marshall (President) and Mrs. Cecily Green (Vice-President) to be with us, and fortunately the Power Emergency did not interfere with the proceedings.

We still strive on a few local issues—for a member who cannot obtain stall space on Huntingdon Market Square—for the local tug-of-war between various organisations who want to move the town War Memorial to another site—for someone, somewhere, who can locate the detailed history of the old Huntingdonshire Regiment (and did they, in fact, ever have any direct connection with this county)—for detailed information on the old Militia, raised apparently by the Duke of Manchester at Kimbolton Castle and who was evidently somewhat lax in recording his military activities! The archives at Huntingdon always result in a dead-end—a unit moves to Bedford, etc., and there the information is lost. At least present-day events are well recorded for us by this very media and future historians (we hope), will find their task less demanding!

Peterborough Branch

Secretary: Mr. T. C. Ferreday, 13 Stukeley Close, Southfields Estate, Stanground, Peterborough, Northamptonshire.

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held on 19th January, 1972, and we were delighted that Colonel F. G. Barber, OBE, TD, continues as President. It also gave much pleasure to learn that Harry Tompkins continues to make satisfactory progress and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

It is with deep regret that the death of Joe Landin is reported. Joe was a Vice-President of the Branch and he will be missed a lot.

The Annual Reunion and Dinner of 5 Northamptons, 4/5 Northamptons and the Peterborough Branch of the Comrades Associa-

tion will be held in Peterborough on Saturday, 21st October, 1972. Please make a note of the date now and let's see you at it.

Corby Branch

Secretary: Mr. J. R. Gayne, 17 Ashley Avenue, Corby, Northamptonshire.

We finish our third year of existence with a membership of 80 full members and 13 honorary members. The slight fall in our numbers is mainly due to members moving out of the area.

Meetings have been held approximately every six weeks. Our AGM will be held on Tuesday, 4th April, 1972.

On Friday, 11th February, we again entertained the senior citizens of Marlow Court to a dinner and social at the TAVR Centre, Corby. Apart from a treat for the old folk, it was a social evening for us. We hope to be able to fix a full social in before the summer, but due to the very heavy usage of the TAVR Centre, opportunities are very scarce. We have gone through the calendar until the middle of June and have not found a vacant date yet.

Our best wishes to our Branch Padre, the Rev. F. Adams, who has moved to St. Augustine's in Northampton.

Finally, we wish to thank the chairman of the Volunteer Club and the staff of the TAVR Centre, Corby, for their help during the past year.

THE ESSEX REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

The annual Reunion at Warley this year will be on Sunday, 25th June. The service in the Regimental Chapel will be at 3 p.m. followed by the March Past and tea. The address at the service is to be given by the Chaplain General to the Forces and the band of the 5th (V) Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment will be on parade. Tickets are required for the Chapel and for tea, and applications should be made without delay.

Branch activity continues apace and very successful Dinner/Dances were held in November at Chelmsford and Stanford-le-Hope (Thurrock Branch). The annual social evening at the Saffron Walden Town Hall was another successful event.

A popular feature of the Chelmsford and Southend branches' social programme has been the buffet dance, several of which have been organised in both centres.



A group of 4th Essex Comrades Cassino party. Left to right: Ex-Sgt. F. C. Hawkins, ex-CSM F. Wiggs, Mrs. Hawkins, ex-Sgt. F. Smith and ex-Pte. V. Heather.

4th Essex Comrades revisit Cassino

A party of comrades of the old 4th Bn The Essex Regiment recently revisited Cassino where so many of their comrades were lost in 1944. The party, together with wives, set off in September and stayed for eight days in the Baia Domizia area.

Visits were paid to the Abbey of Monte Cassino and to the Castle and War Cemeteries. A wreath purchased from a Cassino florist was placed on the Cenotaph of the British War Cemetery by ex-CSM Frank Wiggs, whilst the party observed a two minutes' silence.

Daily excursions were arranged for visits to many other places of interest.

Diary Dates

Sunday, 25th June—Annual Reunion, Warley

Saturday, 4th November—Chelmsford Branch Dinner/Dance, County Hotel, Chelmsford.

13th May—Annual Dinner and Dance The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association at Sele Secondary Modern School, Hertford.

18th November—Officers 2nd Bn 16th Foot (1939-1945) Annual Dinner, Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London.

19th November—Wreath-laying Ceremony, Regimental Memorial, Kempston.

The Regimental Museum

The transfer of the Essex Regiment Museum to the new building now nearing completion at Chelmsford is expected to begin in September. The official opening at Chelmsford is scheduled for April 1973.

Mr. and Mrs. Clements, who succeeded Mr. and Mrs. Purser as residents at RHQ Warley, retired in April and are now living in Brentwood. We are all most grateful to them for 'looking after' the Headquarters and gardens so splendidly and wish them many happy years of retirement. The new residents are Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell from Ongar.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

The Annual Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Regimental Memorial, Kempston Barracks, on Sunday, 21st November, 1971, attracted the largest attendance for some years, with members coming from all Branches, including London. This was the first occasion on which the newly-formed 'B' (Bedfordshire) Company 6th (V) Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment were able to parade for this ceremony and, together with a strong contingent of Bedfordshire ACF, they helped to make a truly representative parade. The Bedford Royal British Legion Corps of Drums completed the ceremonial by playing for the parade and during the Wreath-Laying.

After the formal midday ceremony the majority dispersed to the TAVR Centre in

Ashburnham Road, Bedford, where a buffet lunch had been provided. The Social Club was filled to capacity with members able to enjoy an informal get-together until the early evening.

In recent years the Annual Dinners of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association have been held in London, and although they have been well supported, members have had to meet the rising cost of such functions. Branch Secretaries were therefore unanimous in their appreciation of the kind offer of Hertford Branch to organise this year's Association Dinner in Hertford on 13th May, 1972. Knowing the standard set by this Branch, we are all looking forward to the occasion.

For their own Annual Dinner and Dance on 4th March, 1972, Hertford Branch mustered a record attendance of 170 under their President, Major Joe Townsend. The principal guest was the Mayor of Hertford and Major Tewkesbury proposed the toast to The Regiment.

We are sorry to report that the 6th Battalion (1939-1945) has held its last Reunion. Formed on the outbreak of the war, it was employed on home defence and as a draft-finding unit. In 1948 a Reunion Club was inaugurated and convivial gatherings have been held each year since then. With the passing years it was reluctantly decided to end this memorable run of reunions and a Grand Finale was held on 30th October, 1971, at St. Albans, which 75 members and their guests attended. Major Alistair Miller, former second-in-command of the Battalion, was the speaker. In recognition of his services since the Club's inception, the Secretary, Mr. Frank Sugars, was presented with an illuminated address and cine camera.

FINAL REUNION, 1939-45
6th Bn The Bedfordshire
and Hertfordshire Regiment.
The Secretary, Mr. Frank
Sugars, extreme right, re-
ceives a presentation in re-
cognition of his services
since the inception of the
6th Battalion Association in
1948.



5th (Volunteer) Battalion



The officers during a Study Weekend, November, 1971.

Battalion Review

Since our last notes the Battalion underwent in September and October a very detailed Fitness for Role Inspection by the GOC Eastern District, Major General D. W. Scott Barrett, MBE, MC, and his staff. The inspection spanned two weekends and consisted of visits to the TAVR Centre and a Battalion HQ deployment and tactical movement exercise at Peterborough, a two-sided defence exercise between 1 and 5 Companies at Stanford TA, the Battalion Support Weapon Concentration at Netheravon, 2, 4 and HQ Companies doing an Infantry Skills Test Weekend at Proteus and 3 Company camp with 1st Bn The King's Own Royal Border Regiment on Salisbury Plain. After this most testing examination, we were pleased to receive a good overall report which made us feel very confident about our standards and ability.

Camps

As mentioned above, the 1971 camping season was terminated by 3 (Essex) Company (Chelmsford and Colchester) being employed in their STRATCO role as a fourth rifle company for a regular battalion. The Company is allotted to 19 Airportable Brigade and was assigned to take part in Exercise Druids Castle as part of its 14-day camp in October. After a few days' work-up at Colchester, the Company moved to the exercise area with 1 KOB. The first 36 hours were spent in preparing a major defensive position on the Plain, including the digging of a proper Company CP. Air strikes by Phantoms with simulated bombs and rockets and a vigorous attack by 2 PARA, supported by armour, followed. After some 48 hours of fierce fighting the Battalion withdrew at night and prepared a further defensive position with the aid of mechanical diggers. A final attack

was accompanied by simulated chemical agents and the exercise came to an end. 3 Company then repaired to New Zealand Farm, where they spent the last few days on battle shooting and helicopter exercises.

Remembrance Day

The next major event was Remembrance Day on 14th November. As in previous years, the Battalion provided contingents in towns and cities all over the 11 counties in the Battalion area. Thus 1 Company paraded at Lowestoft and Ipswich, 2 Company at Gainsborough, 3 Company at Chelmsford, 4 Company at Leicester, 5 Company at Hertford and Hemel Hempstead, and HQ Company at Peterborough.

Visitors

During an Officers' Study Weekend held at Peterborough in November, Major General J. B. Dye, CBE, MC, Director Volunteers, Territorials and Cadets, paid us a visit. He said that the Battalion had welded together into a cohesive unit, which was not easy in the TAVR, and was held in high regard for its recruited strength and standard of training.

Social Events

These are few and far between at Battalion level because of the distances involved. However, on 27th November, 1971, a Ladies' Dinner Night was held at Peterborough and was very well attended. The Drill Hall was transformed from its normal gloomy cavern into a colourful dining room. A striped awning covered the roof, and floral decorations, candlelight and the silver and Colours of five former Regiments provided a wonderful setting for a memorable evening. We were delighted to have Lieutenant General Sir Richard Goodwin, KCB, CBE, DSO, and Lady Goodwin as guests. In the course of the evening the General made a most amusing speech and received a small presentation from the officers. In March we were delighted to entertain our new Colonel of the Regiment, Lieutenant General Sir Ian Freeland, at a Regimental Guest Night on the occasion of his first visit to the Battalion. Our other guests were Major General Scott Barrett, GOC Eastern District, Major General Toler, GOC East Midland District, Colonel Dicker, Chairman of the East Anglian TAVRA, Colonel Davey, TAVR Colonel HQ Eastern District, and Lieutenant-Colonels Raywood and Wallace, the COs of the 6th and 7th Battalions respectively. We also took the opportunity of dining out Major Ted Kelly, our Regular Quartermaster, on his retirement from the Army after



Maj.-Gen. Scott-Barrett talking to Lt.-Col. Heath on exercises. Cpl. Scarlett awaits.

34 years' service, and welcoming Captain John Denny in his place from the 3rd Battalion. We also said farewell to Major Richard Hill, who is retiring from the TAVR, and Captain Frank Giffedder, who is transferring to RAOC (V).

1 Company (Ipswich and Lowestoft)

1 Company started the New Year with an exercise on that well-known piece of countryside—Stanford TA. A night attack on an enemy defensive position went very successfully and also had its lighter moments. Our Anti-Tank Platoon commander was I/C enemy and decided to put in a CS gas attack on the advancing attacking forces. Armed with an aerosol canister and in pitch darkness, he neglected to ensure that the nozzle was pointing the right way and got a lengthy burst in the face. This reduced the defending force to hysterics and the attackers consequently completed their task with great swiftness! In February we held the Annual Company Dinner and Dance at Lowestoft. It was well attended and all members were very pleased to have the Commanding Officer, Mrs. Heath and the Adjutant as their guests. In March we were subjected to the first of the Commanding Officer's 'all singing, all dancing' test exercises. It was a tough and vigorous exercise—much was learnt, and at the end of it we all knew that we had been out for a weekend! We would like to wish our retiring PSI, WO2 Peacock, well in his new life as a civilian and to welcome WO2 Curson, who has joined us from the 3rd Battalion, in his place. Also we say welcome to

Sgt. Perry from the 1st Battalion and sadly say goodbye to Sgt. Gorbould, who is returning to the 1st Battalion in sunny Cyprus. We all wish him the very best for the future.

2 Company (Lincoln and Gainsborough)

Last September the Company orienteering team won the Eastern District and Battalion Championships. L/Cpl. Whitworth was the individual winner, with L/Cpl. Freeman taking second prize. In the TAVR championship held at Scarborough, L/Cpl. Whitworth was third, a very good effort indeed. At Netheravon in the Support Weapons Concentration, the Mortar Platoon excelled themselves and won first and second prizes in their competition. A lot of credit must go to our PSI Sgt. Worley and to Sgt. Dixon, who spent so much time training them. The Mortar Platoon are also now the proud possessors of a super puff range which they built themselves, with financial



2 (Royal Lincolnshire) Company orienteering team, winners of Eastern District Championship 1971.

backing from East Midlands TAVRA. The monthly Disco's, which are organised by our Senior PSI, WO2 Hill, are proving to be very popular and beginning to make a profit. The All Ranks Christmas Dance was also a very popular event, as were the platoon parties that were held during the same period. Non-attenders must be wondering who or what is Tammy. It is no use asking the OC, he lost his glasses! On the night of Saturday, 18th December, Sobraon Barracks looked like a high-class store with a splendid display of prizes for the Sergeants' Mess Christmas draw. Lt. Nick Kelsey won the star prize and Sgt. Worley won the most with a total of six. What did C/Sgt. Hornsey win? In January we said cheerio to Sgt. Worley, who has been PSI here for 18 months. He is living in Lincoln, so we hope that he will still visit the Drill Hall whenever he has the time. We welcomed Sgt. Walshaw from 3 R Anglian, who arrived in time for the annual CIV, then left to get married and three weeks' leave. We hope he wasn't too disillusioned with what he saw.

3 Company (Chelmsford and Colchester)

After a demanding but successful Camp, during which they spent five autumn days at the sharp end of the KOBs on Salisbury Plain, 3 Company continues to set a cracking pace. The Christmas party went with a swing, thanks to Sgt. Bob Gratze and C/Sgt. John Buckingham, who spend a lot of time arranging the social events in the Company's extremely busy calendar. In February, an evening programmed as 'Jabs for Cyprus' was enhanced by a visit from former Company Commander Major David Purves, MBE, TD, who brought along his film in support of the Gurkha Appeal. An intensive recruiting campaign during the winter months has resulted in the Battalion Recruiting Trophy, presented by Lt.-Col. Wallace, the CO of the 7th Battalion, finding its way on to the windowsill of Mrs. Browne's office at Chelmsford. For some recruits the 'carrot' was undoubtedly the prospect of spending 15 days with the 1st Battalion in Cyprus on 3 Company's first overseas camp since 1968. This has presented training problems, but thanks to some sterling work by the senior PSI—WO2 John Perry—the Company is making great progress with its own Recruit Cadre. The Anti Tank Section distinguished themselves by winning the Battalion Support Weapons Concentration at Netheravon, and in March 3 Company took second prize in the annual MT Rally. 2Lt.



They come and go. To mark his departure from 3 Company, Maj. Roger Tomkins received parting gifts of silver from the officers, a brace of cut glass decanters from the men and a Company Tie from his successor, Major Trevor Nightingale.

Alain Chissell did remarkably well at the first TAVR course at Sandhurst, and Lt. Alan Dann returned from his Company Commander's Course at Warminster with a very good report. O/Cdt. Barry Potter has been on the second course at Sandhurst, and Lt. Alec Wilson has completed a Mortar Course at Netheravon.

The inevitable changes began with the departure of the Company Commander, Major Roger Tomkins, to the 2IC's desk at Battalion HQ, and he has been succeeded by Major Trevor Nightingale. CSM 'Debbie' Attridge moves to Peterborough as RQMS in May—complete with the best wishes of all members of 3 Company

and his fishing tackle. PSI Sgt. Bernie Missenden—one of the most amusing raconteurs the Company has known—will soon be time-expired and plans to join the Police Force. Our vital link with Chelmsford is being maintained and the Mayor has accepted an invitation to be among the guests at the Company's Test Exercise weekend in April. The Company is now stronger than ever before—more than 120 all ranks and still they come . . .

