

CASTLE



THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT 1979

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The Journal of the Royal Anglian Regiment

1979

Vol. 6 No. 2

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Editor:

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

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Our Cover

Reproduced from the original painting by Charles C. Stadden
of a Regimental Drummer against a background of the Abbey
Gate, Bury St. Edmunds.



Colonel-in-Chief:

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

Deputy Colonels-in-Chief:

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon
Her Royal Highness The Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

Colonel of The Regiment:

Major-General J. B. Dye, CBE, MC

Deputy Colonels:

Lieutenant General Sir Timothy Creasey, KCB, OBE
Brigadier R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright, CBE
Brigadier R. J. Randall

ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE BATTALIONS

5th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment
6th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment
7th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

ALLIED REGIMENTS

Canada

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment
The Sherbrooke Hussars
The Lincoln and Welland Regiment
The Essex and Kent Scottish

Pakistan

5th Bn. The Frontier Force Regiment

Malaysia

1st Bn. The Royal Malay Regiment

Commonwealth Forces

The Barbados Regiment
The Bermuda Regiment
The Gibraltar Regiment

Australia

The Royal Tasmania Regiment

New Zealand

3rd Bn. [Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland]
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

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

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

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major A. G. B. Cobbold.

Regimental Secretaries:

Headquarters (Norfolk) – Lt.-Col. A. W. J. Turnbull, MC.

„ (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire) – Lt.-Col. H. S. R. Case, MBE.

„ (Lincolnshire) – Captain A. Smith.

„ (Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire) – Major D. Baxter, DL.

„ (Essex) – Major D. B. Riches.

„ (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) – Major J. A. Girdwood.

„ (Leicestershire) – Major J. T. Dudley.

TIDWORTH, 5th June, 1978



Signing the Visitors' Books of the Warrant
Officers' and Sergeants' Messes.

The 5th of May will be recorded in our history as a unique occasion when all of our regular battalions were stationed in England at the same time.

The Colonel in Chief arrived by helicopter and inspected a Guard of Honour provided by B and C Companies of the 2nd Battalion. It had been raining hard until Her Majesty arrived and although it stopped on her arrival, the wind was bitterly cold. Her Majesty, in typical style refused the Land Rover from which to inspect the Guard, donned her wellingtons and braved the wet underfoot to inspect the Guard accompanied by the Colonel of the Regiment and the Guard Commander Major Mike Boocock.

After lunching with the officers Her Majesty witnessed displays by each battalion.



Her Majesty inspects the Massed Bands and Drums accompanied by the Colonel of the Regiment and Captain Trevor Platts, Director of Music.

The cold wind was defeated by the speed and slickness of the displays interspersed with music and marching by the Massed Bands and Drums after which Her Majesty walked around the displays where wives and children had joined their men who had participated. This was a

novel idea and proved an enormous success. Her Majesty spent much time talking to everyone, including some TAVR members, and finishing up with the Old Comrades and Chelsea Pensioners.



Accompanied by Lt.-Col. Dodd, The Queen Mother sees soldiers of the 3rd Battalion dressed in Northern Ireland riot equipment.

**Her Majesty talks with
some of our Chelsea
Pensioners.**



**In the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess
Her Majesty took tea with the members of all**

**three battalions and their wives. Also present
were members from the TAVR Battalions.**



**Someone will have
something to talk about
later on!**



On Freedoms



Mayor Jeffrey Chantrell, watched by Princess Alice, makes the introductory address, before presenting the Charter.

PTE. ANGLE

On 20th May, 1978, the 2nd Battalion accepted the Freedom of the Borough of Hinckley and Bosworth on behalf of the Regiment, in the presence of HRH The Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester.

The sun shone brightly over Hinckley for the whole day. The roads were jammed and people turned out in their thousands to celebrate a military, civic and royal occasion.

The splendour and pageantry of the Regiment as it paraded along the streets with Colours flying and drums beating was balanced by the less formal but equally heart-warming 'walkabout' by Her Royal Highness.

The Colonel of the Regiment accepted the Freedom Scroll from the Mayor, Councillor



... a joke shared with some of the crowd.

It must be some years since
The Borough was this
crowded



Jeffrey Chantrell The formal words of invitation read

'In recognition of the great and glorious tradition of your most distinguished Regiment over many years of loyal and devoted service to Crown and Country and being desirous of recognising and fostering the close association between the Regiment, in which so many of our sons have served, the Borough Council of Hinckley and Bosworth has great pleasure in inviting The Royal Anglian Regiment to accept the Freedom of the Borough'

There was no doubt about the affection and pride of the civilian population in their county regiment and it was with equal pride that the 2nd Battalion reciprocated in a day to be remembered.

On the Infantry

Demonstration Battalion Warminster

The newest Battalion in the Army, an Infantry Battalion comprised of officers and men from all battalions in the infantry, held its Formation Parade on Friday, 11th August, 1978. Present on that day were two officers, one warrant officer and thirteen other ranks from the three regular battalions of the Royal Anglian Regiment. The parade took the following form:

Following a display by the Band and Bugles of the Light Infantry Depot, two members of the Battalion did a free-fall jump from a Wessex helicopter, hovering some 3,000 feet

Queens Division
Representatives



above the parade ground. These two acted as marshallers for the next phase, which was the arrival of the CO's party in a Lynx, and two platoons in Pumas, who roped down on to the square. The remainder of the battalion then drove on in Land Rovers ('A' and 'B' the rifle companies) and AFV 432s ('C' (Tech) and Support companies). Then the Composite Platoon, led by a Ghurka officer, and comprised of one man from each of the regiments of Infantry, plus the RAPC and ACC, marched by Divisions, dressed in No. 1 Dress. The mounted troops then debussed, and the CO ordered a General Salute for Major General D. T. Young, the Director of Infantry. Seconds after the order to present, a pair of Jaguars were controlled over the square at roof-top height. A short service of Dedication was then held by the Padre, and the Director of Infantry then inspected the parade. After the inspection, the mounted companies then re-mounted and drove past, and the other platoons marched past.

The Royal Anglians in the IDB are: Capt M. A. P. S. Amberton, Ops/Trg. Officer; Lt. A. T. Thompson, Admin. Officer Sp Company; WO.II Morrison (Sp Company), Sgts Wiseman (Sp Company), Harrod (HQ Company), Wyatt (Sp Company), Mallon (Sp Company), L/Cpls Lincoln (HQ Company), Sullivan (Sp Company), Mallon (Sp Company) Finan (Sp Company), Ptes Gardener (Sp Company), Hales (Sp Company), Johnson (Sp Company), Toon (Sp Company), Turner (Sp Company).

On Museums

The 3rd Battalion are proposing to up-date the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire and the Essex Regimental Museums to include the more significant tours of the 3rd East Anglian Regiment and the 3rd Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment from amalgamation to the present day. Photographs and models are being prepared, but the 2IC, Major T. D. A. Veitch, asks that any past or present members of the Battalion who possess additional material, and are willing to lend or donate it, make contact with him. Flags, uniforms, weapons and other mementoes from Malaya, Berlin, Aden and UN Cyprus are most urgently needed.