4 Company (Leicester and Loughborough)

Both 4 Company and 5 R Anglian and B Company 7 R Anglian officers, admirably

CSM 'Debbie' Attridge instructing newcomers to 3 Company at Fingringhoe.



assisted by Major J. Dudley, held the Annual Officers' Ball at the TAVR Centre, Ulverscroft Road, on Friday, 10th December, which was as usual a huge success. The Ball Committee was presided over by Major Bill Dawson, of B Company, and some of the principal guests were Colonel P. H. Lloyd, Chairman of Leicestershire County Council, Colonel R. G. Wilkes, TAVR Colonel (South) HQ East Midland District, Lt.-Cols. J. R. Heath and W. G. Wallace. On the following evening the All Ranks Ball was held, with an attendance in excess of 400. The whole evening was very well run by Lt. H. Cole and CSM Wally Moore. On the 22nd January the Company, for the second year running, went to Barnham on the Stamford PTA and again tried their hand at 'Ex Tiger Patrol II'. This year they managed to pick a dry night and an immense amount was learnt covering all aspects of patrolling.

An interesting weekend developed at the beginning of February, called Exercise 'Tiger Shovel I'. The Company, commanded that weekend by Captain J. R. Ward, dug in on a hill on the Proteus Training Area, and two assaulting platoons from the Yorkshire Volunteers, who had expected to find a very weak enemy, found themselves confronted with an entire Company. Apparently their own enemy of less than platoon strength, upon seeing 4 Company, had moved to a new location without informing their Company HQ!! On the 26th February both Leicester Companies held their annual Ladysmith Ball. Sgt. Bevan, the Company artist, did some wonderful work towards the military theme, painting 12 plaques over 4ft. high depicting soldiers in different uniform. The main centrepiece was a display of tiger skins, drums and colours of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment. The principal guests were Lt.-Col. and Mrs. John Heath. The Company has been very successful over the past few months in the orienteering field, with L/Cpl. Johnson winning the East Midland District and Southern Command Competitions. Lt. Honnor has formed and led a very successful football team which is now in the East Midland District Final held at Chilwell on the 9th April. C/Sgt. John Bloomfield has been awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for Efficient and Meritorious Service. He is to become CSM of the Company when WO2 Hurst retires in August. On the 1st April, Major C. J. Lowe, TD, retires from the TA, brought about by a Headmaster's appointment at the new Comprehensive School at Oundle, Northants., and is

to be succeeded by Captain J. R. Ward, who is at present 2IC.

5 Company (Hertford and Hemel Hempstead)

A lack of purpose quickly leads to a lack of interest. Since its conception in 1969, 5 Company has always had something to work for. Firstly there was a flat-out effort to catch up with the other Companies in the Battalion who had two years start on us, then there was a Camp in Malta in December 1970, and finally last year's Camp in Germany with the mechanised 3rd Battalion. On return from BAOR we learnt of Exercise 'Springing Tiger' as our Camp for 1972, again in Germany with the rest of the Battalion. In the autumn, 'Springing Tiger' was cancelled. Second best is never good enough for the TAVR soldier and the last six months have been noted for the lack of progress in 5 Company. There has, however, been no lack of activity. Amid constant cancellations of ranges and training areas, the Company has managed to complete its range classifications, fire live on the Platoon Battle Course at Stanford, and enjoy a successful patrolling weekend at Barnham. Lts. King and Albany, 2Lt. Cannon, Sgt. Perry and Cpl. Lacey have completed courses and so should now be able to improve the standard of training. The need to create fresh objectives is readily recognised and the next few months should see a strengthening of 5 Company.

Headquarter Company (Peterborough and Corby)

With the continued emphasis on individual marksmanship, Headquarters Company has devoted two weekends to classification courses on all three personal weapons, firing these at Grafham and Brington Ranges. In January the Company spent a joint weekend with a party of ACF Cadets from Peterborough, patrolling and practising battle drills on the Proteus training area. This weekend was followed in March by a highly successful platoon in defence exercise on Stanford PTA. The specialist training continues within the Company and the MT Platoon was successful in retaining the Hooton Trophy, which was last competed for in 1970, in the Battalion MT Rally held at Waterbeach on 11th-12th March, 1972. 'B' Team won the team prize and the individual prize was won by Cpl. M. J. Smith and Pte A. R. Howlett. C/Sgt. Baggaridge, our Senior PSI, continues to keep us on the straight and narrow, ably assisted by our surplus to establishment Scottish Anglian —C/Sgt. Kerr.

1st Battalion

As the Royal Welch Fusiliers take over from us in Londonderry, our thoughts are reflected in a somewhat irreverent blessing by our well-loved padre—who wishes to remain anonymous—on the occasion of the last officers' mess guest night:

'Lord, bless us on our feast tonight,
Let's not forget the Welshman's plight
But, as we're nearly leaving Derry
May our hearts be light and merry!'

Viking raids come to an end in Derry

On leaving Londonderry it is perhaps appropriate to look back at some of the events of the last twenty months of almost continuous operations.

The Battalion arrived in Londonderry in July 1970 and were thrown into the riots at the deep end. 'C' Company got off their vehicles, drew their kit, were placed under command of another unit and went to sort out a riot. It was not until peace was restored once again that they found where they were to live.

In August 1970 the Battalion had the doubtful privilege of firing the first baton rounds (rubber bullets) in action and followed this by fighting on two fronts—'B' Company on the Craigavon Bridge gassing a horde of militant Protestants while the rest of the Battalion contained rioting Bogsideers. This delightful event led to a three hour tea-break when the Bogsideers heard of the gassing—obviously realising that we were not impartial any longer but had joined their side for once!

From August 1970 to February 1971 there were occasional but predictable riots, never amounting to much and seldom involving more than the occasional petrol bomb and never any shooting. Meanwhile the RUC were fed back into the Bogside and Creggan, with military protection and our 'Hearts and Minds' campaign forged ahead. Youth clubs were instructed, Old Peoples' Homes entertained and handicapped children assisted. The success was having its effect and the IRA knew that they would have to react drastically to counter our efforts.

In February the Battalion moved piecemeal to Belfast to relieve hard-pressed troops there, and we soon found ourselves in the unfamiliar surroundings of the Clonard, alongside the Second Battalion. We were struck (in addition to more tangible items) by the difference in the atmosphere to that in Londonderry—the simmering hatred on both sides; the vicious abuse, particularly from the women; and the abundance of shots and nail bombs. Although we did not realise it at the time this was a grim foretaste of what was to come in Londonderry.

Returning to Londonderry, 'A' and Sp Coys were thrown straight into more riots in the city, deploying on a dramatic sweep operation through the Bogside—in 'A' Coys case, for the second time—netting about thirty hooligans after an exhilarating chase round the Rossville Flats.

In March a RMP landrover in the Bogside was heavily petrol-bombed in an ambush. One of the crew suffocated to death and there was a flood of public sympathy. The IRA obviously reviewed their tactics while intimidating those who had assisted the RMPs.

In May Pte. Larter hit the headlines by becoming the first GSW casualty in Londonderry for very many years. He was shot at and hit in the hand when saying goodnight to his fiancée in the Bogside. This, most regrettably, put the Bogside and Creggan out of bounds to off duty troops and with the continuing violence, this restriction has not been lifted since. It is ironical that the most severe curfew has been imposed on the troops themselves. Conditions in Cyprus, Malaya or Aden were rarely so restricted or depressing.

In June the Battalion went on block leave. It was the first time since our arrival that the Battalion command net had closed down.

Our return to Londonderry was greeted with sudden, and obviously deliberate, attempt to escalate the violence. On the 4th July we were fired on for the first time and within four days over sixty confirmed shots had been fired at members of the Battalion. On 8th July there were two incidents in which members of the Battalion, for the first time, fired shots in order to protect lives of others.

August brought a renewal of attacks and on the 9th: Internment. 'C' Company had a very successful engagement with a gunman, who, armed with a pistol, tried to outshoot three SLRs. Needless to say he lost! The Bogside and Creggan barricaded themselves in for a while until they were shown how ineffective their barricades were. Since then the sniping, nail-bombing and petrol bombing has continued unceasingly.

There is no quicker way of making a soldier out of a recruit than of shooting at him. Indeed even the newest recruit has picked up fieldcraft quickly and all sentries have kept alert and watchful knowing that at any moment a bullet could be directed towards them. It could be a well aimed shot. It could be a ricochet.

The high degree of training and alertness combined with a good deal of luck has left the Battalion with comparatively low casualty figures. The two events which have overshadowed the last six months have been the tragic deaths of Pte. Wilkins and L/Cpl. Curtis. Pte. Wilkins was on duty in an observation post in the Brandywell location on 27th September when he came under intense fire from at least three positions. Over 50 rounds were fired at the post. He died of his wounds on 11th October. He was the first soldier in the Battalion to die as a result of enemy action since September 1965. The Brandywell, being on the edge of the Bogside and in low ground, has become a favourite target for attacks by the I.R.A. It has a single narrow, vulnerable line of communication which has to be patrolled to prevent mining. Soldiers soon learn what patrolling is all about. They go out ready for action with blackened faces, 'one up the spout' and covering each other from one fire position to the next. On 9th November during one of these patrols L/Cpl. Curtis was moving across a gap in a wall, covered by the other two members of the patrol when a single shot struck him in the

chest. Covering fire was given by one soldier as the other went to his aid. L/Cpl. Curtis died on the way to hospital. This murder occurred less than 24 hours before the Battalion was to go on leave.

On 28th October Brigadier Alan Cowan, who had commanded the Brigade since our arrival in Northern Ireland, handed over to Brigadier Pat Maclellan.

Returning refreshed at the beginning of December the Battalion took over 'City duties' for the last time. 'B' Company in particular returned the terrorist fire on a number of occasions and are reckoned to have scored eleven hits. The gunmen became less anxious about facing up to us and resorted to sneak sniper attacks, meanwhile consoling themselves with the inevitability of their victory.

Pre-Christmas in the city was eerie. While shoppers bustled busily about buying gaily wrapped presents under colourful festive lights, patrols eased themselves through the throng suspicious of every parcel and any bulky coat. As the afternoon drew on, hooligans would gather on the fringe of the Bogside and, bored by the lack of activity, would make brief sporadic sorties to throw stones into the pre-occupied crowd. Troops would then be hurriedly deployed so that Christmas for the locals could be as normal as possible. Then, until the hooligans got tired or the shops closed their doors to customers, the soldiers would stand shivering in darkened streets peering round draughty corners looking for the gunmen or the sneak nail-bomber. The sudden crack of a bullet or explosion of a nail-bomb would tell them that somewhere nearby 'somebody cared'. Fifty yards away the shoppers, hearing the noise, would give a frightened glance then continue slightly more hurriedly on their Christmas spending spree. Those of us a bit further back would say a brief prayer and give a sigh of relief when the report of 'No cas' came back on the radio.

On 21st December the Battalion withdrew, thankfully and having suffered no further casualties, to its County role, and Christmas. The Commanding Officer presented an oversize 'key' to the Commanding Officer of 22nd Light Air Defence Regiment on handing over the city for the last time: both COs knelt down under cover of the Walls during the presentation—one giving thanks, the other asking for guidance? The Committee of Apprentice Boys presented the Battalion with a ship's cannon, which had been used during the Siege of 1688

89, in recognition of our work in protecting the city against the terrorists and hooligans. In future the cannon is to be fired each year on the 18th December to commemorate a day which will be well remembered by those who have served in Londonderry.

Christmas for the majority of the Battalion was just another day. Indeed during this period, so little was seen of the wives and families by most husbands, that one wag wrote up 'Christmas is off through lack of interest'. Operations continued as normal. 'C' Company, on reserve, was called out from Christmas lunch to shiver in helicopters on Ballykelly airfield until it got too dark to fly. The Band carried Christmas cheer, as well as it could, to the local hospitals, singing carols and giving out presents in the children's wards. The Drums Platoon slipped out of DPM into ceremonial dress to serenade the Battalion with a delightful rendering of 'Reveille', while those sleeping in barracks were woken with a kiss and a mug of 'gunfire' by sympathetic sergeant majors!

A surprise visitor on 30th December was the Prime Minister, Mr. Heath, who dropped in very briefly for a Christmas visit on his way back from a conference with Mr. Nixon in Bermuda. He was suitably suntanned, spoke to a number of members of the Battalion and had the doubtful honour of riding in one of our 'pigs' when he visited the city.

Looking after the 'County' has not been entirely 'cushy'. Three companies are deployed at all times and the fourth is on fairly short notice as Brigade reserve. Having to guard our married quarters has been the most unpopular task, but, having had an empty quarter blown up before they were encircled with barbed wire and guarded, the necessity for this least envied task is obvious. It is also the reason for the Battalion being so stretched. Grumbles there may have been, but everyone must allow that the families have supported the Battalion magnificently in these most trying times.

As a farewell gesture Sp Company, having claimed many 'firsts' (invariably hotly contested by the other companies) claimed a dubious 'last' by organising an IS demonstration for the Advance Party of 1 RWF, using soldiers of 'A' and 'C' Companies. If the realism of the 'hooligans' is anything to go by we have certainly learned a lot about riots in the last twenty months.

As we prepare to depart the 'Emerald Isle' for the 'Island of Aphrodite' a number of

prominent persons came to thank the Battalion for its work during the past twenty months. Attention has been drawn in particular to the way the Battalion has stood up to the great stresses and strains placed on it as a result of having to operate in a defensive manner in a deteriorating situation. The Commander Land Forces, Major General Ford, said that the Battalion has had the most difficult task in Northern Ireland because of the limitations imposed on offensive operations, but, despite this, had maintained its spirit, high standards and professionalism—an achievement worthy of the highest praise. He considered that when the history of the Battalion is written in the future, its commitment in Londonderry will share equal place with any other period during which the Battalion has been engaged on operations.

The Cyprus 'Movements Cell' set up at Basingbourn, under the able direction of Major Bob Pike who, as the Battalion moves to Cyprus, takes over from Major Paul Young as Second-in-Command. It is hoped that, after surviving the full tour in Derry, Major Young will have a bit more time off in his next posting—Germany.



Pte. Slater of 'A' Company whose keen eyes unearthed this little cache of ammunition.

'A' COMPANY

Life has been busy in 'Big Red A' during the last few months, maintaining a fairly high operational pressure in our various areas.

September, October and November could be described as pretty routine, with alternate periods of city and county duties. The new OC decided, in September, to bring a 'new look' to the county period by outwitting the I.R.A. on water and arranging a boat patrol. 2Lt. Stallard's Sandhurst experience with 'eights' made 2 PI the natural choice for this task, but when CSM Eddie Davies was heard to boast about how he coxed the 4th Battalion boat to victory over some scratch team from 'The Gut', it was decided that Company HQ should deploy as well—foolish move that. Two stalwart 'chunkies' from Sp Company were tuning up their engines as eighteen brave men lined the river bank ready to go—'Please Sir, do we get embarkation leave for this?' asked Pte. 'Black' Eyes. Such a jocular mood was not to last, however—things were alright on the way down river, except that an engine broke down and the patrol continued with one boat only; but when the time came to return the wind had risen and the waves were two feet high at times. Assault boats are not all that seaworthy and everyone was soon soaked to the skin—and far too helpless with laughter to do anything useful like bailing.

City life went on as normal although sand-bagging was much in evidence, and the Company developed a very critical eye. It was generally agreed that the Greenjackets were not too good at it, that 'C' Company were alright but always put their walls in the wrong place, that Sp Company were quite good but moved everybody else's walls to make way for theirs, and that 'B' Company just did not enter the race. Someone, however, obviously had enough and cracked. For, tucked away on the back of a 'loo' door in the Victoria car park was found this little ditty:

'Join the Army and see the world,
Join the Anglians and sandbag it.'

Never mind—there's plenty of sand in Cyprus.

One notable city success was the arrest of a youth with half a pound of sugar/chlorate mixture in his possession—he was tracked from the Embassy OP by 3 PI after a small explosion was seen in the Bogside, and eventually hemmed in by foot patrols. He later received a two year sentence.

Leave in November was followed by our last city period and this proved to be a busy one. Pte. Keith Brown was unfortunately hurt by a nail-bomb when 3 PI was on loan to Sp Company on the 'William Street Line'—fortunately he has made a good recovery—too good, some of the nurses at the hospital will say. 2Lt. Stallard rendered first aid to a woman who was hit by a sniper's bullet—it missed him first. Fire was opened on several occasions with some success. However we kept the city firmly under control and handed it over to 22 Lt AD Regt just before Christmas—and have sat safely in Ebrington Barracks listening to the explosions and the crackle of gunfire ever since, wishing we were back.