The location of the two museums is not known by all. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regimental Museum has recently moved from Bedford to Luton, where it reopened in January 1979 as part of the Borough of Luton

Town Museum. The Essex Regimental Museum is housed in a wing of the Chelmsford and Essex Museum, Chelmsford. Additional material is always needed and will be gratefully accepted by the Regimental Secretaries, Major Donald Girdwood and Major Dougie Riches.

On the Hindu Kush

Major Pat Shervington, after completing the Indian Army Staff College Course, sent us this report on one of the most famous of places where the Essex Regiment (44th Foot) fought.

In 1842 the British Force retreated from Cabul towards Hindoostan. The 44th Foot held a position at Gundamuck. Of the 684 all ranks at Cabul 632 perished in the retreat and 'last stand'. Of the remainder, only seven survived the last stand.

One of these, a Lieutenant Souter, wrapped the Regimental Colour round his body, and he survived, being a prisoner of the Afghanists, and the Colour was returned to UK, trooped and placed in Alverstoke Church, Hampshire.

It was transferred to the Regimental Chapel, Warley, in 1927, and where it can still be seen as one of the Regiment's proudest possessions.

'My photograph shows all that remains of a memorial built on the actual site in Afghanistan where the 44th Foot perished, almost to the last man, during the disastrous retreat from Cabul, 1842. The massacre occurred on 13th January, 1842, and I visited the site on 13th January, 1977, on my overland return from the Indian Staff College. I had a number of adventures, including spending four hours in a jail in Jellalabad, at the top of the Kyber Pass. I was only allowed to visit the site, remote in the Hindu Kush, after I had convinced the Army and Police authorities in Afghanistan that they had actually won the battle concerned!

'During my year I travelled extensively throughout the sub-continent, and visited many places closely associated with our Regimental history. The hospitality I received from my Indian Army hosts was always superb. Unfortunately we have no allied Regiments in India, although we maintain links with 5th Battalion, The Frontier Force, Pakistan. The nearest I came to seeing a battalion from that Regiment was through a pair of binoculars in the mountains of Kashmir during a visit to a forward Indian position in the border region. It was considered inappropriate to ask if I could visit their position.'

Remote in the Hindu Kush.



On Dates to Remember

Regimental Re-union and cocktail party—

2nd June, Bassingbourn.

Cricket—

Versus Gentlemen of Suffolk, 1st June at Bury St. Edmunds.

Versus West Norfolk, 2nd June at Bassingbourn.

Golf—

Spring meeting, 6th April at Flemspton

Annual meeting, 1st June at Royal Worlington.

Autumn meeting, 14th September at Flemspton.

15th September, match versus Flemspton GC.

Officers Dinners—

7th April, 1st Battalion, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in London.

20th April, 3rd Battalion, Royal Anglian Regiment, cocktail party in London.

4th May, Royal Leicestershire Regiment in London.

4th May, Northamptonshire Regiment in London.

1st June—Royal Norfolk Regiment in Norwich.

28th July—Suffolk Regiment in Bury St. Edmunds.

Old Comrades

Serving and retired Royal Anglians should note that they are automatically members of the Old Comrades' Associations in our counties and London branches where applicable. They should contact the Royal Anglian HQ in the county for information about the following functions:

5th May, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire OCA Annual Dinner and Dance, Ware.

19th May, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire OCA, Ware, branch dinner, Ware.

23rd/24th June, Royal Tigers Weekend, Leicester.

30th June/1st July, Northamptonshire Regiment OCA re-union, Northampton.

1st July, Essex Regiment OCA Remembrance/re-union, Warley.

29 July, Suffolk Regiment Minden Day Re-union, Bury St. Edmunds.

22nd/23rd September, 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regiment OCA, Cleethorpes.

29th/30th September Royal Norfolk OCA Dinner, Norwich.

Colours Presentation

To 6th (Volunteer) Battalion at Bury St. Edmunds on 24th June, by Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon.

Laying-up of Colours

The 5th Battalion's Northamptonshire Regiment (TA) Colours will be laid up in Peterborough Cathedral on 21st October.

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Honours and Awards

1978 Birthday Honours

KCB—Lt.-Gen. P. J. H. Leng, CB, MBE, MC.

Northern Ireland

Mentioned in Despatches—WO.II D. G. Brewin.

1978 New Years Honours

MBE—Major R. Jenns.

BEM—Sgt. P. S. Jackson.

Commands

Congratulations to—

Rhine Army

Lt.-Gen. Sir Peter Leng on his Knighthood.

Brigadier J. B. Akehurst on his appointment to command 4 Armd. Div. in July 1979.

Regimental

Lt.-Col. K. Woodrow to command the Depot, Queen's Division in January 1979.

Major D. R. Bailey to command 7th (V) Battalion in September 1979.

Major J. R. Hart, MBE, to command 1st Battalion in December 1979.

Promotions

To Colonel 1978—Lt.-Col. M. A. Aris.

To Brigadier 1979—Col. B. H. C. Emsden.
Col. W. C. Deller, OBE.

Commissions

Congratulations to Warrant Officers B. Newman, J. C. Beckett, D. G. Ridgway, J. S. J. Rourke, A. Parker and P. Keal on being granted Short Service Commissions.

We welcome to the Regiment the following officers who have been commissioned since our last report:

Regular Commissions

R. G. A. Cope

S. G. Lincoln—from Para

J. F. Dean

Short Service Commissions

P. J. Morling

University Cadetship Commissions

S. H. Bowns—Sheffield

P. Cheverton—Cambridge

Short Service Volunteer Commission

C. A. F. Thomas—from 5 (V) Battalion.

Retirements

The following officers have retired:

Majors R. H. D. Graveston, M. Jones, J. R. Wooddisse, P. W. Morton, D. M. F. Goodale, (QM) G. A. Holben, W. J. Bedford, E. J. Hazelwood, R. J. Pond, Captains C. A. S. Mather, B. A. R. Harrington-Spier.



Paul Currell returns to his platoon barrack rooms.

It is in the 3rd Battalion notes to this very issue that Lt. Paul Currell's injuries, resulting from a bomb blast in Belfast, are reported. He lost his right leg and suffered additional severe injuries to his other leg, his arms, head and torso. Now, eight months after, our photograph shows him entering the Barracks of the battalion for a brief return visit to Belfast to attend the dining out of his Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. Bill Dodd. His courage, and determination deserves our great admiration. He has set out to better all the predictions for his recovery made by his surgeons, and has already driven a car and is able to walk with only one stick.

Paul faces a year or so of physiotherapy treatment. In the meantime he has been posted to the Depot where he hopes to be able to command a training platoon.



Captain Ray Hazan, who was blinded and suffered other serious injuries in a bomb blast in Belfast in 1973, writes in a letter to the Colonel of The Regiment after visiting the 1st Battalion Ski Hut:

'Seven St. Dunstaners, three wives and three children had the most successful skiing trip we have ever mounted.

'Each individual's instructor's expertise and flexibility soon ensured a closely knit bond between teacher and pupil. The old cameraderie between serviceman was still there, despite the age gap. We got in more skiing than on several previous trips put together. Off the slope, the team continued to be courteous and hospitable and I think they enjoyed the presence of the wives and children. I hope it was not all take on our side and I am sure they all derived as much from the experience as we did.