Life has been quiet since then—we have spent time, and Christmas, on guarding married quarters; in Strabane, where Cpl. 'Jonah' Jones arrested three youths who had been relieving a shirt factory of a good deal of stock, and where there was a bit of a tangle with an explosive ambush down in the border village of Clady.

And in the rest of 'N' Division. A notable success was a 1 PI find of some 1,500 rounds of ammunition hidden in a stone wall alongside a field. Coming the day after a particularly good Company party, this doubly pleased everybody. The Company went rocketing ahead, too, in the arrest league when the OC's vehicle, and Pte. Cockin's which was following, were struck by objects while travelling up the Limavady road, and had both windscreens shattered. It transpired that the objects were chunks of steel thrown from a busload of young hooligans returning from their day's 'work' at the nearby Government Training Centre. The bus was promptly chased and caught in the best Z cars fashion, and the OC arrested all 39 occupants, who were taken to Barracks for a detailed search. Unfortunately only three could be taken in for further investigation, but they all got very wet while being searched on the square.

'B' COMPANY

Throughout the Company, budding authors, lights burning in their windows far into the night, feverishly rack their brains to record the incidents since the last edition; operations carried out, which platoon made the most arrests, find out from the log when that arms find was made, who made the funny remarks and when locations the Company has been to (where haven't we been, who said 'home'?), etc. etc.

During the last months of 1971 we continued to 'Roule' round the various city locations, with short respites when we took our turn on county duties and finally, just before Christmas, we handed over city duties for the last time. 'Great,' thought some, 'at last, a chance to get out of this awful place and take it easy for a change.'

Alas and alack this was not to be so. Soon we were involved in MQ Guard Duties, Water-side RUC Station and Devices patrols, OPs South at Strabane and a score of other mundane tasks which have been devised to keep us from getting bored.

However, a glimmer of light appears in the not too distant future. By the time these notes go to press we shall be basking in the beautiful climate of sunny Cyprus. No more staggering on,

5 Platoon

Many people will take souvenirs home from Ireland but Pte. Gent, Pte. Bambridge and Pte. Gamble have gone one better and are taking home a wife apiece.

The platoon were lucky to get Christmas off, and, although one or two were able to go home, most of the bachelors spent the lunchtimes in the Naafi and the evenings in the Viking Club. As a result of the festivities several members of the platoon revealed their hidden talents, including 'Hannibal' Hayes who is undoubtedly a budding lightweight boxer.

Whilst Sgt. Ashworth is busy on his drill course, Cpl. 'Slim' Jones is carrying out the task of Pl Sgt. Cpl. 'Teddy' Barber has gone to Bordon to grease up a few 432s. Although



Prelude to the gunfire in Derry, 30th January. Top left: 'C' Company road check. Top right: Defence Platoon road check. Bottom left, Drum-Major siting barrier. Bottom right: Listening to the progress of the NICRA march.

no more midnight sitreps, no more 'bring 22 to immediate minus'. What are we going to do with ourselves?

chess became very popular for a few days in the platoon, it suddenly was put away and has not been heard of since. We think the reason

for this is that Pte. 'Norwich' Grady made everybody else lose heart due to his five minute victories.

6 Platoon

On return from November leave we were ready to begin the final city period; a final tour of the high spots of Londonderry which, by comparison with earlier city period, proved rather uneventful. That is, if the stories told about earlier periods are to be believed. We ploughed through the mud at Brandywell where, incidentally, a brick between the eyes did nothing to dampen Pte. 'Paul' Kemp's sense of humour. If his latest crack about officers suffering from bedsores is anything to go by, he's for another brick any time now. But not from the Irish, this time.

The handover to 22 Light on 21st December was a welcome occasion for all of us, and particularly for those lucky ones destined for either Christmas or New Year leave. In this case, the lucky ones seemed to include everyone except the Platoon Commander, who was abandoned to a solitary Christmas in barracks and a working New Year. On 28th December the greetings of 'see you next year' did not go down well-

In the highlight of the year to date, i.e., the march on 30th January, the platoon had a quiet time. Action to the right of us, action to left of us, action in front of us; but the Light Brigade couldn't have had it quieter if they'd charged in reverse. All in all, we sat either behind our knife—rest or in the Prison, and played the part of brass monkeys all day, while the rest of the Company gathered in the kudos. However, as always in uneventful circumstances, personalities continue to entertain. Pte. 'Smudge' Smith and Pte. 'Blackie' Blackburne still seem to be holding their own private contest for the most mournful man in the platoon.

The next step now is the actual move from Londonderry to Cyprus, with a suitable period of leave in England between the two. It will be pleasant to return to a country in which not everyone is a politician, and the requisite level of apathy is maintained. When we finally leave Belfast Harbour, Harvey Smith's little effort will have nothing on 6 Platoon.

7 Platoon

It has been unfortunate that there has been no opportunity for inter-platoon competition. Battalion tasks and deployment being what they are, had there been, we would surely have continued along our winning vein. As it is, we have

had success in other fields, particularly in 'battle'; 'Not 23 AGAIN' has become a regularly heard saying, so much so that some of us are beginning to feel shamed.

We all look forward to Cyprus, but more especially the leave, although it seems the closer you get to it, the steeper the road becomes. We welcomed the move out of the city before Christmas, but looking back on it (always more pleasureable after the event) the 'shootin' sure did relieve the monotony. One or two have really missed it, although some have had shaves quite close enough to last them a lifetime, notably Shepherd, who had a high-velocity round trip through the chest of his flak-jacket. Someone nailed the culprit!



A 'B' Company patrol returns.

'C' Company

The Company has had its fair share of 'Aggro' and fire fights during the closing stages of last year and the beginning of this year. Highlights were block leave in November which everyone enjoyed but couldn't afford and additional leave across Christmas and the New Year for those who had been on duty the year before.

We celebrated Christmas by standing-to and moving to Ballykelly ready to assist in the dispersion of an illegal march from Belfast to Long Kesh. The men had been traditionally served but the marrieds hadn't managed to have their feast. As we waited the Airquartermaster (Flt. Sgt.) became increasingly frustrated and kept loudly complaining above the noise of six Wessex helicopters that if we didn't leave shortly they wouldn't be able to fly over the Sperrin Mts. Such remarks as '... but you've got wheels' didn't help and eventually they departed at last light with only enough fuel left to get them back to base without any passengers. We returned to barracks, quarters, the bar shortly afterwards. 2 RGJ kindly gave us cold turkey

and the trimmings at very short notice, which was much appreciated.

Since then we have been further afield than the city. Strabane and many recces of Magilligan Camp followed but it was all changed and we went back into the city, to the Mex location, since renamed Brandywell, under command 22 Lt AD Regt RA. The hooligan stoning was quite accurate but the 55 grain baton round gave many youths a shock and severe bruises. Most of the youths were of the dirty what-will-we-do-now-or-throw-stones-at-the-soldiers variety. We used about 1,000 gallons of water from the fire hoses so shocking some that they didn't come back.

There has been a lot of movement in the Company and we have three officer platoon commanders—must be a record.

9 Platoon

As was proven on 1st December, October's session in the city was not, in fact, to be the last.

2Lt. M. D. Willridge and Sgt. 'Tich' Fowler arrived within a fortnight of each other and took over this veteran platoon. Sgt. 'Storky' Hempstead moved to C/S 34.

On returning from the city, 'Blackie', our platoon dog, made the headlines (or was it Pte. 'Nosy' Billingham?). Christmas began to

greet us, highlighted by two call-outs on Christmas Day.

A week spent cleaning pigs and cracking the ice in our wash troughs at Ballylaw School and Cpl. 'Billy' Cookson left for Bermuda. New Year's Eve and L/Cpl. 'Kinky' Kingsley threatened to calm a traditional celebrator, over the side of Strabane bridge.

We were beaten by 11 platoon at 5-a-side football, but then if Sunray had not been playing things would have been different.

We decided not to take 'Blackie' to Cyprus and instead posted him to England with our ex-platoon Commander.

No. 2 dress jackets are returned to us with our one inch of glory sewn on, some for longer service than others.

Soon we are on married quarters guard and L/Cpl. 'Bull' Bullard left us in exchange for L/Cpl. McAnally. Cpl. Cookson returned from Bermuda (punishment enough) and Cpl. 'Yorkie' Ogley went to 'B' Company.

10 Platoon

'Twas Christmas Day in the Army, all was at peace (well, almost all). Those that were still asleep after the Drums had kindly blown Reveille were lulled into sensibility by the dulcet tones of Sergeant-Major Fletcher bringing round 'Gunfire'.



Ptes. Green and Sowdon with other unidentified robots exhibit some of the paraphernalia of riot control in Derry.

As a consequence few made breakfast but around 11 o'clock the festivities began with a warning for us, the province reserve, to be ready to go to Long Kesh for an expected march.

We just managed to squeeze in Christmas dinner, some squeezed in more than others, with the Officers and Sergeants doing the honours in the Cookhouse. No sooner had the last of the married men returned to quarters, when the whistle blew and we were off to Ballykelly to en-helicopter. Carols and curses mingled at the thought of a flight in the Wessex over the Sperrin Mountains after all that pud. The Royal Air Force did their best to reassure us, saying that they would run out of fuel unless we took off five minutes ago.

Someone, somewhere, eventually forgot what all the fuss was about and we were told to go home but not before polishing off the last of the Green Jackets turkey sandwiches.

The platoon remains 'typically Ten'.

11 Platoon

For the first time since early 1968 11 Pl has now a Royal Anglian Officer as a Pl Commander, the last one being Captain John Drinkwater, now the Adjutant of the Bermuda Regiment.

Sgt. John Leaman has deserted, but there is a strong rumour he was last seen in Admin Company, having been with 11 Pl for eight years, starting as a private soldier and ending by Commanding the platoon. We all wish him

the best of luck with his new job of helping with the families office.

There is a definite universal cry of 'Roll on Cyprus', but there will be many hilarious tales of Londonderry to follow.

Support Company

The beginning of this period took us to Otterburn to fire our Support Weapons, and in the case of the Assault Pioneers to work with explosives. However, our break was short-lived, and we soon found ourselves back in the city again. With the help of approximately 250 Irish people, we managed to establish a new record expenditure of baton rounds and CS gas on one sunny Sunday afternoon at Brandywell. In November we went on 'Christmas' leave, and returned in time to go straight back into the city. At Christmas the Company was deployed in the Strabane area, and munching its way through the cakes donated by the locals. Having all returned over-weight, from Strabane we had a spell visiting KPs and TIs and guarding the married quarters before spending another twelve days at Strabane. According to the programme, by the time this appears in print we shall be in Cyprus. It is a happy thought, but we remain flexible for Londonderry has taught us, above all, not to rely on anything.

Anti Tank Platoon

Stags have gone on and on, days are still numbered 1 to 7 and not Monday to Sunday.



Far from their Sp Company combats, the anti-tank platoon prepares for yet another anti-terrorist operation in Strabane's Milton Hotel—the garages of the Police Station!

Apart from leave in November, the Company has had one break, and that was when we went to Otterburn for ten days' training. The old firm of 'Lips' Lambert, 'Pea-Wee' Denny and 'Snakey' Blackadder plus six others had one hire car between them. They obviously had a course on money saving from CSM 'B' Company. Most of the platoon had hire cars too, and, led by Sgts. B and T they put Newcastle and Hawick through a rather riotous ten days. We also did some Anti Tank work!

Back from Otterburn the platoon was back in the city, and was on hand on Lundy day—18th December—to confirm deadly success by the "Chunkies" from the walls.

We came out of the city just before Christmas for the last time, we were told. However, we still venture back on devices patrols, where Cpl. 'Vulture' Cox has trouble controlling 'Lurch' George, who enjoys using the new metal detector to search women.

The 'Tubes' lost Mr. Underwood, after considerable training, to a Company HQ armchair. It should be put on record that he did actually leave the CP on one occasion. We have seen a bit more of the 'Tubes' lately, but that was put down to the fact that we had a Company party one night. Since then they have returned to the warrens from which they occasionally emerge to eat.

The Bogsiders are not converting their cookers to CS gas, even though it is cheaper and more abundant for them. The cry now is no longer 'Where's my respirator?' but 'Where's my floppy hat'. We have been increased in strength to our Cyprus establishment, and Lt. Willie Heal and Sgt. Coe are at present on a course at Netheravon. Pte. 'Rev' Howarth says he has every confidence that Mr. Heal will do quite well, which is nice to know.

The Mortar Platoon

'One round fire for effect' (long, extended pause).

'Re-parallel repeat' (even longer pause).

'Oh, well, I suppose it's workable.'

We found that we were very rusty when in October we saw the sun-kissed(!) hills of Otterburn. However, we complete ten days good productive training and live firing, and had every night off; at least at four hours' notice. Everyone eyed the radio room with suspicion from time to time, and wondered if we were really safe from a call from the rear link. Otterburn went very well, and apart from the Anti Tank pla-

toon, the only annoying thing was the knack the Company Commander developed of arriving on the range just at the moment something went wrong. The rumour that we had a correction of 'Right two plotters' was propagated by the Anti Tanks to detract attention from the amount of time they spent shouting 'Check point five' at each other. However it did lead to spirited but good natured slanging matches at meal times. On our return to Londonderry we regretfully put our Mortars away and took out our IS kit.

Almost immediately we went back into the city. No innocent bus queue is safe from the ravages of an Anti Tank platoon CS cartridge! It has got so bad that we suggested a platoon song to them. It went, with apologies to Flanders and Swan, like this:

'Twas on the Monday morning we gasmen
got the call,

There was a crowd in William Street, so
we went and gassed them all,

We used up all our cartridges, and most
of our grenades,

And we had to call the Mortars in to
come and give us aid.'



The mind boggles—perhaps Dad's Army is the answer to the Northern Ireland problem! Jonesy, alias Cpl. Rick Goldsmith, and Beattie.

The Assault Pioneers Platoon

A spell of training and recuperation in Otterburn (very healthy that border air, wind, hail, rain and snow) was good. November found us down at Brandywell, where we suffered a great disappointment by having a fortnight's training at Warminster cancelled on the very morning that we were supposed to have left. However, the disappointment did not last too long, as it was great for morale to know that call sign fifty-four were so essential that the Battalion could not manage without us. We spent Christmas at Ballylaw School, with thirty four Christmas cakes of all varieties, and seven crates of beer, all supplied by the locals. No wonder the Company Commander made us march back to camp.

We welcome L/Cpl. Terry Turner back to the land of the workers after spending a considerable time being waited on hand and foot by the nurses of Altnagelvin Hospital. We are sorry to say however that he has lost the sight of one eye; but so did Nelson! We are now expecting even greater things from him. The thought of Cyprus keeps everyone going.

Recce Platoon

'Hello 62, this is O. Move to Francis Street and cover the flank of c/s 3 over.'

'62 Roger. I was just moving into position when my rear right wheel overtook me and

narrowly missed a pedestrian. Send recovery.'

'Wilco out.'

'Hello 62A this is 62, recover my wheel over.'

'62A Wilco, out.'

All the above was heard on the Bn Comd Net at the height of a boisterous afternoon in William Street.

It was three months before we could look Charlie Company in the eye again. Then C/Sgt. Kett rechecked an area they had just searched and found some gelli bombs. QM is to issue anti-dim to 'C' Company.

The city patrols, lasting for 12 hours, in a ferret looking for trouble in Londonderry were occasionally relieved by contact with the rioters. C/S 62 commanded by Cpl. Damant, demonstrated the low gear, high revs, gas or baton round supported Ferret charge to great effect. There was no need to fire gas after the first two charges; they all ran away.

Capt. Thomas demonstrated how to remove a Ferret from the crowd cover role when he got a Guinness bottle in the face. No permanent damage. Regrettably the bottle was empty.

Of additional interest was the deployment and use of the Radar GS 14. What's that? We had that problem too!

Add to everything, Range Days, 'L' driver training and Fitness Training and we wished we were back in the city again. For once the whole platoon got to the Company Party—our thanks to Ops Coys for releasing sections.



A Recce section returns to firm base in Slon Mills after a border patrol.

Finally, an incident involving one of the many members of the press which it has been our pleasure to conduct around the Battalion area. 'Sir, I took him to a house of a friendly family and he returned to my vehicle drunk on POTEEN. POTTEEN!!! Ugh—serves him right.

The Defence Platoon

'Mays Marauders', as the Defence Platoon or Corps of Drums like to be called, have provided assistance to all the I.S. companies during the last twenty months—or is it the other way round? Ever flexible, the Drum-Major waits in trepidation to see which Company Commander will start smiling sadistically when the Commanding Officer announces, 'You can have the Defence Platoon for two days!' As the unattached platoon, 'flexibility and speed' has become the motto, or, as one drummer put it (without apologies!):

'We're needed here, we're needed there,
And so they send us everywhere!'

We enjoyed our Christmas and Boxing Day festivities. Cpl. Robinson saw the New Year in guarding his smashed up vehicle with four cantankerous civilians who, shaking their fists at him, kept on muttering 'Who's going to pay for our cars?' Someone was heard to mutter in return, 'Try the Derry Commission!'

Has anyone seen our callsign 96 pig, plus driver Bloomfield? He went on Christmas leave and has not been seen since. We would like to welcome back Cpl. Hilton who had a short stay in 'civvy street', and to wish the best of luck to Sgt. 'Winkle' Perry who is leaving us for a tour with the TAVR at Lowestoft.

The Orderly Room

Owing to his vast flying experience S/Sgt. 'Ground Bait' Gilbert will move the Battalion to Cyprus, by air. There is quite a lot of flying going on in the Movements Cell, the main contenders are 'Ground Bait' and Cpl. 'Flapper' Stephen. It has been a very close thing with 'Ground Bait' beating 'Flapper' by a short head.

Cpl. 'Skinhead' Harris remains much the same except for the loss of a few hairs here and there. Pte. 'March him in' Rennie has been cured of his sleeping sickness, but it appears that this has caused him to have a loss of memory—nobody's perfect. Cpl. 'Gestetner' Tuckwood is still very efficient as Despatch Clerk, when you can catch him.

The Orderly Room is still the heart of the Battalion, but it looks like Doctor Christian

Barnard might be paying us a visit very soon (sooner than one may think).

Regimental Police

We are looking forward to Cyprus because we shall be able to get down to proper Regimental Police work and, instead of just a few, we will have all of you hating us! Please note our motto, 'We love to be hated'.

One of our proudest boasts has been the reclassification to our 2 star hotel, due mainly to the installation of a hot/cold shower and a complete redecoration. This probably accounts for our recent record attendance of 15!

Cpl. Barrell left us after his conscience couldn't take any more and he transferred to 'C' Company. We acquired L/Cpl. Marshall, who we have found extremely useful for testing fire equipment; it is the only way we can get him out of bed. We were sorry to lose Cpl. Causton on 7th February, after his long and extremely helpful service for the RPs.

Cpl. Horton, of course, still has a nose for trouble and we have decided to indent to the proper authority for a translator for Cpl. Jack.



Regimental Police, Cpls. Causton, Marshall and Jack. Contrary to popular opinion the flak jackets are defence (enemy) fire!

So you want to join the Signal Platoon,

'If you can keep your head
Whilst all about you are losing their
And blaming it on you,
Then, my son, you are a . . . '

This was a transmission logged by Pte. Radio Kipling when he was the control operator for the 49th Poona Scouts, circa June 1923. We think that the missing word was 'signaller', but are not sure as, at that moment, he went off the air!

'Signal Platoon' is, perhaps, something of a misnomer and, by general consent, 'Platoon of the Environment (PoE)' is considered a more appropriate title. The main hurdle to the acceptance of this, however, is the Brigade Signal Squadron's insistence that they are 'Soldiers first and communicators second'.

We engineered a radio link between Otterburn Ranges and Ebrington Barracks by means of a VHF-HF Rebroadcast to allow OC Sp Company in Otterburn to speak to the CO. We are not sure that either Major Lewis or the CO understood what each other was trying to say but we feel that it can have been nothing of great import, as the electro static/magnetic grunts that were transmitted seemed to suffice. Positioned along the link, at various manual switches, were L/Cpl. 'Finbar' O'Donovan and Pte. 'Guns' Murphy. L/Cpl. 'Hank' Hancock, their leader, had the temerity to transmit, on one of the morse schedules, and he still swears that he did not know who was at the receiving end, 'Go and fetch someone who can do morse better than you'. Sad to tell, it was the Signal Officer and rumour has it that he had not touched a morse key since.

So you see that you are required to have a multitude of talents, the most important of which are untroubled fingers, a high degree of Jack-of-all-Trade training, an ability to think up the best possible excuse in the shortest possible time, 26 hours in each of your days, an all-embracing sense of humour and a partridge in a pear tree.

Our latest recruit, Lt. Richard Haes (Sig. Offr. Designate), arrived in Northern Ireland, took one look at us and then disappeared to Warminster for three months' recuperation.

Administrative Company

That the Barracks each night is guarded by intrepid men from the Pay Office, Families Office—now threatening to out-grow Battalion HQ—QM's Staff, Band, Mess Staffs and MT, is accepted as a matter of course and so too that a full routine day's work will follow. It says much for the good humour of the British soldier that not a serious word of complaint reaches the writer (what is said in the Barrack room doesn't count) and that the standard of their routine work is probably higher than it would normally be. That is not to say that these intrepid men should always be responsible for the security of Barracks but it bears out the point made by the 2nd Battalion in a previous journal.

It is always a little unfair to single out individuals when so many work so hard but 'you must take the plunge to get wet' as the actress once said.

Take WO.II Finn, quite imperturbable behind the bar of the Viking Club; who would like to guess the hours of his own time he spends stocking the bar, cleaning up and seeing that all is Bristol fashion? What about CSM Waller (stand in RSM extraordinary) and L/Cpl. Lynn who, with stoic calm, produce from their far spread Empire a stream of statistics which the average computer would have difficulty in digesting. Think of the cooks, Cpl. Chesham and Cpl. Lodge, who never seem to be in Barracks because they are 'TACTICAL IN LOCATION', that almost holy phrase, with a succession of IS Companies. Remember WO.II Ferrier and his staff who refuse to accept defeat when their extraordinary looking vehicles, like something out of my eight year old's drawing book, want to retire groaning to the breakers yard. Remark on the curious anomaly that we are practically at war yet behave as though we are practically at peace, which puts unlooked for burdens on the Officers' and Sergeants' Mess Staffs; messes swollen with mess members from other units, many of them, logically enough, not shown on any Establishment either at peace or war. The reader may say this is all rather histrionic but it is nice to make a point



L/Cpl. Barber butchering an Irish pig.

uninterrupted by war stories and we do agree the others do a fine job as well.

Medical Centre

Capt. Peter Atherton, RAMC, has now left us for a six month course at Nottingham City Hospital. We can safely say that during his two years with the Battalion he enjoyed his stay and was happy to serve with the Regiment. The sick, lame and lazy will remember him for a long time to come, as will all of us. In Londonderry, due to commitments, sick parade was often held in some weird and wonderful places. The Flying Doctor is child's play compared with the Mobile RAP. He also had some hair-raising experiences and has been quoted as saying 'I shall wear the GSM with pride and it will give me great pleasure to explain how it was awarded to anyone who cares to listen'. May we take this opportunity to thank him for all he has done for the Battalion and wish him further success in the future.

Our semi-permanent Medical Officer, Capt. Roger Lusk, RAMC, arrived in early January and soon settled in. Unfortunately he will not be going to Cyprus with us.

Life in the Medical Centre is hectic to say the least. Nearly everybody has to have a Pulheems examination before proceeding overseas and all vaccinations and certificates have to be checked. We also have the privilege of doing vaccinations for some of the families.

Congratulations to Cpl. Ball on his promotion; Ptes' Emmett and Keeley are getting the ambulances ready for inspection and handover; L/Cpl. Stanhope is now Cpl. Dalby, having changed his name by Deed Poll, and Sgt. Gilmore will be glad to be in Cyprus.

Intelligence Section

The volume of work from the section has increased tenfold. L/Cpl. 'Bill' Vessey has gone to join Big 'B' Company, to the delight of CSM Watson, although for a while he's tapping a typewriter for the Baggage Officer in preparation for Cyprus. L/Cpl. 'Aussie' Austin is to join 'Bill' in 'B' Company shortly. He's already spent a couple of days patrolling with them only to be told to his horror that he'd been taken for a ride (walk) and wasn't really posted until the 17th. We welcome Pte. Johnathan Howarth in replacement for 'Aussie'. Sgt. 'Mac' Fenn is taking the plunge on the 18th March—trust him to do it when the Battalion is on leave in England! For the past months he's sat in the corner counting half pence pieces



Some of the Medical Staff. On 'Pig' Ptes, Emmett and Keeley. Standing: Capt. Lusk, Sgt. Gilmore, Cpl. Ball.

and mumbling about 'give her money every week!' Cpl. 'Bob' Revell is off on the Advance party to Cyprus much to his relief. And just to show we have an IO—Captain Conder will be handing over as we leave for Cyprus—he seems to have gone a lot greyer and lost a lot of hair over the last two years.

Ops/Trg/Cadres

Ops Training—Cadres Incorporated would be a better name. Since we came to Northern Ireland over 300 unfortunates have been processed in the gas chambers of the reinforcement cadres. A further 124 have enjoyed (?) the privilege of a L/Cpl. or Cpl. cadre with the accompanying delights of the Altnaheglis Forest, extra PT and with tactics thrust upon them by fiery young NCOs fresh from the horrors of Brecon.

In the tradition of sweat, blood and blisters they have been marched and doubled, exercised and lectured, chastised and encouraged for weeks in order that they, in the future, may have the pleasure of doing likewise. Despite the best plans of the instructors the only casualties have been a few cuts and bruises—the promise of broken legs, exposure and advanced foot rot have been unfulfilled.

The custodian of the weapon training store Pte Secker, in a period of unguarded sobriety, managed to get himself married and as a consequence of his new financial obligations has had to cut down his support to the brewing industry to a mere three gallons a day. How are the mighty fallen.

Officers' Mess

Members of Parliament and high ranking officers, all keen to visit the 'front line', call for 'gracious lunches' or working meals of some sort. The Mess Staff, led by Sgt. White, do sterling work and Capt. Ambler copes with over 150 Mess Bills per month.

We have managed to maintain a fairly full programme of social activities. For example, the only day we could dine out the Brigade Commander, Brigadier J. A. C. Cowan, was on a Sunday—it did not seem to detract from the occasion! Christmas was celebrated in traditional style complete with a most successful Ladies' Night when 83 sat down at the table, including our new Brigade Commander, Brigadier A. P. W. MacLellan. Some 200 attended our Farewell Party including the GOC, Sir Harry Tuzo. Our final Guest Night was a family affair to say goodbye to Major Paul Young, the Second-in-Command, and to welcome 2Lts. Willdridge and Stanton. Major Humphrey Bradshaw managed to cast off his cloak and dagger long enough to join us for the evening, although he experienced severe difficulty getting the soup past his whiskers!

Larner Loughlin has left us to drum up recruits in East Anglia and L/Cpl. Pablo Rice, as svelte as ever, has returned from Cyprus with encouraging news for prospective beachcombers and birdwatchers.

WOs' and Sergeants' Mess

We had a Ladies' Dinner Night in mid October which gave the wives a chance to air their evening dresses. We fully intend to repeat the occasion much more often in Cyprus.

Special mention must be given to WO.II Shanks and his committee for the excellent prizes for the Christmas Draw which he had to search for far and wide around the countryside; unfortunately the city was 'off limits' for any purchases.

We drank the New Year in with champagne, paid for by 15 Base Ordnance Depot Dortmund BFPO 44, who sent a cheque to the Mess as a mark of appreciation for the situation as

exists here. An excellent gesture by our previously unknown friends and again proves how much of a family all WO and Sergeants' Messes are.

Goodbye to a number of Mess Members who have gone on to various postings within our 'large' Division. Most notable was the departure of RSM John Nichols and his wife Paula who have now settled for a short stay with HQ Southern Command. We wish them all success and good health in their new environment.

Welcome to the Mess RSM John Buffine who joined us from the Fusiliers. Among other arrivals are CSM Brian King from the Army Apprentice College, Arborfield, Sgt. Turner from RAMC Training Centre, Aldershot, and Sgt. Fowler from ACIO.

Band Notes

On our return from tour we found conditions very different to what they were before the tour. Restrictions were in force and the polarization of opinions in Ulster reduced the number and variety of engagements. The nine piece showband came into its own and RAF Aldergrove proved excellent customers for our talent. To make a change we dined out the RSM 2 RGJ in the Greenjackets' Mess in exchange for their band playing at a dinner in our Mess.

Guards and duties continued with occasional breaks for music. The one duty which gave us logistic problems was Married Quarters Guards. Relief in the form of laughter came when Bdsm. Hollingsworth found he could tune in his A40 to BBC TV Sound.

Early December saw frantic preparations for the festive season. Real carols from one section of the Band and Tijuana carols from the other section and there we were: Christmas Draws in camp and at RAF Aldergrove, carols in all the local hospitals—one group under the BM and the other under S/Sgt. 'Baz' Starbuck. Waterside hospital we shall not forget, if only because both groups were liberally plied with spirituous liquor by Matron and her Second-in-Command. Suffice it is to say that the liquor included a bottle of what our new RSM describes as 'Holy Water'. It may be holy but it certainly wasn't water!! The same evening we played at a Staff party in St. Columbs Hospital, an event sponsored by Mrs. P. P. Young, wife of our Band President. There followed the Battalion Carol Service where the Band was helped out by the Sunday School Choir, and a

carol service for the Coldstream Guards in their locations at Fort George, Brooke Park, and the infamous Blighs Lane. At the latter post, the Guards Company Comd. regretted deeply that he couldn't offer us beer as their stocks were right out, but would we mind champagne. Would we mind indeed!! Christmas Eve we saved for the families and the two groups played carols in all the Quarters. Our thanks to those who generously plied us with drinks to keep out the cold night air. Christmas Day and the large Dance Band playing again, this time for the Battalion Christmas Dinner.

Already the BM has had engagements offered in Cyprus by the RAF messes there, as well as a signal from HQ Nearelf with magic names like Tel Aviv, Beirut, Ankara and Istanbul mentioned for a tour in June. Things are looking up.

Now as we load and move the Battalion's luggage we can reflect on the last 20 months in Ulster. It's been a frustrating time for the Bandsmen, not enough music the cry, but with the situation as it is, fee paying audiences are hard to find, advertising concerts is out because of the bomb threat, and without an audience the Bandsman is unfulfilled anyway. So we've pitched in and done our bit, we've done many and various things and we think we've done them well. It will be a long time before we'll have to do them again, we hope.

In passing—we have been greatly honoured to be asked to play at Memorial Services for Gunners killed on duty in Londonderry. It was with much pride that we played their Regimental Slow March of the Royal Artillery at the close of each service as the hearse moved out of sight. But we all wonder—did they die in vain?

6th (Volunteer) Battalion



Dining in state with four Stands of Colours.

On 2nd October the Battalion arrived at Bodney Camp to begin the first Annual Camp since its formation in April, six months earlier. The strength in Camp was 142, a most encouraging 85 per cent of the total of 167 published in Part II Orders at that date.

A high proportion of the Battalion were recruits, completely fresh to soldiering, and it had been suggested that they should all attend Cadres at the Depot. However, the Commanding Officer decided that far more would be achieved by having the Battalion together at the

earliest opportunity. The great distances between companies' peace locations make it essential to take advantage of every opportunity to build Battalion spirit and identity, and the foundations were well and truly laid during the fortnight.

This was undoubtedly helped by dividing those attending Camp into two Companies—Training and Administration—irrespective of their home locations. Cadres were run for recruits, for junior NCOs, for drivers and for trained soldiers, and thanks to the presence of additional PSIs, particularly from 5th Battalion and the MCTC at Colchester, it was possible for Major Tim Swayne, OC Essex Company, to work with ratio of about one instructor for every ten men in his Training Company. This was an ideal situation and allowed for considerable individual attention. All the men took advantage of the facilities available, and the enthusiasm of the instructors, to make the most of the excellent and imaginative programme planned by Major Bill Peat, the Training Major. By the end of Camp a high standard of individual training had been achieved, including the firing of all personal weapons and throwing grenades. In addition to firing on the classification and transitional ranges, the Cadres practised fieldcraft by day and night, with tactics at section and platoon level.