'St. Dunstan's is deeply grateful to you and to 1 R. Anglian for allowing us to participate in Snow Queen. It was a week of a little nostalgia, but also of great excitement and pleasure.'

Ex WO. A. W. Calver, BEM

Terry Calver, who has been curator of the Suffolk Regiment Museum for the past five years, on 16th January finally said goodbye to the Regiment with which he has been closely associated and served loyally since he joined The Suffolk Regiment in 1932.

His dedicated work in the Museum has become a byword in Regimental circles, with the floor of the Museum polished like a mirror, and every piece of silver, medals, buttons, badges and boots kept permanently at guard mounting standards. He has become an authority on Regimental History and a fund of knowledge on Regimental incidents.

Regimental Secretaries

Major Tom Stead retired after eighteen years at our Warley office looking after our affairs in Essex and the interests of the Essex Regiment. Major Dougie Riches has been appointed.

Major Donald Baxter was intending to retire in August 1978 but has nobly agreed to continue until July this year. He will have completed nineteen years at our Northampton office and forty-two years continuous service.

Tom and Donald are our longest serving Regimental Secretaries. Both were involved closely in the formation of the Regiment and their experience and advice will be much missed.



Cpl. Tony Simants from Wellingborough displays his medal and citation after the presentation in the USA.

See page 58

CHAMPIONS



The Army Hammer Champion in action.



Pte. Martin James—champion runner.

Field events cup

1st: 1 R. Anglian, 88½ points.

Individual championships

(Figures in brackets denote Battalion)

1st: 200m., Cpl. W. C. Taylor (2), 22.3 secs.

1st: 400m., Cpl. W. C. Taylor (2), 47.4 secs.
(new Army record).

1st: 400m hurdles., Cpl. W. C. Taylor (2),
55.3 secs.

1st: Javelin, Pte. C. Clover (1), 76.70m.

1st: Hammer, Cpl. K. Bodger (1), 49.46m.

Senior major units championship

1st: 1 R. Anglian, 198½ points.

2nd: 1 R. Irish, 183 points.

3rd: 7 Sig. Regt., 159 points.

Junior individual championships

1st: 5000m, Pte. M. B. James (3), 16 mins.
01.8 secs.

1st: Shot, Pte. C. Webb (1), 13.35m.

3rd: Pole vault, Pte. Hurst (1), 3.20m.

Not a bad record!



Triple triumph for our Walkabout winners.



Best Berlin team at the Berlin Motor Cycle Trials. 2nd Battalion. Left to right: Pte. Quincey, WO.II Mitchell and Pte. Smith.

Cyprus Walkabout 3rd Battalion

The final part of our year's activities concerns the remarkable feat achieved by our Cyprus Walkabout team of Sgt. Andy Twell, Cpl. Jim Devaney and Pte. Martin James, who once again ran to victory in this epic endurance challenge. This is the Battalion's third successive win—a record—and this year despite much less time to train and acclimatise. Seventy-nine teams started on Day One, but only twenty-three teams finished on Day Two in temperatures of 97 degrees. The Battalion's heartiest congratulations goes to the three runners, as well as to C/Sgt. Kiwi Wilson and Pte. David Langdale (the reserves/back-up team), for their fine effort.

2nd Battalion Roupell Cup winners. C/Sgt. Smith and 7 Platoon at Hythe.





The Colonel of the Regiment talking to Band Sergeant Major Milgate at a Passing Out Parade on 11th August.

Two Old Soldiers

William Alfred Williamson, DCM, 47 Station Road, Langley Mill, Nottingham. Ex-Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

Mr. Williamson was 100 years old on 19th October, 1978. A brief description of his service is given below.

As 4877 he enlisted in the Leicestershire Regiment in 1896 at Glen Parva Barracks, South Wigston, Leicester, and joined the 1st Battalion The Leicestershire Regiment. He spent his 21st birthday in the Siege of Ladysmith, and went on the reserve in 1905. He holds the Queen's South African Medal with three clasps, and the King's South African Medal with two clasps.

He joined the Post Office in 1905 at Nottingham and was employed at Langley Mill Post Office until his retirement in 1938 after 33 years' service, broken only by his re-enlistment in the Leicestershire Regiment in 1914, in which he served throughout the Great War, finishing his service as RQMS. He was awarded the DCM on 7th October, 1917.

To mark his 100th birthday, Mr. Williamson was entertained to lunch at the Head Post Office in Nottingham, and on the following day was similarly entertained by the Lord Mayor of Leicester in his Parlour.



Seventy years with the TA—97 year old Mr. Percy Stubbings joined the TA in 1908, and is seen here keeping the future firmly in sight behind a rifle at the TAVR Centre, Cambridge. He remains a dedicated member of the Cambridgeshire Old Comrades Association.

Maj.-General J. H. Foster, CB, Director of Volunteers, Territorials and Cadets, sent him the following letter:

'It was only yesterday that I heard you had completed 70 years "service" with the TA on 13th November, 1978. What a remarkable achievement indeed—well done and my heartiest congratulations, not only on your longevity but also on your loyal service and interest in the TA.

'I feel that your example could well be held up as a standard for today and I only wish that there were many more people with your dedication and enthusiasm.

'Again, my best wishes for the future and my sincere thanks for your loyalty in the past.'

The Association Twelfth Annual Report

The twelfth annual report and accounts were presented to an Annual General Meeting held at The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, on 22nd March, 1978.

The Colonel of the Regiment presided.

This report covers the activities of the Association for the year ending 31st December, 1977.

Northern Ireland

The 3rd Battalion finished its fifth emergency tour in Belfast in June. There were happily no fatal casualties and only five admitted to hospital. There were no medical discharges as the result of NI operations.

Five soldiers were injured in road accidents—one proving fatal in Cyprus.

Finance

The financial position of the Association is sound. There has been an increase in the amount of case work support from the Benevolent Fund. The Fund also increased its assistance to the Old Comrades' Associations of former regiments for major rehabilitations, cottages and memorials. Where an OCA has requested help additional to the standard annual grants of £400 each, this has been given.

The accounts were passed.

Membership

The methods of keeping in touch with soldiers on release or discharge have been re-examined. A more effective system has been devised which it is hoped will benefit all members. The basis for this is the closer links now to be established with the headquarters and branches of the Associations of our former regiments. Particular attention is now paid to the welfare 'follow-up' procedure in the case of soldiers discharged for medical reasons.

The Adjutant Generals Branch (PS 12) in the Ministry of Defence requires us to visit and report on all such cases which are notified by them to our RHQ.

Benevolent casework

Sixty cases were considered during the year and grants made averaged £60 each. Through the generosity of Sir Fred Pontin, widows have

been able to take their children free on seven days holiday at Pontin's Camps of their choosing.

Five cases of hardship due to the flooding in the Fens were assisted with a grant of £50 each. This was in addition to many cases assisted by county OCAs.

There were two major rehabilitation loans for house furnishing.