Bodney 1971. Inter-Company Assault Course Competition.

Captain Ron James, of B (Bedfordshire) Company, ran a very successful orienteering competition, and the final event of Camp was an assault course competition by C (Essex) Company.

All ranks were more than grateful for the excellent weather conditions. Although nights were cold, the days were warm and for the most part sunny. There were only 36 hours of rain

—inevitably coinciding with one of the major exercises and it is quite impossible to move through waist-high bracken in pouring rain without getting very wet. Fortunately Bodney has first-class drying rooms and unlimited hot water, so none experienced more than temporary discomfort.

Good administration is an essential back-up to interesting training and the Battalion was well served by Admin Company. Sgt. Vincent and his cooks provided first-class meals throughout camp, including hot food in the field, while Cpl. Skipper, in the absence of NAAFI, ran the canteen to everyone's satisfaction and still made a modest profit for PRI.

Both Officers' and Sergeants' Messes set a high standard for the future, with both sets of staff working long hours cheerfully. The Warrant Officers and Sergeants held a first-class dinner, at which the CO, 2IC and QM were guests. On that occasion and at the Officers' guest night the colours of the four former county regiments, together with their choicest pieces of silver made a unique and unforgettable display. Every member of the WOs' and Sergeants' Mess, together with some former mess members of the old TA Battalions, attended the reunion at Bassingbourn at the middle weekend.



During the second week the Battalion welcomed a number of distinguished guests. Brigadier Anderson, of The Queens Division, came first and was followed by Lieutenant General Sir Ian Freeland, the new Colonel of the Regiment, Colonels Dicker and Clayton, Chairman and Secretary respectively of the TAVR Association, and finally Major General Scott Barrett, GOC Eastern District. All were able to meet

and talk with a cross-section of the Battalion in camp and in the field, where they watched training in progress. All our visitors have taken a great interest in our progress since we were formed and it was particularly pleasing that they could come and see us all together for the first camp—what is more, they all expressed themselves as being very pleased with what they saw. All in all, a highly successful first Camp and one that augurs well for the future.

As we paraded before leaving for home, the CO, Lt.-Col. Paul Raywood, gave us all a 'Well done, but . . .'. The 'but' referred to our numbers and he reminded us all of the importance of pushing ahead with recruiting. The satisfied soldier is the Army's best recruiter, Regular or Reserve, and if everyone who attended and enjoyed Camp 1971 brought in two of his pals before the spring, the Battalion would go to Warcop this year very close to its establishment.

The new Battalions have no padre on establishment but the 6th is sure it has a first. Canon Brian Measures, although held against District establishment, is very much one of the Battalion and as keen as any recruit. During Camp he fired all weapons and threw the grenade, and claims to have achieved a score of at least the Battalion average on all practices. Before entering the Church he did his NS with the RAF and holds a current private pilot's licence—in fact a real sky pilot!

We are now, on 1st March, 45 per cent of our establishment. It is now just a year since work started on raising the Battalion. In some ways it seems like yesterday—the QM says it feels like years. There has been a most encouraging number of young recruits coming forward and although much remains to be done we have certainly covered some ground. We are now looking forward to our second Annual Camp, which is to be held at Warcop during the first two weeks in June.

PACIFIST DEMO

On 23rd February the CO was due to attend a presentation of Lord Lieutenant's Certificates in Norwich, at which Sgt. Smith, our Officers' Mess Sergeant, was to be one of the recipients. Through our contacts with the local Press, we discovered that there was to be a pacifist demonstration outside Battalion Headquarters on that

evening; the 2IC was switched to Norwich so that the CO could be on the spot to deal with any aggro.

In the event, the demonstration was something of a non-event. Only three demonstrators put in an appearance and the Padre went out to talk to them as they stood outside the gate distributing leaflets to the Press and the occasional passer-by. They were also on the receiving end themselves, for the Padre had had duplicated sheets prepared with the Royal Anglian Collect and he gave them one each with the request that they would include the Battalion in their prayers. When asked by a reporter whether he had anything in common with the demonstrators, the Padre answered, 'Yes, we are all Christians'.

WINTER WEEKEND

The Battalion continued its policy of keeping all ranks fully stretched when it held a weekend exercise on Stanford Training Area in mid-December. Mid-December is not everyone's idea of the best time to spend living out for 48 hours in the Norfolk breckland. Part of the subject of the exercise was to show that it is still possible to move and fight during the hours of darkness—even without the new electronic gadgetry—but there are tricks of the trade to be learnt. If Lord Wavell's dictum is true—'To train a soldier effectively, first make him tired'—a great many lessons should have been learned by the end of this exercise.

The Camsexians (Cambridgeshire and Essex) had been 'airlifted' into Stanford intent on carving out for themselves a portion of the remaining rural areas of England. Appraised of their intentions, the less urbanised Bednorfians (Bedford and Norfolk) dispatched a force to destroy the invaders. The River Whiskey, with soft, wooded banks for much of its length, ran midway between them and the only dry crossing points consisted of five narrow footbridges.

The daylight and early evening hours of Saturday were spent sending out small reconnaissance patrols to locate potential river crossing points and establishing observation posts to observe as much as possible of the enemy. At about 10 p.m. the Bednorfians got a strong party across the river on their right flank, where earlier a small enemy standing patrol had been identified in their position watching two of the footbridges. After a brisk fight, in which both sides suffered several casualties, the umpires

awarded success to the attackers and Bednorlia now had a bridgehead. Meanwhile on the other flank, a Camsexian patrol had been right among the Bednorfian positions but without being able to provoke them into giving away their precise locations.

So far the Bednorfians seemed to have enjoyed the greater measure of success: they had crossed the river and now found themselves about half a mile from their enemy. From this point the pendulum swing the way of Camsexia and things began to go wrong for their opponents. Basically you cannot mount a successful attack unless you know the precise location of your enemy, and Bednorfia did not know this within 300 to 400 yards. The old military proverb, 'Time spent in reconnaissance is seldom wasted', was not observed.

'Who won?' is rarely a question worth pursuing on exercises—each side will enjoy its own conviction of success. After the de-brief, fill in trenches, clean weapons and back to home locations in time for Sunday lunch, the telling of 'war stories' and—sleep. To round things off, the rain started as the last vehicles left the training area.



Chief Inspector William Nelson, who served for many years with the Royal Norfolks, is Sports Officer with the Norfolk Cadets.

ARMY CADETS

NORFOLK

Even senior officers of the Police Service can find time for the ACF if the will is there. This is the view of Chief Inspector William Nelson, who has had responsibilities, day and night, for the Information and Control Department of the Norfolk Joint Police. At the same time he has been the very successful Sports Officer of Norfolk ACF, organising competitions and training our teams for athletics, cross-country, swimming and tetrathlon, etc. A former boxer and police national swimming champion, he was, in his first career, an all-round athlete in the Royal Norfolk Regiment, which he joined over 40 years ago. Now Captain Nelson has retired from the Police and hopes to do even more for the Cadets. We have always had a

very happy relationship with the Police, who have provided several of our officers and some of our best Cadets join them.

Our North coast is a lonely place in winter, with miles of shingle and sand-dunes. These protect us from the sea, which swept in nine years ago causing loss of life and property in our tiny villages; one ACF officer was decorated for his rescue work on that occasion. Now the sea has burst in again, tearing away shingle banks which had been built up even higher than before. We can never tell when such catastrophies will occur, but it is some consolation that the hundreds of lads who pass through the ACF receive training which will help them to do the right thing in an emergency.

A huge man splashing about in an ice-cold mountain stream at sunrise and calling on the

others to do the same. This is how I shall always remember Captain Bob Button, our D of E Officer, on one of his expeditions. Alas, Bob is leaving us and going on promotion to be a Headmaster in another county. A successful cadet who is leaving us, on age, is C/Sgt. Kevin Whittred; he has done a great deal for the ACF in every sport and military activity. We wish him the very best. Junior Guardsman Rex Proctor is doing well, and so is Robert Leggett, who has already gained a stripe at the Infantry Junior Leaders' Regiment. We admire the Company Commanders who write and give us this news when they have hundreds of young men to think about.

Our sporting season has started well with a promising tetrathlon team and a very good standard of inter-unit football. The CNA team, captained by Andrew Blake, won the County Cup from 3rd Battalion. In the full-bore shooting, run by the TA Rifle Association, our officers were second in the ACF team event and Lt.-Col. Carter was second in the individual competition. Norfolk is 4th at this stage of the *News of the World* Competition, with King's Lynn the winners of the Edwards Shield. Today we practise under Capt. Jack Race for our County Rifle Meeting and then Bisley. Our Certificate 'A' results have improved and the county cadet strength continues to rise as it has done for some years.

Is it that lads with 'grit' join a cadet force or that the cadet force helps to develop this

quality? Many will know that Chay Blyth was in the ACF, but only older members in Norfolk remember a keen Cadet Carter who has since become the British clay-pigeon shooting champion. He lives near Dereham, where the platoon is extending its activities, led by Mr. Tinder of the Joint Norfolk Police. His recent weekend exercise was a great success, with Sgt. Keith Wagge and the Army Youth Team as enemy. They help us in every way and in all weather. In the February miners' strike they also helped the old people by organising wood-cutting. Thank you, AYT.

A new event is the Orienteering course which the ACF has been invited to run for youth leaders in the county. We are having to get along without our Executive Officer, Major Tim Chatting, who is convalescing. It is now clear that he has been doing even more for us than we realised. His expedition to the Lake District will go ahead as planned, under Major Reg Cousins. We almost take for granted what the Cadet Training Team does so splendidly, helping us to maintain the military standards and interesting each new generation of cadets. The OC, Major Jeremy Wilcocks, is leaving. Norfolk ACF will miss him and his cheerful, friendly ways.

Our moorland and hill-walking expeditions are usually planned and led by RSM David Weeks. We are delighted that his work has been recognised by the award of the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate which Sir Edmund Bacon will present. The wide range of cadet



Cadets of 2nd Norfolk Battalion near Beccles.



Snowcats, back from Norway, take Norfolk Cadets for a spin.

activity depends on the devoted service of our adults; also on the support of our friends. One positive way of supporting cadet activities is to join the Association, when one cannot join the force as a local leader. Anyhow, here in Norfolk the weather is set fair for the ACF. We have started yet another detachment; Andrew Court and Martin Tydd were the first to join. This is at Wells-next-the-Sea, where they still say:

'Water dogs and mares' tails
Make lofty ships have low sails.'

ESSEX

National Swimming Championships

Four Essex cadets representing Eastern Region were successful at York in October.

Michael (17) and Adrian Mullis (13) of Upminster, won the senior backstroke and the junior backstroke and freestyle in their respective events, and David Moore of Chelmsford won the senior butterfly.

David Moore, Michael Mullis and John Allardice (Leigh) were members of the winning senior freestyle relay team.

Eastern Region won the junior and aggregate championships.

Inter Services Swimming

The championships held at RAF College, Cranwell, were won by the Air Training Corps who defeated the Army Cadets by six points.

The Essex swimmers again did very well helping to win two relay events. Cadet Allardice won the senior 100 metres freestyle and Michael Mullis, Adrian Mullis and David Moore all gained 2nd places in other events.

Four boys from one company is exceptional in a National team. The Essex cadets certainly justified their selection.

Lord Lieutenant's Cadets

The selected cadets for 1972 are: Sergeant Robert McDonald of Chelmsford, and Corporal Peter Howell of Corringham.

Honour for an Essex Cadet

Cadet Sgt. Michael Mullis is one of the very few members of the ACF to be chosen to take part in the Canada/UK Cadet exchange visit. The party of CCF/ACF cadets will go to Banff, Alberta, in July of this year.

ROYAL ANGLIAN (LEICESTER, NORTHAMPTON AND RUTLAND) ARMY CADET FORCE

The new Cadet Hut for the Hindoostan Detachment, Leicester, of 'C' Company was opened in the autumn by Lt.-Col. G. L. Aspell, TD, DL, the Chairman of the Leicestershire and Rutland County Committee of the East Midlands TAVR Association.

In the Northern Command Swimming Championships we came an overall third. Cadet Watson (Ulverscroft Road Leicester Detachment, 'B' Company) was first in the Junior Backstroke event and second in the Butterfly event, and was selected to represent Northern Command in the National Championships.

Cdt. L/Cpl. M. Whiting (Salamanca Detachment, 'A' Company) came fourth in the ACF Northern Command Cross-Country Championships and qualified for a place in the National Finals.

We entered teams for the East Midlands District Orienteering Competition open to the ACF and CCF. In all, 122 cadets took part. Cadet Bull (City of Leicester Boys' School Detachment, 'B' Company) won the individual competition in 37 minutes, nine minutes ahead of the second placed entrant. Nine of our cadets were placed in the first twenty.

In the Team Competition (restricted to the ACF) our placings were: 1st, City of Leicester Boys' School Detachment, 'B' Company; 2nd, Ulverscroft Road Leicester Detachment, 'B' Company; 3rd, Salamanca Detachment, Northampton, 'A' Company; 5th, Hinckley Detachment, 'B' Company.

Our efforts in Social Service continue with 'B' Company providing a team for car park duties at the Hinckley Steam Engine Display, held at Burbage, near Hinckley, Leices. We have been asked to assist again in 1972.

At the invitation of Major C. J. Lowe, Commanding 4 (Leicestershire) Company 5th (V) Bn., the Officers, SIs and SMIs of 'B' and 'C' Companies met in the Sergeants' Mess at TAVR Centre, Leicester, in the late autumn to discuss mutual problems and to see how each could help the other. It is believed that this is the first occasion that such a meeting has been held and much useful work was done that evening. We hope for great results from both sides.

Lt.-Col. W. G. Wallace, Commanding Officer of 7th (V) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment, was also present and explained how mutual assistance could assist both his Battalion and the ACF.

Snowdonia

In January a party of 18 cadets from all four Companies spent seven days in Snowdonia on adventure training. They were based in Bethesda TAVR Centre, and during their stay spent one night out under canvas. The party was under the auspices of 17 AYT, commanded by Lt. J. Walsh, and was accompanied by our County Training Officer, Major V. C. M. Williams, and SSI Tom Pollak. It was very pleasing also to have with the party two of our ex-cadets: 2Lt. Clive Kirton, recently commissioned in the Royal Marines. 2Lt. Kirton served in the City of Leicester Boys' School Detachment 'B' Company until after Camp last year, when joining the Royal Marines. He was Cadet CSM to 'B' Company. The other was J/Gnr. Chris Dunn, formerly with Corby Detachment 'D' Company.

'C' Company News Sheet

'C' Company have commenced publication of a monthly "News Sheet" containing Company news written in a breezy and informal style by SMI D. P. Walton, the AAI. It is believed to be the first-ever publication of its kind by any of our four Companies.

There have been two changes in command of Detachments: Lt. C. Meadows moving from Market Harborough Detachment, 'D' Company, to Oakham Detachment, 'C' Company.

Over the past six years Lt. Meadows built up the Market Harborough Detachment from the very small numbers he found on joining to a flourishing Detachment of over 30 cadets. He succeeds SMI K. Reeves, who nevertheless remains with the Detachment.

The Oakham Detachment, based on the Cadet Training Centre, was re-formed about two years ago and is our only Detachment in Rutland, England's smallest county.

Lt. R. W. Davis has assumed command of Market Harborough Detachment, having been 2IC Corby Detachment, 'D' Company. One of his interests is mountaineering and no doubt he will encourage the Detachment in this sport.

On a visit to Kettering Detachment, the County Commandant, Col. D. M. Smith, OBE, TD, presented the following awards: To Cadet Cpl. S. Collier—the Bronze Certificate of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme; to Lt. J. Munns, Cdt. L/Cpl. P. Gagan, Cdt. D. Jones and Cdt. A. Clarke—NSRA Shooting Certificates; to Lt. J. Munns—Northants & Hunts NSRA Shooting Badge; to Cdt. L/Cpl. Fagan—a Post Certificate A Certificate.



Leicestershire Cadets.

The following awards were presented by the Deputy County Commandant, Lt.-Col. A. P. Gilks, when he visited 'A' Company at Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton: To Cdt. Cpl. C. Adams (Gibraltar Detachment)—Silver Certificate of Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme; to Cdt. J. N. Gillam and Cdt. Cpl. M. Valentine

(both Burma Detachment)—the Bronze Certificate of Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

A presentation by Major P. H. Kellett, OC 'C' Company, in the presence of many distinguished guests, was made to RSM L. A. Bradshaw, BEM, to mark his retirement from the ACF. He had been in command of Hindoostan Detachment (Leicester) of 'C' Company since its formation three years ago. He joined the ACF in 1954, and on the formation of Royal Anglian (Leicester, Northampton and Rutland) ACF he became OC of the Detachment. He was awarded the Cadet Forces Medal in 1966. We wish him well in his retirement.

Authority was received recently for the formation of the Newbold Verdon Detachment (Leicestershire) of 'B' Company. It is commanded by 2Lt. B. W. Smith. The Detachment started life in 1971 as a sub-unit of the Hinckley Detachment, and it is largely through the hard work of 2Lt. Smith that the number of cadets rose until it came into its own as a full Detachment. We wish him and his 2IC, SI B. Wellding, every success for the future.

'D' Company continue to maintain their well-established shooting record with Lt. J. Munns (Kettering) and RSMI P. G. Collier (AAI), for the fourth successive year, both gaining places in the TAVR team to fire in the Inter-Services match.

In February a party of 30 cadets from 'C' Company, under Major P. H. Kellett, visited the Junior Infantry Leaders Battalion at Oswestry. Other officers and SMIs accompanied the party.

The cadets were given every opportunity to participate in the activities of the Battalion and all went over the arduous assault course and also had an opportunity of firing modern weapons.

Many old friendships were renewed and it was both surprising and interesting to be greeted by both members of the Staff and Junior Leaders who had served in the ACF in Leicestershire. We are deeply grateful to Lt.-Col. J. Wilson and his staff for their generous hospitality and for making the visit so enjoyable.

Are YOU a Member of YOUR Association?

THE POACHERS



VISIT OF THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT
Gen. Freeland inspecting the Quater Guard.

The Battalion ended a successful exercise season with the Bde FTX which took place in the Harz. The weather was lovely and the countryside beautiful, at any rate until we had passed through.

On our return to barracks we heard with mixed feelings that we were to return to Ulster in August. We had no time to brood on the news because those twin seasonal delights, the FFR and PRE, were hanging over us like a cloud of CS.

Fitness for Role

The Brigade Commander, Brigadier Sir Ian Jardine, took the FFR parade on 16th December. The parade was in APC mounted formation of three mechanised company groups and Bn Tac HQ. In spite of a particularly dull and wet day the forty or so APCs were an impressive sight and one could understand to some extent why it is that the cavalry go all misty eyed when they hear the cry of 'Crews Front'. The Brigadier took the salute from a Land Rover flanked by the four war dogs (and their

handlers), which was fine until the Adjutant's poodle minced past . . .

After parade the Brigadier visited Admin Company and the LAD, calling in on the QM's Dept., the Cookhouse and the Families Office before drinking with the Sergeants and lunching with the Officers. In the afternoon he



Fitness for Role Inspection. The Brigadier talking to Dmr. Brindley and Sgt. Gridley.

watched the final of the Inter-Company Football Competition in which C Company defeated B Company 2-1.

Christmas

As usual, the Sergeants' and Corporals' Messes held draws, the Officers a ladies' guest night, and for the soldiers there was a grand variety concert. This latter was something of a tragedy, since the poor loudspeaker system resulted in a premature end when the show was only about halfway through. A number of acts which had been long and carefully rehearsed were thus not performed and there was no doubt that some excellent entertainment was missed. However, the all ranks dance that followed was a great success.

On Boxing Day the Officers played the Sergeants in a (serious) football match. A glance at the photo taken of the two teams will show that the best of both messes were out that day. The game, characterised by a viciousness normally reserved for 'friendlies', resulted in a win for the Officers. The Commanding Officer scored the only goal, which was only right after all.

January passed without anyone really noticing. Two things loomed large over us as we entered February: the PRE (standing for Periodic REME Inspection) and the Sobraon Ball. The former, as befits a 100 per cent inspection of all vehicles, radios and weapons, hours of briefings, sheafs of dire warnings, etc., can be dismissed in a single sentence: the

PRE took place from 10th-16th February and we survived. The Sobraon Ball, however, being a one-night stand with sideshows at the Officers' Mess, is the subject of a separate article!

Sobraon Day itself started memorably for some when the Corps of Drums sounded Reveille round the quarters. There were (needless to say, a few young 'soldiers' who mistook Reveille for the General Alarm and appeared in the barracks, laden with kit, breathing heavily and asking, 'Which way did they go?'. In the afternoon a *very serious* hockey match took place between the Officers and the Sergeants. Result: Officers' Mess 1 hospitalised,



The Battalion was sad to see two old soldiers leave on retirement. Pte. Fred Hooton after 22 years' service and WO.II Les Kirk after 25 years' service. Pictures show Pte. Hooton in the Officers' Mess and WO.II Kirk pulled by men of Command Company to the Barrack gates.



Sergeants' Mess nil. A worthy revenge for Boxing Day . . . in fact the result was a win for the Sergeants 2-1.

The day ended with a variety concert by the Band, lasting two hours. The Bandmaster and all members of the Band are congratulated on a highly professional and entertaining show. Among the many enjoyable items were a fashion show (which featured an extraordinary brown thing that Officers and WOs are now sporting), a superb piece of conducting by Bds. Tordoff and the finale. This finale had many of the audience on their feet, and no wonder—1812 was never like this, complete with fanfare trumpets, thunderflashes, 83 grenades and the rattle of small arms fire. The show was followed by dancing to the Regimental Dance Band.

The rest of February and March were consumed with the constant struggle to keep one step ahead of the next crisis. Forever in our minds is the knowledge that exercise *Jeremiah* grows daily nearer. This exercise, involving the whole of A Company and elements of C and Sp Companies, begins at the end of March and lasts throughout April. In essence it is an exercise designed to test the effect on combat troops of prolonged wearing of chemical protective clothing and equipment. Boffins and brass will be here in strength for what promises to be an interesting but very testing period. A full report will appear in the October CASTLE.

Visits

Once again we have played host to a number of visitors. In November, 4th Guards Armoured Brigade hosted a party from the

Royal College of Defence Studies, and we, in our turn, entertained them to a buffet supper in the Officers' Mess. A memorable quote from a



Maj.-Gen. Dye talking to Pte. Coles (SP Company)



The Admin Company team. Winners of the Battalion Small Bore Shooting Competition. Left to right, standing: L/Cpl. O'Reilly, Cpl. Pearman, CO, L/Cpl. Leighton, Pte. Wood. Kneeling, Pte. Cross, Pte. Brand.

certain (West) Pakistani Naval Officer . . . 'I am going to become C-in-C of our Eastern fleet at Chittagong . . . ' Hope you heard the news in time, Sir! We were particularly glad to see Colonel John Akehurst.

Later that month we hosted a party of MPs, including Colonel Sir Harwood Harrison and Mr. Geoffrey Finsberg, who formed part of a Select Committee on Expenditure.

In December the Colonel Commandant, The Queen's Division, Major General J. B. Dye, came and had the unique experience of representing a Brigadier (on the FFR dress rehearsal).

We also welcomed the Divisional Brigadier, Brigadier J. R. Anderson, and most recently the Colonel of the Regiment.

We look forward to the visit of Miss Anglia with a barely concealed excitement. After all, she is 36-24-36 with 'forget-me-not blue eyes' and we intend to give her something she will not forget.



The Tudor Bar in the Corporals' Mess. Cpl. Stratford (pictured left) constructed the bar and its decorations virtually single handed.



S/Sgt. Groom (we just can't keep him out!) at the bar of the SP Company club. The bar and club were constructed by the Assault Pioneers.



Sennelager—The Quarter master explains to CQMS Edwards and S/Sgt. Richards (REME) the elements of spud bashing.

Band Notes

The Band has quickly adapted to its new environment in Munster and become acquainted with German tastes, both in music and in beer. Within a month of our arrival we were thrust into the thick of a three-day Schutzenfest and have barely stopped since. In quick succession we visited France, Belgium and Holland, and appeared on Eurovision TV for the finals of 'It's a Knockout', which was won for the first time by a team from UK, viz. Blackpool.

Christmas for the Band was the usual mixture of Dinner Nights, Dances and Carol Singing around the quarters, culminating in an excellent Band party. At this time, too, we said goodbye to S/Sgt. 'Dobby' Denton, who for so many years has been the solo clarinet and lead sax in the dance band. No words here could express the appreciation of his long service and outstanding work with the Band. He will be sorely missed.

Our major achievement has, without doubt, been the acquisition of fanfare trumpets, after many years of saving. These were delivered in time for our Sobraon Day celebrations and were duly christened with a concert and dance in the gymnasium. The highlight of the concert was the famous 1812 Overture with all the trimmings. With the assistance of CSM 'Lofty' Knight and Cdr/Sgt. 'Mosey' Groom, the Band and the audience were practically blown out of the gym and asphyxiated by smoke, but it was a tremendous finale, as witnessed by the standing ovation.

Our future commitments include visits to Heidelberg, Mons, France, and, later in the year, we look forward to visiting the Battalion once more in Belfast during its forthcoming emergency tour.



SOBRAON BALL

A swinging affair. The CO and his wife at 6 a.m.

Sobraon Ball

A Ball to celebrate the one hundred and twenty-sixth anniversary of the Battle of Sobraon was held in the Officers' Mess on

Saturday 12th February, 1972. This was the first Sobraon Ball for eleven years, and as one of the organisers said, he could well understand why. But in spite of the fears of the organisers it was a memorable evening.

Apart from private guests of Officers, the guest list was confined to past and present members of the 2nd Battalion and its former Regiments and those members of the Royal Anglian Regiment serving on the Continent. It was good to see once again many old friends, and in particular those who had made the effort to come all the way from England. Brigadier and Mrs. Pat Erskine-Tulloch, Colonel and Mrs. Godfrey Cotton, Colonel and Mrs. Peter Walter, Major and Mrs. Hugh Johnston, Captain John Richards, and Captain and Mrs. Robert Goulson, to name but a few.

After champagne and supper the Officers and their guests danced to the Regimental Band, the Steel Band of the 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment, a piper of the 1st Battalion The Queen's Own Highlanders and Pierres Discothèque. It was interesting to note that with few exceptions the party was as strong at six o'clock the following morning as it had been at nine o'clock the previous night. After this self-congratulatory remark we look forward to the next Minden, Salamanca and Hindustan Balls!

Are YOU a Member of YOUR Association?

SPORTS REPORT

3rd Battalion

The Battalion has had more successes in the sporting world. The Hockey team were runners-up in the 4th Division Final. The Basketball team were placed third in BAOR. The Football team again reached the BAOR Final of the Infantry Challenge Cup and convincingly beat the Queen's Own Highlanders by 3 goals to nil.

Pte. Maxwell became the Army and Combined Services Light Middleweight Champion. He defeated the Welsh Champion on 1st April and qualified for the ABA semi-finals.

Soccer

This season has been one of the most successful for the Pompadour team. The record so far is: played 17, won 14, drawn 2, and lost only one. Goals scored for 65 and against 16.

The only game we have lost was unfortunately the most important one, against 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment in the quarter finals of the Army Cup. The Battalion team was most unlucky, pressing for most of the game but just unable to get the ball into the net.

Holders of the Infantry Cup, the Pompadours have again won their way to the final and meet 1st Battalion The King's Own Borderers on 20th April at Aldershot.

The 1st XI are Detmold League Champions with an unbeaten record and the 2nd XI are

5 points clear at the top of the Minor Units League.

Leading scorers this season are Pte. Coombs with 26 goals, Cpl. Farnham with 7, L/Cpl. Jephcote 6, and Sgt. Allen, the skipper, 6.

Pte. Coombs has been outstanding throughout the season with his strong running and robust play combined with an accurate shot and powerful header. Sgt. Allen, the team captain, is as solid and commanding in defence as ever.

L/Cpl. Northrop must be congratulated on representing the BAOR side as goalkeeper for all its matches this season.

Basketball

The arrival of SSI Goulding, APTC, led to a revival of the Basketball team, which was not surprising since he is an England and Army player. Disappointment in the results of early games in the Lippe Garrison League was followed by elation as the team went from strength to strength and was, by the end of the season, league leaders. Success came in the 1st pool of the 4th Division Championships, which was concluded with the Pompadours defeating 35 Engineer Regiment, The Life Guards, 4 Div. HQ and Signals Regiment, 2 Queen's and 26 Engineer Regiment. In the Final the team was narrowly defeated by 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment to become runners-up, but qualified for the BAOR Finals which were held at Osnabruck on the 10th March. Our final

He is only half as big as most but it usually takes two men to beat him—L/Cpl. Jephcote in the quarter-final Infantry Cup game v 1st Battalion Light Infantry.





Pte. Ken Charles makes it look easy during a cup game.

placing was 3rd in BAOR—not bad for a first season in cup competition.

Special mention is due to young players Ptes. Rogerson, Charles and Jones, who were selected to represent BAOR, and not least SSI Goulding for his excellent work throughout the season.

Boxing

The Inter Company Boxing Competition produced some fast and furious bouts with 'C', 'A' and 'B' Companies all going hard for the Cup. The result was a win for 'C' Company, but the best bout was probably that between Cpl. Macleod (Comd. Company) and L/Cpl. Wysocki ('A' Company), which brought two of the best boxers of the competition into the ring together for the final of the Middleweight class. Wysocki was declared the winner after a very exciting fight.

We are now the proud possessors of an Army and Combined Services Champion in the shape of Pte. Roger Maxwell. He only joined the Battalion a matter of months ago but is on the road to the ABA finals, having defeated all his

opponents in the BAOR, Army and Combined Services Championships by stopping them within the distance. He qualified by beating the Welsh ABA Champion for the ABA semi-final.

Hockey

The 1971-72 season has been a very successful one for the Pompadours Hockey team. Thanks to an extremely mild winter, a large number of games have been played. The 1st XI played 21 games and the 2nd XI 10. The highlight of the season was the succession of games which gained us a place in the final of the 4th Division stage of the Army Cup. Unfortunately, in the final, we went down 2-0. It is worthwhile mentioning perhaps that 4th Division is without question the strongest Division as far as hockey goes and it is probably fair to say that we number amongst the best six sides in BAOR.

The strength of the team lies in a strong defence, which has conceded few goals. The forward line is always dangerous and scored many excellent goals. Three players are worth mentioning: Capt. Browne for his efforts at centre half, and Cpl. McLavin and L/Cpl. Billimore in the forward line, the last two named being selected to represent 4th Division in the Inter Divisional Championships. Another representative honour went to Capt. Davenport, who was selected for the BAOR XI tour to Berlin.

A Company League has been played. The final matches are being completed at the time of writing; at the moment Command Company are leading the table.



Tense moment in the 4 Div. Final Pompadours. L to r: Capt. Davenport, Capt. Browne and Cpl. McLavin.

The strength and depth of hockey in the Battalion has grown greatly this season and we look forward to further success, particularly in the Army Cup and new Infantry Cup Competition next season.

The 1st XI drew from the following players: Pte. Freakly, Capt. Menage, Capt. Ladley, S/Sgt. Reed, Capt. Browne, Major Cross, Pte. Thorpe, LCpl. Billimore, S/Sgt. Smith, Capt. Davenport, Cpl. McLavin, L/Cpl. DeCunha, Pte. Jones.

Leading scorers (both XIs): Capt. Davenport 22, Cpl. McLavin 19, Cpl. Neal 7, L/Cpl. DeCunha 6, Capt. Browne 5.

Playing records:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
1st XI	21	16	2	3	52	19
2nd XI	10	4	1	5	25	25

Rugby

In all, 13 games were played before the Christmas break, resulting in eight victories. Perhaps the most notable were those against 22 Signals Regiment (28-0), 39 Missile Regiment RA (7-0), Queen's Royal Irish Hussars (18-14) and 5 Field Workshops (8-5). Postings have weakened the team, however, and since the break the results have been less promising. We lost to the 2nd Battalion 28-14.