The Day's Pay Scheme

The Committee considers there are still too many serving soldiers not supporting this scheme and the Regimental Council had directed that a closer watch should be kept on this. Because of the impending Pay Review and the current unsatisfactory state of soldiers pay generally, it was not considered appropriate to commence a drive for more support until things improved.

The President spoke of the dedicated work of our chairman, Colonel Reggie Denny, who had requested to be replaced. He had been chairman since 1970 and the Association had reason to be most grateful to Colonel Denny whose background knowledge of the formation of the Regiment as Regimental Colonel, advice regarding amalgamation of funds and connected problems had contributed so much to the smooth running of the Regiment.

The Constitution and Management

The President announced agreement within the Regimental Council for a closer link to be forged with the Associations of our former regiments. The new Management General Committee was to be based upon the Regimental Secretaries at Area Offices who were also the secretaries of the Old Comrade Association Branches, which were to be renamed to include The Royal Anglian Regiment. The Senior Officer and Warrant Officer serving at the Depot would represent the serving element of the regiment. In addition there would be two serving or retired officers or other ranks appointed.

SSAFA to present a new Tri-service Aldershot Tattoo for 1979

SSAFA are taking over the entire Aldershot Rushmoor Arena, lock, stock and barrel to present a new tri-service Tattoo. Although the next traditional Aldershot Army Display will not take place until 1980, the public will still be able to enjoy a spectacular service event on 30th June and 1st July.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Industries

The aim of the Royal British Legion Industries is to provide rehabilitation and sheltered employment for severely disabled ex-servicemen and women or their dependants who are handicapped by any of the following:

1. Diseases of the heart and lungs, including tuberculosis.
2. Certain minor psychiatric disorders.
3. Other physical disabilities.

Rehabilitation is aimed at preparing the disabled person for sheltered employment in the Industries, or possibly for eventual transfer to open employment. Rehabilitants spend up to six hours a day at work in the industries and are regularly assessed medically and industrially. During rehabilitation they are not regarded as wage earners but continue to draw the appropriate National Insurance Benefit or Supplementation. In addition, they receive an encouragement grant from the industries according to their progress and efforts. Before being accepted, however, it is usual for the applicant to have a reasonable expectation of at least a further ten years working life.

Those accepted for rehabilitation are normally sponsored by their Local Authorities, who are responsible for meeting the cost of maintenance while they are undergoing rehabilitation and assessment. The Local Authority will generally expect the rehabilitant to contribute towards this cost.

Financial assistance for married employees separated from the family home and awaiting housing in the Village is available through the Manpower Service Commission, Employment Service Division.

Sheltered employment is provided for those disabled persons who are able to work a full working day but because of the severity of their disability, are unable to compete in open employment.

Disabled persons may be accepted for sheltered employment or may graduate to it after rehabilitation and training. Employees receive a realistic wage applicable to their level of skill or the occupation in which they are engaged and employment is available in a number of trades and occupations.

Persons undergoing rehabilitation are accommodated in well furnished rooms with the common facilities expected of a modern hostel available in an adjoining building. On becoming an employee, the single disabled ex-serviceman may remain in hostel accommodation, a mar-

ried person is eligible for tenancy of a house or flat in the Village.

Applications for rehabilitation and assessment or full time employment should be addressed to the Royal British Legion Industries. The Disablement Resettlement Officer at any Employment Service Division office will help a disabled person who is ex-service to apply for employment at the Industries. Social Workers in hospitals and Local Authority Social Service officers are able to help an ex-service person in their care apply for a period of rehabilitation and assessment for employment. For application forms or for further details please write to:

General Manager,
The Royal British Legion Industries,
Royal British Legion Village,
Maidstone, Kent ME20 7NL.

REGULAR FORCES EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION

This Association is part of the Forces Resettlement Service. It exists to help Servicemen to find suitable employment when they leave the Forces. It also takes a long term interest in ex-Regulars, who may use its services as often as they wish.

The Association has 42 branches covering the United Kingdom, and its Employment Officers—all ex-Servicemen—are in close touch with employers. It provides all services free.

Addresses and telephone numbers of branches can be obtained from Corps and Regimental Associations, who will also help—or from Post Offices, Employment Offices or local telephone directories.

BROUGHTON HOUSE

Broughton House is an ex-servicemen's home known as East Lancs. Home for Disabled Ex-Servicemen. It is a charity home, situated in Salford, two miles from the centre of Manchester.

Founded in 1916, the home now takes in any ex-servicemen on a short stay or permanent basis. Admission is determined on medical grounds, and nursing care is supervised by a matron and qualified staff. Disablement need not be from war wounds.

Applications from ex-servicemen should be made to:

Chief Executive,
Broughton House,
Park Lane,
Salford M7 0JD.
Tel: 061-740 2737.

ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

COMBINED GENERAL AND BENEVOLENT FUNDS

Abridged Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1977

CAPITAL OF FUNDS			ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		
1976		£	1976		£
50,961	Balance brought forward	55,586	201	Furniture at cost less depreciation	173
4,968	Excess of Income over Expenditure	5,096	36,510	Investments at cost	40,773
			8,498	{ Case loans }	
				{ Debtors }	10,541
			2,355	Stock	3,660
			14,889	Cash at Bank and Deposit	9,038
			109	Cash in hand	76
			62,562		64,261
			6,633	Deduct liabilities	
				Creditors	3,579
55,929		£60,682	55,929		£60,682

GENERAL FUND

Abridged Income and Expenditure Account

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
1976		£	1976		£
135	Subscriptions	134	179	Admin. and Audit	136
327	Profit on sale of stock	689	84	Printing and Stationery	138
123	Refund admin. expenses from		56	Postage and Sundries	116
	Benevolent Fund	77	23	Wreaths	4
2	Sundry donations	11	367	Entertaining recruits	121
69	Investment income	85	—	Donations	10
53	Add excess of Expenditure over		—	Excess of Income over Expenditure	471
	Income				
709		£996	709		£996

BENEVOLENT FUND

Abridged Income and Expenditure Account

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
1976		£	1976		£
12,008	Day's Pay Scheme	12,309	232	Admin. and Audit	326
3,274	Investment	3,589	82	Write off bad debts	5
453	Investment short term Deposit	408	—	Printing and stationery	—
—	Sundry donations and receipts	227	2,484	Case grants	3,684
			3,000	Donation ABF	3,000
			3,100	Grants to outstations	6,123
			228	Personal Accident Insurance	
				scheme	228
			15	Wreaths	—
			390	Benevolent Secretary salary	60
			1,000	Journal	1,000
			183	Donations and Appeals	105
			5,021	Excess of Income over Expenditure	2,002
15,735		£16,533	15,735		£16,533

AROUND THE BRANCHES

NORFOLK

Annual Reunion, 1978

The Annual Reunion Dinner was held in Norwich on Saturday, 30th September, 1978, and some two hundred and fifty Old Comrades, including a strong contingent from the London Branch, enjoyed a good dinner and a very pleasant evening. The President of the Association, Brigadier F. P. Barclay, presided, and he particularly welcomed Major John Berney, the High Sheriff of Norfolk, and thanked all those responsible for organising the Dinner, particularly the members of the Royal Anglian Regiment Information Team, who have made a major contribution and who appropriately represented 1st Battalion at the Dinner.

In his address to the Old Comrades, Brigadier Barclay referred to the visit of the 1st Battalion to Norwich on 25th May, 1978, when the Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Tony Pollard, exercised its Freedom privileges by marching through the City of Norwich, and in the evening the Band and Drums gave an impressive display of Beating of Retreat in front of the City Hall. The Brigadier felt that all who saw the ceremonies must have witnessed a tangible demonstration of the Regimental traditions of the 9th Foot being perpetuated in the finest possible manner by the younger generation, now serving in the 1st Battalion.

The President hoped that during their present tour of duty in Germany, elements of the 1st Battalion would be able to return to Norfolk from time to time, because he believed that it is essential to our Regimental system that the soldiers of the 1st Battalion should maintain their inherited ties with the founder Counties and the Old Comrades of the 9th Foot.

The President referred briefly to Association affairs and he particularly drew attention to the activities of the Benevolent Committee, who had provided £2,400 in financial grants to Old Comrades and their families in need of assistance. He also thanked the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Committee and the Army Benevolent Fund for the support that they had given to the Association during the past year. He thanked all those members of the Association who had responded so generously to pro-

vide funds for the Benevolent Committee and so make it possible to meet the many calls for assistance, which are received from organisations concerned with the welfare of former servicemen.

The Annual Reunion Dinner in 1979 will again be held at the TAVR Centre, Aylsham Road, Norwich, on Saturday, 29th September, followed by the Association Service in the Regimental Chapel at Norwich Cathedral on Sunday, 30th September, 1979.

Officers' Dinner Clubs

On 3rd May, 1978, the 31st Annual Dinner of the Kohima Club was held in London. Colonel H. R. R. Conder, OBE, presided and some 19 officers of the former 2nd Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment, attended. The annual Dinner and Luncheon of the Regimental Dinner Club were held at the Norfolk Club, Norwich, on Friday, 2nd June, and Saturday, 3rd June, 1978. Both occasions were well patronised and the change of venue from London to Norwich has proved to be a successful move with more than 50 members attending each function. It is planned to hold the next Dinner and Luncheon at the Norfolk Club on Friday, 1st June, 1979, and the Luncheon on Saturday, 2nd June, 1979, respectively.

SUFFOLK

The annual general meeting of the Association was held in Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, on 30th November, 1978.

The Chairman stated that the change of title of the Association had been effected and showed the meeting the Association's new headed notepaper bearing both the badge of the Royal Anglian Regiment and the crest of the Suffolk Regiment with the title 'The Suffolk Regiment Association and the Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Branch).

The Suffolk Show

Our Regimental Tent was again a great success—combining the 'Old and Bold' (The Suffolk Regiment) together with a Royal Anglian Regiment Recruiting display.

War Memorial Homes

There has been no change in tenancy over the past year. The exteriors have been re-decorated and minor repairs made to brickwork and tiles. This work has now been completed at a cost of £2,078. The account will be settled with the aid of the following grants: The Lord Lieutenant's Fund £600, The Army Benevolent Fund £600, The Royal Anglian Regiment £350, 1st East Anglian Funds £300.

We still welcome additions to the waiting list. Those interested please write to the Regimental Secretary.

Cottage Homes

There has been no change of tenancy over the past year. They are in a satisfactory condition apart for a few very minor repairs which have now been carried out. Unlike the War Memorial Homes, the tenancies of the Cottage Homes is restricted to disabled members of the Regiment who may be of any age.

Museum

The Museum fund now has a healthy credit balance. There is an increasing number of organised visits from schools, recruits from the depot at Bassingbourn, Women's Institutes, Cadets, etc.

Regimental Chapel

The work on refurbishing the Chapel was progressing satisfactorily and it was hoped to have the Altar frontal cloth completed and fitted by Christmas.

Sudbury and District Branch OCA

This branch held its annual social evening on the 9th December, 1978, and were exceedingly grateful to welcome three guests from the Suffolk and R. Anglian Branch of Ipswich, i.e. C. Prentice, A. Chapman and Pony Moore, and a lot of old times were talked over and a most enjoyable evening was spent in their company. Thanks for making the journey and we hope you enjoyed yourselves.

For the information of any Swedes living in the Sudbury area on the following dates in 1979 you are welcome to join us at the Wagon & Horses, Acton Square, 7.30 p.m.: January 27th, March 24th, May 19th, July 14th, September 8th, November 3rd, December 1st (our social evening).

Ipswich Branch OCA

The first meeting of this branch was held on 7th July, 1978, with the attendance of 46 mem-

bers. The following were elected at this meeting: Chairman, Mr. D. O. James; Secretary, Mr. C. W. F. Prentice; committee, five members.

Since its formation meetings have been held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. The average attendance at these meetings being 23 members.

We use 'Radio Orwel' to sound Reveille when we want to arouse members when there's something special on. We also advertise in the local press, so all our members know what is going on from time to time. All past and present members of the Suffolk Regiment, and the Anglian Regiments, should know of our being. We are also included in the Ipswich Citizens' Guide.

We held our Christmas draw and social evening on 21st December, and am glad to mention that we were greatly honoured to have such distinguished guest as Lt-Gen. Sir Richard Goodwin, KCB, CBE, DSO, DL, accompanied by Lt.-Col. H. S. R. Case, MBE, in attendance, together with members from the Sudbury and Bury branches (who are registered members of this branch also), as well as twenty of our members with their wives and a few wise men.

Bury St. Edmunds Branch OCA

Terry Calver writes:

Our own local branch here at Bury is now nicely housed in the Royal Anglian Club in Blenheim Camp on the Newmarket Road, and we meet on the last Tuesday of every month. If any of you are in the district, don't forget the time is 1930 hours until approximately 2230 hours. There is the usual chat, game of bingo, a raffle, a very pleasant bar, and drinks are always available at 'sale price', and with all our comedians in attendance, a good pantomime is always enjoyed at the bar.

How nice it is to report that this 'old new' branch under its new management plus the experience of the old hands has seemed once again to have been given the 'kiss of life' and with approximately sixty members and meetings twice a month, our success seems assured.

Ex Cpl. Ray 'Pedlar' Palmer

You may have read how Pedlar Palmer of Southwold gave his life jacket to a shipmate when the Lowestoft trawler 'Boston Sea Range' sank off the Cornish coast.

Pedlar has now received the recognition his gallant action deserved. He has been awarded the bronze medal and certificate of the Royal

Humane Society. He has also been made a member of the world-wide Order of the Knights and Ladies of the Round Table of King Arthur's Court and presented with a framed copy of a resolution by Southwold Town Council recording his bravery.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Congratulations to Wally Bodcock on his well-earned promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel.

The AGM was held at Ely on 1st October, 1978. The officers of the Association were re-elected en bloc with the addition of Major J. D. Bunkall, TD, as a vice-president. In the Secretary's report he said 'The re-union and Service of Remembrance shows no sign of flagging and with the new TAVR members coming along it appears that the future is assured. Twenty-two officers and adult instructors TAVR are new members.