Our strength lies in the pack, inspired by Capts. (Spanners) Green (REME) and Norbury, and a lot of work was done by Lt. Corbett, Cpl. Dowling and Pte Jacques. Swift running by 2Lt. Gould and some suicidal tackles by full back and skipper 2Lt. Chisnall made the backs both dangerous and difficult to penetrate. There is a lot of enthusiasm and talent in the team and the future looks rosy.

2nd Battalion

The Battalion has not featured very strongly in the sporting field since October, but a great deal of sport has been played within the Battalion in order to talent-spot and build up stronger teams for the future.

Boxing

The Battalion drew a bye in the first round of the major unit boxing and then travelled to Berlin to meet 1 Queen's. 1 Queen's won comfortably by 9-2. In the Brigade Open Boxing Championships the Battalion produced five finalists, of whom four were victorious L/Cpls. Hendericks, Sanderson, Dowland and Ptes. Cain and Maycock are to be congratulated on their fine performances.

Rugby

The Poachers Rugby team has enjoyed its most successful season for many years. The initial game against RAF Gutersloh was a hard-fought match but lost. Four successive wins (including one against the 3rd Battalion) soon put the team in a better frame of mind. The side was able to recover from its initial set-back largely through the skill of such seasoned players as 2Lt. Willdridge, S/Sgt. Crane, Cpl. Hampton, Cpl. Willoughby and Sgt. Parker, and the fitness of the younger players like Ptes. Gill, Norton and Kirby and Cpl. Pinker. The Padre, too, has played some useful games and shown a side to his character which is not normally visible. The present situation is as follows: Played 11; won 8; lost 3.



Officers v Sergeants football teams. Back row: WO.II Greenfield, WO.I Watson (LAD), RQMS, Sgt. Hurry, Sgt. McKenzie, WO.II Huddleston, QM (Capt.) Adamson, Capt. Casciaro, Capt. Hipkin, Capt. Fowler, Capt. Greenham, Ctr/Sgt. Mitchell, Sgt. Newbitt. Seated centre: S/Sgt. Groom, CO, 2IC, WO.II Gordon, Adj. Seated ground: Capt. Young, WO.II Bailiff, Maj. Barnes, Maj. White, WO.II Macintyre.

Pte. Smith reaches for the ball against New University, Coleraine. The Irish Problem remained unconverted.



1st Battalion

Rugby 71-72

Well, how do you play the game when your pavilion is blown up, your team is on anti-devices patrols and your fixture list is packed solid? The first thing you do is to persuade the Commanding Officer that winning is not the point of the game. Secondly you hit the national press by preceding an Army Cup game against 9 Independent Para Squadron RE with four parachutists dropping, unheralded, onto the pitch. This has the effect of bringing shots from the Bogside and alerting an 'A' Company GPMG in the anti-aircraft role. You then lose the game some 42 points to nil and follow up

this loss, one week later, by the wide advertisement of the fact that the Engineers' next opponents lost the game 87-0.

Nevertheless, it was a sorry season for the players. Out of 27 fixtures we only managed to play four games, all of which we lost, but enjoyed. The wisdom of the ban on away games was proved when the Rugby Club at Dungannon was partially destroyed the night we were to have been there quenching our thirsts.

We now look forward to our next season in Cyprus. We suspect that there will be considerable competition from the soccer players. With the influx of talent over the last year, the team looks very promising.



MARRIAGES

BARRADALE-MURRAY—On 16th November 1971, at Gosport, Cpl. Barradale to Susanna Murray.

BIRD-WHITEHOUSE—On 11th November, 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Bird to Ann Whitehouse.

BOKENHAM-PHILEMAN—On 13th November 1971, at Oxford, Pte. Bokenham to Celia Phileman.

BRETT-COLES—On 2nd October 1971, at Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst, Captain G. I. G. Brett to Miss D. Coles.

BULLARD-McGILLOWAY—On 20th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Bullard to Ann McGilloway.

CHASE-HALES—On 22nd October 1971, at Grimsby, Pte. Chase to Patricia Hales.

CLARK-LYNN—On 11th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Clark to Maureen Lynn.

CLARKE-DONELLY—On 29th December 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Clarke to Sarah Donnelly.

COLE-ANDERSON—On 8th January 1972, at Londonderry, Pte. Cole to Susan Anderson.

COX-CALDWELL—On 7th January 1972, at Londonderry, Cpl. Cox to Joan Caldwell.

DAVISON-McLAUGHLIN—On 13th November 1971, at Whitburn, Pte. Davison to Eileen McLaughlin.

DEXTER-STOREY—On 4th January 1972, at Grantham, L/Cpl. Dexter to Rosemary Storey.

DRODGE-McCARRON—On 20th November 1971, at Redcar, Cfn. Drodge to Catherine McCarron.

EBBS-McLAUGHLIN—On 12th November 1971, at Holbeach, Pte. Ebbs to Margaret McLaughlin.

EVANS-TIMONEY—On 11th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Evans to Ann Timoney.

GARFORY-KIERNAN—On 10th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Garfory to Veronica Kiernan.

GENT-OLPHERT—On 13th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Gent to Mary Olphert.

GOOCH-BROWN—On 13th November 1971, at Hitchin, Pte. Gooch to Delores Brown.

GREENWOOD-ARMSTRONG—On 13th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Greenwood to Carol Armstrong.

GROOMS-PALMER—On 13th November 1971, at Hilgay, L/Cpl. Grooms to Sandra Palmer.

HAMER-CHAMBERS—On 20th November 1971, at Strabane, Pte. Hamer to Margaret Chambers.

HILL-THOMPSON—On 11th November 1971, at Londonderry, Bds. Hill to Paphine Thompson.

HOUCHIN-APPLEGATE—On 11th December 1971, at Trowbridge, Wilts., Captain J. S. Houchin to Caroline Applegate.

LANCASTER-LYNCH—On 22nd November 1971, at Bradford, L/Cpl. Lancaster to Ann Lynch.

LEMON-LAURENCE—On 27th November 1971, at Maidstone, Pte. A. Lemon to Patricia Laurence.

LOVEDAY-RAMSEY—On 14th January, 1972, at Londonderry, Pte. Loveday to Jane-Ann Ramsey.

MAWER-McGEE—On 9th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Mawer to Margaret McGee.

MITRA-MILLS—On 13th November, 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Mitra to Sylvia Mills.

MORRILL-NICELL—On 10th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Morrill to Patricia Nicell.

MUSSELL-WAINE—On 20th November, 1971, at Brighton, Sgt. Mussell to Daphne Waine.

NELSON-VILLA—On 19th November 1971, at Glasgow, Pte. Nelson to Francis Villa.

ORCHARD-McPHERSON—On 23rd November 1971, at Dunstable, Pte. Orchard to Lorraine McPherson.

OTTER-BROWN—On 12th November 1971, at Evington, Leicester, 2Lt. T. G. P. Otter to Julie Margaret Brown.

PAYNE-DOHERTY—On 20th November 1971, at Dovercourt, L/Cpl. Payne to Noreen Doherty.

POTTER-MELLORS—On 9th March 1972, at Aldershot, Cpl. R. Potter to L/Cpl. Kathleen Mellors, W.R.A.C.

PULHAM-McMICHAEL—On 9th October 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Pulham to Gloria McMichael.

QUIREY-CROWE—On 11th December 1971, at Belfast, L-Cpl. Quirey to Elizabeth Crowe.

RAINES-HOWARD—On 13th November, 1971, at Londonderry, Bds. Raines to Carol Howard.

RANDELL-YOUNGMAN—On 29th December 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Randell to Eunice Youngman.

READ-BALFORD—On 17th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Read to Odette Balford.

RICHARDSON-WILCOCK—On 20th November 1971, at Chelmsford, Pte. Richardson to Sandra Wilcock.

SECKER-WEST—On 12th November 1971, at Greenock, Pte. Secker to Rosemary West.

SHRUBSALL-McBAIN—On 20th November, 1971, at Sprowston, Pte. Shrubsall to Carole McBain.

SIMPSON-DOHERTY—On 16th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Simpson to Agnes Doherty.

SLUGGART-MOORE—On 13th November 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Sluggart to Ann Moore.

SMITH-HAMILTON—On 15th December, 1971, at Londonderry, Pte. Smith to Kathleen Hamilton.

SMITH-EASTER—On 20th November 1971, at Spilsby, Pte. Smith to Christine Easter.

SMITH-CASEY—On 13th November 1971, at Hornby, L/Cpl. Smith to Louise Casey.

SMITH-HOMER—On 14th November 1971, at Leicester, Pte. Smith to June Homer.

STAPLES-MILLS—On 22nd November 1971, at Chatham, L/Cpl. P. Staples to Anne Mills.

STUBBS-KING—On 27th November 1971, at Great Yarmouth, L/Cpl. Stubbs to Angela King.

STUDD-LAXTON—On 24th December 1971, at Great Yarmouth, Pte. Studd to Jennifer Laxton.

SWALLOW-SCOTT—On 7th January 1972, at Chelsea, Major F. A. H. Swallow to Prudence Elizabeth Scott.

TAYLOR-SYREEN—On 22nd November, 1971, at Richmond, Sgt. Taylor to Audrey Syreen.

THURLBY-GORMAN—On 20th November, 1971, at Stainforth, Pte. Thurlby to Yvonne Gorman.

THOMAS-TALLANT—On 17th March 1972, at Ebistock Parish Church, Overton-on-Dee, Captain T. B. Thomas to Judith Tallant.

TURNER-WIDDISON—On 23rd October, 1971, at Topcliffe, Yorks., Captain M. H. Turner to Margaret Ada Widdison.

WAUGHMAN-McGINLEY—On 15th November, 1972, at Thurrock, Pte. Waughman to Ann McGinley.

WHARTON-DWYER—On 20th November, 1971, at Bury St. Edmunds, Pte. Wharton to Pauline Dwyer.

WILLDRIDGE-HEATH—On 1st April 1972, in Surrey, 2Lt. M. D. Willdridge to Susan Virginia Heath.

WOODWARD-STURESS—On 13th November 1971, at Wellingborough, Pte. Woodward to Brenda Sturgess.



BIRTHS

BENJAMIN—On 8th December 1971, at Clacton on Sea, to Sylvia, wife of Pte. Benjamin, a son, Allan Mark.

DALY—On 15th December, 1971, at Londonderry, to Barbara, wife of Pte. Daly, a daughter, Karen Michele.

HOLYLAND—On 19th January, 1972, at Londonderry, to Jillian, wife of Pte. Holyland, a son, Karl Leslie.

HOULDEN—On 24th December, 1971, at Aldershot, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. G. Houlden, a son, Nicholas James.

HUGHES—On 12th October, 1971, at Aldershot, to Pte. and Mrs. J. Hughes, a daughter, Deborah Muriel.

JACKSON—On 21st December, 1971, at Londonderry, to Irene, wife of L/Cpl. Jackson, a son, Mark David Anthoney.

LING—On 8th November, 1971, at Londonderry, to Janice, wife of Cpl. Ling, a daughter, Bryony Adele.

O'DONOVAN—A daughter, Emma Elizabeth, to Private and Mrs. O'Donovan, at Aldershot, on 7th August, 1971.

O'DONAVAN—On 28th January, 1972, at Londonderry, to Josephine, wife of Pte. O'Donovan, a daughter, Shanry Rachell.

WOOLER—On 6th December 1971, at Londonderry, to Elizabeth, wife of Pte. Wooler, a daughter Faye Alexandra.

OBITUARY

On Operations in Northern Ireland with the 3rd Battalion

2nd LT. NICHOLAS EDWIN HULL

Nick Hull was born on 1st October, 1950, in Bow, London; he was killed in the Divis Flats area of Belfast on 16th April, 1972, by a sniper's bullet.

He came from Ampthill in Bedfordshire and was educated at Luton Grammar School and Luton Sixth Form College. He joined the RAC in November 1969 and gained a Short Service Commission from Mons OCS in February 1971. He joined the 3rd Bn on being commissioned and took over command of 2 Pl 'A' Coy. A few days before he was killed, his platoon won the Inter Platoon Competition 1972.

Nick was a fun loving extrovert and immensely popular with officers and men alike. He was always cheerful and gay, and had a ready wit and much energy. He is sadly missed by all who knew him. We extend our deepest sympathy to his mother, Mrs. P. M. Hull, and to his brother who is serving with the 2nd Battalion.

PRIVATE JOHN HENRY BALLARD

Pte. J. H. Ballard was shot dead in the Lower Falls district of Belfast on the 11th May, 1972, whilst on patrol. He was just over 18 years old. He had been a most active member of the 3rd Battalion, excelling at football and orienteering, and his presence and contribution will be sadly missed by everyone.

We extend our deepest sympathy and sorrow to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Ballard, and to his brother, Cyril, who served with him in the same platoon.

LT.COL. A. C. NEWMAN, VC, OBE, TD

With the death of Lt.-Colonel A. C. Newman, VC, on 26th April, 1972, The Essex Regiment mourns the passing of a great personality and a happy warrior and The Royal Anglian Regiment has lost a truly distinguished Territorial soldier.

Charles Newman was born in 1904 at Buckhurst Hill. On leaving Bancrofts School he joined the local civil engineering and building

firm, W. & C. French, and enlisted in the Territorial Army as soon as he was old enough to join. This was the start of a distinguished career in both business and the reserve army. In business he rose to be chairman of one of the largest construction companies in the country and from which he retired in 1969 on reaching the age of 65. He also played a leading part in, and served a period as national chairman of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors. These business responsibilities and achievements reflect a life's work on their own by any standards, but Charles Newman took everything in his stride.

Before the 1939-45 War he was commanding a Company in 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment (TA) and those of us who soldiered with him saw the potential of the great leader in battle if the call should come. It came for him in early 1940 when he volunteered for special service and was given command of No. 3 Independent Company which took part in the operations in Norway. On the formation of the Commandos, Charles Newman was chosen as the commander of No. 2 Commando which was to face such an important and hazardous challenge in March 1942. The successful raid on St. Nazaire and the destruction of the dry dock has become part of military history, but it is the great and gallant soldiers who make this history. Charles Newman commanded and led the military force which took part in this heroic raid and it was his outstanding leadership, courage, cheerfulness and determination which made success possible. The survivors of his small land force were taken prisoner and for the remainder of the war their leader continued to uplift morale and stimulate the minds of very many of his fellow prisoners of war. The award of the Victoria Cross for his part in the St. Nazaire raid was the measure of the man and his stature and brought honour and distinction to his Commando which his former Regiment is proud to share.

After the War he continued to devote much spare time to military activities until the calls of business became too heavy. He was the first post war County Commandant of the Essex Army Cadet Force and, after the Territorial Army was reformed, he became commanding officer of the Artists Rifles which had then become a Special Service unit with a commando type role.

Charles Newman was also a lover of sport and a great sportsman. In his early TA days he was a finalist in the national boxing champion-

ships; he played rugger for many years for the Old Bancroftians; and in later years developed a tremendous enthusiasm for golf, a game in which he became a well known and greatly admired player and follower.



Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Newman, VC, OBE, TD.

His understanding of human problems, the warmth of his personality and his natural good humour, made him a wonderful companion in every sphere of activity in which life involved him. His spontaneous and infectious laughter, even in times of stress, was so often a source of inspiration and encouragement which many were privileged to enjoy, and will long remember.

The Regiment records admiration for one of its great heroes and extends sympathy to his wife and family.

A.N.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN ARNOLD ATKINSON GRIFFIN, DSO

General Griffin died after a short illness at Lymington, Hampshire, on the 25th March, 1972, aged 80.

Educated at Sherbourne and the RMC Sandhurst, he was commissioned in The Lincolnshire Regiment in 1911, joining with the 2nd Battalion in Bermuda.

In the 1914-18 War he served with the Regiment in Flanders and subsequently was appointed early in 1918 to command the 2nd Bn Royal Berkshire Regiment. During the war he was wounded, twice "Mentioned in Despatches" and awarded the DSO for distinguished service.

After the War, he rejoined the 2nd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment at Clipstone Camp, near Mansfield, reverting to his substantive rank.