'You will notice on the agenda I have mentioned the re-formation of branches and I am sure this must be tackled with the aid of our new members, particularly as our good friend Vic Cassell needs a team in Wisbech.

'Liaison with the Suffolk Association is turning out very much to our benefit and the joint garden party at Rougham did much to cement this "getting together".

'The Britannia and Castle Newsletter has given us considerable coverage for which we are duly appreciative, and it is incumbent upon us to make use of it by sending regular "copy" and by becoming subscribers (50p each two years does not seem exorbitant).'

Cambridge Branch

On September 17th 'D' Company of 6th V Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, held a rifle meeting on Barton Road rifle range, and a goodly number of Old Comrades were able to attend. The weather was sunny if not warm, and ten members of our branch took the opportunity to renew acquaintance with the SMLE rifle. Messrs. Rooke, Wilcox, Cohen and Chapman comprised the OCA team with the highest score and each received a tankard. Congratulations!

Our AGM was held on September 27th. The treasurer was able to report a satisfactory financial position.

In November the Secretary and Mrs Hutt met Major Pat Howard at the Field of Remembrance at Westminster, and on Remembrance Sunday the Chairman, supported by several members, laid a Regimental wreath

during the service at the memorial in Station Road, Cambridge, and later attended the service at Great St. Mary's Church.

In response to the secretary's appeal for historical information, scrapbooks have been loaned by Mr. R. Chapman and Capt. J. Clancy, and from these most interesting and well arranged books much valuable information has been obtained. Mr. Humberstone provided much original material including Minutes of the first OCA meetings. Mr. T. Newton of 66 School Lane, Fulbourn, tel. no. Cambridge 880960 (Mr. Newton will welcome news of any contemporaries) has given the secretary his steel helmet which he wore in 1914-1918 and on which has been emblazoned the Regimental Battle Honours. Other members have offered material which will be taken up as time permits.

Mr. W. Masters, of 28 Craighton Road, Eltham, SE9 1QG, writes: 'I enclose my runners-up medal awarded in 1941 in the 18 Division Football league when we played on the Wolves ground against 4th Royal Norfolk Regiment, when if I remember correctly the final score was 4-2 in their favour.

'We were trained by our PTL Bob Marshall, a Manchester City player and English international. In the team were Sgt. Mills, Sgt. Rolls, Charlie Bunce, and Chadwick, who played for Wolves. My Company 'D', were Regimental champions at the time, and we supplied half the team.'

Mr. Masters served in the 1st Battalion and was a POW from 1942-1945.

Sergeants' Dinner Club

The 30th Annual Dinner was held on 23rd September at the University Arms Hotel, Cambridge, attended by over a hundred members and their ladies. Captain John Cook, in giving the toast, summed up so well the feelings and thoughts of all the officers and guests who had the honour of attending. He said that this was certainly a unique body whose friendship had been forged in adversity and whose dedication to voluntary service to their country was remembered still; this was surely an example of which to be very proud.

LINCOLNSHIRE

Another successful year for the Association, due in no small way to the efforts of our Executive Committee and Committee members of our Branches.

Our Welfare Fund paid out over £1,000 to ex-members of the Regiment who were in need of financial assistance. In addition, a further

£600-plus was obtained from the Army Benevolent Fund and paid out to worthy cases.

Our membership is still holding steady, but we would like to see a few more ex-Royal Anglians joining us. The more the merrier. Anyone interested should contact RHQ at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, for further details.

1978 Reunion

Our President, Major General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, presided over the Annual General Committee and the Annual General Meetings which were held on Saturday, 23rd September, 1978. Both meetings were well attended.

The Dinner and Dance was once again held at the Beacholme Holiday Camp, and was extremely successful. A first-class meal was served, and this was followed by dancing until 0100 hours. A total of 297 members and their wives attended.

We were honoured by the presence of Major General and Mrs. Firbank, who attended the Reunion as guests of the Regiment. General Firbank commanded our 2nd Battalion during the period August 1944 to April 1945. Whilst commanding the Battalion he was awarded the DSO and Bar. Both the General and his wife thoroughly enjoyed themselves and wish to thank everyone for making them so welcome.

On Sunday morning we held Divine Service in the Music Room, which was well supported by our members. Our Padre, the Reverend H. T. Oakes, gave a stirring sermon which was appreciated by all.

We were hoping to have some of our serving soldiers with us this year. Unfortunately our 2nd Battalion trotted off to Berlin in August for a two-year tour, lucky devils, and our T & AVR Battalions were unable to attend due to other commitments.

In Pensioner Cpl. Alfred Winter managed to get away from the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, and attended the Reunion as a guest of the Association. From all accounts, he thoroughly enjoyed himself. Our other In Pensioners, S/Sgt. Sydney Edwards, Sgt. Thomas Grice, Sgt. Walter Wildgoose, Cpl. H. Rix and Pte. Harold Palmer, were unable to come this year.

1979 Reunion

This will again be held at the Beacholme Holiday Camp at Cleethorpes on 22nd/23rd September 1979. The programme will be:

Saturday, 22nd September, 1979

2.30 p.m. Annual General Committee Meeting.

4.00 p.m. Annual General Meeting.

7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Annual Dinner and Dance.

Sunday, 23rd September, 1979

10.45 a.m. Divine Service.

Accommodation will again be available in the Holiday Camp. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Mr. F. Myatt, Secretary of our Boston Branch, or RHQ at Lincoln, for further details.

Royal Hospital, Chelsea

Ex-Sgt. William Millhouse was admitted as an In Pensioner on the 9th October, 1978. We wish him luck in his new life. We now have seven In Pensioners. Is this a record for a County Regiment?

Grimsby and District Branch

1978 has been a particularly busy year for the Branch and one which has seen changes 'at the top'. At the Annual General Meeting held in July, the Chairman, Lt.-Col. S. C. W. Disney, announced his retirement after some 12 years in office. Notwithstanding his age (87 next birthday), 'Young Dis', as he likes to be known, continues to attend Branch meetings and functions. The Vice-Chairman, Major Murray Latimer, resigned, as he has decided to reside in Spain for about six months of each year. Capt. Charles Tattersall and Mr. Arthur Carroll were elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.

The Branch Dinner was held in March and guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Grimsby, the Association President and his wife, Major General Sir Christopher and Lady Welby-Everard, and Major and Mrs. 'Gus' Segon.

It was the turn of Grimsby and District to be 'host Branch' at the Annual Reunion, held once again at the Beacholme Holiday Camp, Cleethorpes, during the weekend 23rd/24th September. Following an excellent meal and the President's address, Capt. Tattersall presented Colonel Disney with a mains/battery radio on behalf of the Branch as a token of appreciation for his service as Chairman. Mrs. Tattersall presented a floral bouquet to Mrs. Disney. The proceedings continued into the small hours, and on the Sunday morning a very happy and pleasant weekend concluded with the customary Drumhead Service.

Early in October the Branch promoted a Pageant of Military Music at the Central Hall, Grimsby. The Band, some thirty-five strong,

was composed of mainly ex-service musicians and the four guest conductors were formerly with the Royal Artillery, the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, the Royal Air Force and the Royal Marines. Truly a combined services effort, the evening was a resounding success and drew deservedly generous praise from the local Press.