His record of service with the 10th Regiment of Foot will long be remembered by those who served with him or under his command, especially when serving overseas either in Bermuda, France, Gibraltar (when the Battalion won the A.R.A. MG Cup (abroad)), Shanghai, Hong Kong and India.

He took command of the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong and was promoted Lieut-Colonel in 1935, and it was in this station he proved his skill as a yachtsman. To be invited to be a crew member of his yacht entailed hard work for those who accepted the invitation. Every company was allocated a new rowing boat for recreational purposes—special crews were trained to win events in the annual Hong Kong Garrison Rowing Regatta. His training method was severe, eight steel Falling Plates (used on the rifle range) were placed in the bow, plus the CO himself who instructed the crew "how to row". When the crews took part in Regattas, they had no ballast as in training; they now pulled when racing a lighter boat, of correct weight and properly crewed. It was a proud moment on Stone-Cutters Island, Hong Kong, when *all* members of the Lincolns' boat crews "queued up" to receive every cup and medal awarded for Infantry Battalions rowing events, thanks to the specialist training under their CO.

Later, at Nagpur, India, the skill of Lt-Colonel Griffin and his officers gained for the Regiment "The Nagpur Yachting Cup" (this cup is now in the care of the former, and the *last* secretary of the Yacht Club who is now resident in England—he advised the cup will eventually be given a prominent place in the Museum of the 10th Foot).

On relinquishing command of the 1st Battalion early in 1939, Lt-Colonel Griffin was promoted Colonel and appointed Commandant of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall.

At the outbreak of World War II he left the school and served from 1940 to 1945 first as a Sub District and later District Commander until his retirement with the honorary rank of Major-General on 4th June, 1945.

He was Colonel of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment from 1947 to 1958 and President of its Regimental Association from 1948 to 1958, and edited the History of the 10th Foot 1919-50.

It is difficult to place on record *all* the benefits that he bestowed on the 10th Foot; suffice it for some to be mentioned, in particular fostering the friendship the Regiment had with its "Cousins"—the (29th Foot) Worcestershire Regiment, the Bermuda Volunteer Rifles, the 1st Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment and the Lincoln and Welland Regiment of Canada, and with his own Regimental Association.

During his Colonelcy was received the news of the amalgamation of the 10th Foot with the 48th/58th Foot (The Northamptonshire Regiment) and it was with Brigadier John Lingham, then Colonel of the 48th/58th Foot, the link of two equally famous Regiments was forged—and upon the foundation these Colonels of Regiments well and truly laid, a happy amalgamation followed. Under their signatures was circulated a "Special Order of the Day" part of which referring to Amalgamation of the Regiments were these words: "Let this Marriage of Convenience be a Happy One".

Members of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association, Old Comrades, and the Officers of the Dinner Club of The Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire Regiments will regret his passing, and join in expressing sympathy to Mrs. Griffin and members of the family.

P.H.S.

BRIGADIER M. A. GREEN, CBE, MC

Brigadier Green joined the Gloucestershire Regiment in 1914 and spent the first war in France first as a regimental officer and latterly on the Staff. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1918. He transferred to the Northamptonshire Regiment in 1921 on accelerated promotion. Forty-eight years of age at the outbreak of the Second World War, he first commanded a brigade in France, then saw service in East Africa before returning once more to France and Germany with the RAF Regiment. He was awarded the CBE in 1945.

E. W. Swanton wrote in the "Daily Telegraph": "Brigadier Michael Arthur Green, CBE, MC, who has died aged 80 after many years cruelly afflicted by arthritis, had a varied and illustrious record both as a soldier, serving in two World Wars, and as a sportsman. He represented the Army at cricket and at both codes

of football, and took an important administrative part in Army boxing and PT.

"As in retirement he went from the secretaryship of Worcestershire County Cricket Club to that of the Selangor Golf Club, Kuala Lumpur, his breadth of sporting interest could scarcely have been more extensive.

"Not many men have played for Surrey at both soccer and rugger, and also represented both the Corinthians and the Harlequins in between seasons as a county cricketer for Gloucestershire, the Army and MCC.

"His chief cricket distinction came when he managed two successive MCC tours, to South Africa in 1949-50 and Australia in 1950-51. Lucky in working with excellent captains in F. G. Mann and F. R. Brown, he deserved no small share of the credit for the fact that both sides were extremely popular wherever they played and left the best of impressions. MCC recognised his services on these tours by electing him to honorary life membership of the club."

CAPTAIN (QM) PHILIP TANCRED, MBE

Philip Tancred was born at London on the 20th October, 1901.

He enlisted as a boy into the Lincolnshire Regiment before attaining the age of 15 years, on the 4th October, 1916—and became musician in the band then under Band Master "Nipper" Wright.

After the 1914-18 War the band rejoined the 1st Battalion at Tipperary, and in its ranks was "Ex" Tancred. "Ex"—the nickname conferred on him on attaining "Private and Musician" viz: Man Service, denoting for him "ex-boy". Ex was the proud title to remain with him throughout his Army career and until his death at Edinburgh on the 13th January, 1972, in his 71st year.

He was released from Army service to the Army Reserve at Aldershot on the 3rd October, 1925. After only four months of civilian life "Ex" returned to what was for him real life, serving with the 10th Foot in the Regular Army. He gained promotion in the ranks, Corporal to Drum Major, later Warrant Officer Class II (CSM) and Class I (RSM) on the 1st Battalion. During World War II he was appointed to an Emergency Commission on 27th February, 1943, as Lieutenant Quarter Master and three years later promoted War Substantive Captain (QM).

When serving with the 1st Battalion in Burma on the 19th October, 1944, was "Mentioned in Despatches", and on the 28th June, 1945, was awarded the MBE.

He ended his Army career as Quarter Master of the 4th Battalion Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (TA) at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln. He relinquished his Commission on the 15th March, 1954, and granted Honorary Rank of Captain (QM).

Youth is today recommended to "Join The Professionals", and the greatest tribute anyone who knew Philip Tancred for over half a century is to say he was not only a professional but one who from "Boy Soldier to Captain put his Regiment first and self last", long to be remembered by his former comrades.

DEATHS

ATKINSON—On 12th January 1972, Major John V. Atkinson, M.C., aged 80 years, in hospital, Northwood, late The Essex Regiment.

BARNARD—On 16th March 1972, Victor Barnard, aged 77 years, at Harold Wood Hospital, Essex, late 'Pampadours' and the 'Old Contemptibles'.

BARBER—On 29th November 1971, ex-Sgt. John Arthur (Richard) Barber, aged 89 years, at Gt. Burstead, Essex, late 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 9th Battalions The Essex Regiment.

BATTLE—On 8th January 1972, at Bedford, ex-Bandmaster F. W. O. Battle, M.B.E., late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, aged 70.

BAXTER—On 24th February 1972, ex-Sgt. R. Baxter, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of Grimsby.

BENNETT—On 28th December 1971, peacefully, in hospital, Colonel Alec Jack Bennett, M.B.E., T.D., D.L., County Cadet Commandant, Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force, aged 52 years.

BENTLEY—On 2nd October 1971, Captain A. H. Bentley, at the Grosvenor Hospital, Westcliff, late Essex Regiment 1939-45.

BINYON—In January 1972, Jack Binyon, late 7th (S) Bn The Northamptonshire Regiment.

BOTTERILL—On 24th December 1971, R. C. Botterill, aged 73 years, late 1st/4th and 6th (S) Bn The Northamptonshire Regiment.

BROWN—On 29th January 1972, Mr. W. G. Brown, suddenly at his home in West Dulwich, late Essex Regiment.

BUCKLEY—On 16th February 1972, at Alvas-ton, Charlie Buckley, aged 62 years, late Lincolnshire Regiment.

CHELL—On 3rd February 1972, G. M. Chell, in a road accident at Newport, late 1st Bn Essex Regiment 1923-30.

CHETTLE—On 8th January 1972, Herbert Edward Chettle, late 1st/4th Bn The Northamptonshire Regiment.

CLARKE—On 3rd January, Brigadier F. A. S. Clarke, D.S.O., late The Essex Regiment.

CROSS—On 7th January 1972, Mr. F. Cross, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 89 The Hornbeams, Harlow, Essex.

CROWE—On 14th October 1971, in Cape Town, South Africa, Major Denis Marston Crowe, M.C., late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, aged 78.

CURTIS—On 9th November 1971, L/Cpl. I. Curtis, in Londonderry, as a result of gun shot wounds received in action.

DAGWORTHY—On 26th January 1972, Arthur S. Dagworthy, aged 54 years, at his home in Gravesend, Kent, late 5th Bn Essex Regiment.

DOWNS—On 12th February 1972, Major (QM) Charles Edgar Downs, late The Northamptonshire Regiment.

DRAYCOTT—On 19th March 1972, in hospital, Walter Draycott, of 31 Leopold Road, Leicester, late Lincolnshire Regiment.

EBBUTT—On 12th October 1971, at his home 13 Blenheim Gardens, Sanderstead, Surrey, Captain Jack North Ebbutt, aged 55 years, late Lincolnshire Regiment.

FELTHAM—On 19th October 1971, Mr. W. Feltham, late 1/7th Essex.

FORD—On 17th November 1971, Lt.-Col. F. I. Ford, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of "Claremont", 10 Nairn Road, Bournemouth.

FRANKLIN—On 15th January 1972, at Derby, William Franklin, ex-CQMS The Bedfordshire Regiment, aged 83.

GARNER—On 17th November 1971, Capt. J. B. Garner, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 1 High Acres, Billesdon, Leicestershire.

GREEN—On 28th December, 1971, Brigadier Michael Arthur Green, C.B.E., M.C., aged 80 years, late The Northamptonshire Regiment.

- GRIERSON**—On 29th January 1972, Henry Grierson, founder of the Forty Club, late 7th (S) Bn The Northamptonshire Regiment.
- GRIFFIN**—On 25th March 1972, Major-General John Arnold Atkinson Griffin, D.S.O., at Lymington, Hants., aged 80 years, late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.
- HERRING**—On 15th March 1972, in Bedford Hospital, Mr. Thomas William Herring, late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, aged 51.
- HOWE**—On 5th November 1971, at St. Albans, Mr. P. J. Howe, late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.
- HOWELL**—On 23rd October 1971, in hospital, Henley on Thames, Major Edmund Arthur Evelyn, aged 68 years, late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.
- HOWFIELD**—On 14th February, 1972, at Beckingham, London, Hubert Henry Howfield, aged 80 years, late Lincolnshire Regiment.
- ISAACS**—On 20th October 1971, Mr. G. Issacs, late 1/7th Essex.
- JOHNSON**—On 29th September 1971, Mr. S. E. Johnson, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 39 Laburnum Road, Humberstone, Leicester.
- JOYCE**—On 11th July, 1971, in Australia, Major D. J. Joyce ('Digger'), late 1st Bn Lincolnshire Regiment, after a lengthy illness most courageously borne.
- KING**—On 20th March 1972, Capt. G. R. King, O.B.E., M.C., late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 'Battle Edge', Tanners Lane, Burford, Oxford.
- LANDIN**—On 15th December 1971, Joe Landin, late The Northamptonshire Regiment.
- LANE**—On 21st January 1972, Richard James Lane, aged 81 years, late The Northamptonshire Regiment.
- LEE**—On 26th December 1971, Mr. D. Lee, late 1/7th Essex.
- LEWIS**—On 2nd January 1972, Arthur (Taffy) Lewis, late The Northamptonshire Regiment.
- LILLEYWHITE**—On 4th July 1971 in Australia, Lt.-Colonel J. H. G. Lilleywhite, O.B.E., late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.
- LOWMAN**—On 29th October 1971, in Scartho Road Hospital, Grimsby, Alfred James Lowman, aged 71 years, late Lincolnshire Regiment.
- MANNING**—On 13th November 1971, Mr. J. W. Manning, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 3 Cordery Road, Evington, Leicester.
- NAYLOR**—On 28th April 1971, Edward Naylor, aged 78 years, at the 'Glebelands' home, London, N.16, late The Essex Regiment.
- NAYLOR**—On 1st February 1972, Mr. L. Naylor, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 40 Watson Road, Leicester.
- NICHOLSON**—On 28th January 1972, at Queensbury, Bradford, J. ('Jumbo') Nicholson, aged 71 years, late Lincolnshire Regiment.
- NORMAN**—On 5th June 1971, Albert James Norman, at The Royal British Legion Halsey House, Cromer, Norfolk, late 2nd Bn The Essex Regiment 1902-15.
- PALLET**—On 22nd January 1972, ex-Pte. W. Pallett, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 9 Timber Street, South Wigston, Leicester.
- PAYNE**—On 22nd November 1971, ex-CSM H. J. Payne, D.C.M., late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 16 Compass Road, Leicester.
- PECHELL**—On 16th February 1972, Lt.-Col. Sir Paul Pechell, Bt., M.C., peacefully at his home in Bournemouth, late The Essex Regt.
- PERRIN**—On 2nd December 1971, ex-Pte. A. H. Perrin, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 58 Elmcroft Avenue, Sidcup, Kent.
- POULTER**—On 26th November 1971, at Bedford, ex-CSM Walter Fredrick Poulter, late 16th Foot, aged 85.
- ROSCOE**—On 21st May 1971, David Roscoe, late The Essex Regiment.
- RUMFITT**—On 15th April 1971, ex-Bandsman S. J. Rumfitt, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 15 Harborough Road, Oadby, Leicester.
- RUSHTON**—On 25th January 1972, Ronald Ernest Rushton, late 7th (S) Bn The Northamptonshire Regiment.
- RUST**—In January 1972, Mr. J. Rust, aged 79 years at Newport, Essex, late 5th Bn The Essex Regiment, 1914-18.
- RYAN**—On 2nd January 1972, in London, ex-Pte. Ron Ryan, late 1st Bn Lincolnshire Regiment.
- SHIPLEY**—On 1st February 1972, ex-CSM Horace Shipley, of 305 Pennygate, Spalding, aged 66 years, late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

SMITH—On 17th October 1971, ex-Sgt. A. O. Smith, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 18 Stuart Road, Market Harborough, Leics.

SNOW—In October 1971, Mr. S. J. Snow, of Dunmow, Essex, late The Essex Regiment (TA), 1958-63.

SPOERER—On 20th October 1971, Mr H. G. Spoerer, late 1/7th Essex.

TANCRED—On 13th January 1972, in hospital at Edinburgh, Captain (QM) Philip Tancred, M.B.E., aged 72, late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

TRIGG—On 29th January 1972, Mr. F. Trigg, at his home in Manudin, Essex, aged 79 years, late 10th Service Battalion The Essex Regiment, 1914-18.

TUCKER—Early 1971, Frederick Tucker, aged 73 years, at the Henry Cox Home, Mayhull, Liverpool, late The Essex Regiment.

TUNSTON—In January 1972, Mr. E. Tunston, aged 76 years, at Bower Farm, Langley, late 3rd Bn The Essex Regiment.

TURNER—On 26th January, 1972, Mr. E. Turner, aged 77, at the Herts. and Essex Hospital, Stansted, late 10th Service Bn Essex.

TURNER—February 1972, George Turner, at Chelmsford, late 1st Bn Band and 4th/5th Bn Band, The Essex Regiment.

WHISTON—On 18th October, 1971, ex-Cpl. G. E. Whiston, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of Nottingham.

WHITMORE—On 7th October, 1971, at Newquay, Cornwall, ex-Sgt. J. Whitmore, late 10th Foot Lincolnshire Regiment.

WHOMSLEY—On 5th August 1971, Bert Whomsley, 1 Union Street, Louth, late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

WILDT—On 18th February 1972, Capt. J. H. Wildt, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, of 5 East Avenue, Leicester.

WILKINS—On 14th February 1972, Percy J. Wilkins, late 6th (S) Bn The Northamptonshire Regiment.

WILKINS—On 10th October 1971, Pte. R. Wilkins, in Londonderry, as a result of gun shot wounds received in action.

WILSON—In February 1972, Mr. H. Wilson, aged 86, at Langley, Essex, late 11th Service Bn The Essex Regiment, 1914-18.

WOODS—On 2nd November 1971, at Louth County Hospital, Joshua Standaloft, aged 74 years, late Lincolnshire Regiment.

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