On the 12th November, at the Armistice Day Service, a representative of the Branch read the lesson.

Lincoln Branch

The Branch held their Annual General Meeting on the 4th September, 1978. It was well attended.

Frank Abbott retired from the appointment of Chairman due to ill-health. Our stalwart, Fred Smedley, who only retired as Chairman twelve months ago, has again been elected and is back in the driving seat. We wish him the best of luck.

Others elected were: Norman Johnson, Vice-Chairman; Wilf Lewin, Secretary and Treasurer; Jack Rothwell, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer; Bob Watson, Ray Mason, Ken Everret, Entertainment Committee.

The next Branch Dinner will be held at the Silvergate Restaurant on Saturday, 3rd March, 1979. Please contact Wilf Lewin for further details, but don't leave it too late.

Our membership is maintaining a steady level, but we always have room for any ex Royal Lincolns or Royal Anglians who wish to join. Why not pop into the Club on Wednesday or Saturday evenings and see how the other half lives? You will be made very welcome.

BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE

In spite of experiencing a very wet summer in 1978, the numbers of those members of the Regiment attending the Annual Dinner and Dance at Ware on Saturday, 6th May, were in no way affected by cloudbursts. Approximately 280 members, including our chairman, Brigadier David Carter, were present and were able to partake of an excellent meal laid on by Mr Stanley Mansfield and to enjoy the martial music provided by the "Essex Territorials". The highly talented dance band also ensured that everyone could enjoy themselves on the floor throughout the evening.

The Association has been most fortunate in

having Brigadier David Carter as chairman during the last few years and, in spite of being Deputy Commander in Gibraltar, he will still be able to interest himself in our affairs and problems. Major John Kitto, as deputy chairman, will be assisting in every way he can.

The "Keep" of the Regiment's old home, Kempston Barracks, is to be retained by Kempston Council who in turn are being supported financially by local industries in their tasks. New Territorial and Army Volunteer buildings are to be constructed in the areas of the old Depot Officers' Mess during 1979.

The Association's Committee of Management is encouraging several ideas of making contacts with and providing for assistance to today's serving soldiers of the Royal Anglian Regiment whose homes are in the counties of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire and in the London boroughs. Greetings are to be sent at Christmas to each of these soldiers and invitations to attend branch functions and social events are to be instituted, especially during Christmas periods.

During the year many well known and greatly respected members of the Regiment passed away. Our sincere sympathies go to their families and relatives. Amongst these names are Brigadier Denis Rossiter, MBE, Colonel Douglas Cairns, OBE, Major Morris Brightman, Major (Q.M.) "Bill" Headland, MC, Captain "Harry" Kitchiner, Charlie Baker, Francis Bracey, Thomas Baldock, Harry Jennings and George O. Stringer. A special tribute to Denis Rossiter is recorded in this edition of the magazine and one can feel proud that both "Bill" Headland and Thomas Baldock were able to be in this world for over 90 years.

Bedford Branch

The branch has increased in membership during the year, and it has partaken in many local games tournaments with great success. The "Standards" were on parade at the Battle of Britain service in September.

Several social evenings have been held at regular intervals in Major Colin Ladley's "retreat", The Fox & Duck Inn, near to Royston. The bus rides were popular both with the members and their wives—a change of scenery during the summer months provides pleasure for many.

Ware (Hertfordshire) O.C.A.

The annual dinner and dance was a great success at "Presdales School", Ware, on Satur-

day, 20th May. Three hundred members sat down to a very well prepared meal and enjoyed the dancing which followed.

"Jimmy" Crane continues to be in good health and winning in turn numerous prizes in the bowls league; he is now enjoying retirement after many years running his nursery gardens.

London

The Deputy-Colonel, Royal Anglian Regiment, Brigadier Randall and Mrs. Randall were present at the annual dinner and dance at the Union Jack Club on 28th October. The guest-of-honour was Major "Tom" Stead on his recent retirement as Regimental Secretary of the Essex Regiment (44th Foot); he was accompanied by Mrs. Stead. Also present were Major and Mrs "Harry" Rawkins and Major John Kitto.

Hitchin

The branch now meets regularly in the TAVR Centre in Hitchin. Membership has again increased.

Watford

The new Secretary, Mr. L. Nunn, has now increased membership. A permanent location for meetings is being arranged.

General news

The 1st Battalion, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Annual Reunion was held at the Victory Club in London on 7th October. Forty-two members were present to enjoy a successful and enjoyable gathering.

DIARY EVENTS

5th May—The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association Annual Dinner and Dance, Presdale School, Ware.

19th May—Ware (Hertfordshire Regiment) O.C.A. Annual Dinner and Dance, Presdale School, Ware.

2nd June—Royal Anglian Regiment Comrades Gathering, Bassingbourn Barracks, Royston.

18th November — Wreath-laying Ceremony, Kempston Barracks, Bedford.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Affiliation

We welcome the affiliation of the Royal Anglian Regiment Association to the Royal

Tigers Association, They have been most generous in their financial support to the Royal Tigers Association over the last few years.

Royal Tigers Weekend, 1978

Royal Tigers Weekend was held this year on 17th and 18th June, and proved a great success. It is very gratifying that the numbers attending are not diminishing. At the Annual General Meeting, our President, Colonel M. St. G. Pallot, thanked the great number of members who had supported our money-raising efforts. Our annual sweep was again run on the Grand National, and after paying for prizes and administrative expenses a profit of £682 was made.

The Annual General Meeting was followed by the Annual Dinner and Reunion. We were pleased to welcome our two Chelsea Pensioners and many ex-Royal Anglians who were attending for the first time.

At the Sunday Parade Service in the Regimental Chapel we were honoured by the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire and Mrs. Martin, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Leicester, and many other distinguished guests. After the Service, old comrades, led by the Band and Drums of 5th (Volunteer) Battalion of the Regiment, marched past the Lord Lieutenant.

After the parade a Drinks Party was held at the TAVR Centre, Ulverscroft Road, for old comrades and their guests.

ESSEX

Annual Reunion, Warley, 1978

With perfect weather, capacity attendance, good refreshments and music, the Reunion could not fail to be a success. Brigadier Randall took the salute at the March Past of some 150 members. The date for 1979 is 24th June and details will be circulated in March with the next Newsletter to all fully paid-up members. Early replies should be made on the pro formae applications, as many members had to be disappointed this year—maximum 350 for tea.

Regimental Chapel

There has been no change in the position as last reported, i.e., negotiations are still continuing. The monthly Services continue to be well supported. The Service is held on the first Sunday in the month, commencing at 11 a.m.

Chelmsford Branch

Another successful year was reported at the last Annual General Meeting. Activities and

finance were both at a satisfactory level. Mr. Charles Meekins resigned as Secretary and Mr. George Sargeant was elected to fill the vacancy. The first ex-Royal Anglian was elected on to the Committee. A very successful Dinner Dance was held on the 4th November at the County Hotel, Chelmsford, and loyal greetings were exchanged.

4th Battalion OCA

Loyal greetings were also exchanged on the occasion of the annual Dinner Dance, held in October by this highly successful Branch. A splendid evening was reported.

Thurrock Branch

Thurrock celebrated their annual event in December, and attendance was rated as excellent. Greetings were exchanged with their Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, and a happy and successful evening was enjoyed by all.

The Association—How it all began

Although the Essex Regiment Association was founded in 1908, its main purpose was to assist soldiers and their families. There were no 'members' as such, it was run by a Committee dispersing aid from funds created by donors.

In April 1910 a CSM Rowe retired from the Regiment with 29 years' service (19 of which were continuous overseas service). In October 1911 he wrote to the Regimental Gazette: 'When one is shelved from the dear old Corps, and becomes but a drop in the ocean of civilian life, the feeling that one would like to renew old associations with past and present old comrades of the Regiment becomes paramount, particularly when one reads in the daily papers accounts of other regiments having reunions in London and elsewhere. This feeling, perhaps, is not quite so keen when one is in the "firing line", owing to daily association, it is when one is relegated to the "reserved" that the sentiment is strongest, and I think we old soldiers of the Essex Regiment should form an "Old Comrades Association" open to past members of the Regiment, or restricted to Officers WOs, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants. This, however, is a matter of detail that could be decided by an elected Committee, assuming the suggestion meets with approval.

'I would suggest that a nominal fee of one shilling per annum be made, to cover printing, postage and incidental expenses, and that all officers of the Regiment should be honorary members, and if willing to subscribe, should pay the same subscription, or any other amount

they may suggest. Also that a dinner be held at some hotel in London at some convenient time and place. The cost of the dinner, etc, could be decided by a representative Committee.

'All these several points could be decided at a Committee Meeting, composed equally of serving and retired members, and I have no doubt that if a proposal of this kind is inserted in the London and country papers and the Essex Regiment Gazette, and a notice inserted in "Pensioners' and Reservists'" papers, and from the Pay Office, a great number like myself would be glad to join and do all in their power to make the undertaking a successful one.'

—A. A. Rowe (late Sgt Major, Essex Regiment).

Reaction to this letter was so favourable that the Regimental Paymaster, Warley, sent out 1,700 circulars to Pensioners and Reservists on 23rd December, 1910. Some 200 replies were received, all favourable. On 16th March, 1911, a small emergency committee met and drafted the Rules. These were approved on 18th March. The first Reunion Dinner was held in the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street, London, on Saturday, 27th May, 1911, when over 150 members sat down to dine. The membership was reported as 408 and rising.

One of the members was described as a 'well-preserved Old Comrade'—he was 76 and had travelled down that day from Wigan. He had served in the Crimea and Turkish Wars, and left the 56th Regiment 47 years before!

The second dinner was held in June 1912 at the Holborn Restaurant, when over 175 were present. The cost of the dinner, according to the Rules, was not to exceed 3s. 0d.

Interesting to note—the speed of the set-up. Less than six months from the first circular to the first dinner! plus the events being reported in the Regimental Gazette (Journal) three weeks after occurrence!! at the subscription rate of 10p per annum—allowing for inflation, our current subscription is cheaper!!!

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

The Annual Reunion was held on Saturday and Sunday, 1st and 2nd July, 1978. There were some differences this year in the organisation. It was thought better that the Dinner should take place in the vicinity of the Regimental Club to save the opposition between the two, and also that steps should be taken to restrict the amount of marching required for the Church Parade.

On the Saturday morning the Management Committee of the Association met and gave

careful thought to future Reunions. It was the unanimous decision of the meeting that the Reunion should continue to be held over two days and not concentrated into one. The date decided upon for the Reunion of 1979 has had to be altered because of a clash with the Royal Pioneer Corps Weekend. It will now be held on Saturday and Sunday, 30th June and 1st July, 1979. Lt.-Col. Patrick Stone, MBE, Commanding 2nd Bn. (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire) The Royal Anglian Regiment, an ex-officio member of the Committee, was able to be present, and this was much appreciated.

The Annual General Meeting followed, which was attended by 28 members. The General Fund and Benevolent Fund accounts were received. Fifty-five people had received help from the Benevolent Fund and, including Christmas Grants and Supplementary Pensions, £3,021.24 had been disbursed. Once again our thanks are due to the Royal Anglian Regiment and the Army Benevolent Fund for their financial assistance. Reports were received from the three Branches. Northampton is flourishing, whilst at Corby and Peterborough some stalwarts manfully keep the flag flying.

The Dinner was held in the evening and it was the intention to hold it in a marquee adjacent to the Regimental Club, so that all activities could take place at the same venue. Much to the Regimental Secretary's chagrin, and despite a written undertaking and many verbal assurances from the tent contractor, no tent was available at the very last moment, just 30 hours before the event. A very hasty readjustment took place and the 199 diners were crammed into the Regimental Club. The problems were appreciated very generously and indeed a very happy evening was spent.

On the Sunday the Church Parade formed up in Gibraltar Barracks and, preceded by the Band and Drums of 5th (V) Battalion of the Regiment, marched to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The Parade was commanded by Brigadier N. J. Dickson, DSO, GM. Outside the Church, HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief The Royal Anglian Regiment, was greeted with a Royal Salute and she then inspected the Comrades. The Royal Party entered the Church, followed by the Comrades. The Wreath Laying, Act of Homage and sounding of Last Post and Reveille began the service and was witnessed by the entire congregation. After the Service, Her Royal Highness took the salute outside the main entrance to the Church and the parade

marched back to Gibraltar Barracks to be dismissed

After the parade the officers entertained their guests for sherry and luncheon in the Officers' Mess of the Royal Pioneer Corps at Wootton, and at the same time the Northampton Branch entertained in their Regimental Club.

We were delighted to have as guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Northampton, and Lt.-Col. J. A. O. Napier, Commandant Depot Royal Pioneer Corps, and Mrs Napier.

Corby Branch

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

Regular monthly meetings are held, and although a small Branch, it is an active one. It is the intention to hold meetings in various pubs in the area to encourage new membership. Two ex-Royal Anglians have joined recently and it is hoped that many more will follow.

Northampton Branch

Secretary: Mr. L. A. Jeynes, MM, 11 Lennox Walk, Ryehill, Harleston Road, Northampton.

This is a very active Branch and in a sound financial position. Any ex-members of the Regiment should contact the Secretary and join.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 23rd March and the officers are: President, Major D. Baxter, DL; Chairman, Mr. J. O. Roberts; and Secretary, Mr. L. A. Jeynes, MM.

Sick and Hospital visits have been made by the Chairman and £185 has been paid out to Comrades in the last year.

Various outings have been arranged during the year. A trip to Wales, a visit to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, and a visit round Charles Wells Brewery at Bedford. The Northamptonshire Branch of the Grenadier Guards Association use the Club, and the Tiger Club from Leicester has also visited. Alterations have been made and there is now a Skittle Room. The Skittle team won their League this season and received a cup.

Peterborough Branch

Secretary: Mr. J. E. Cooke, 1 Caldecote Close, Stanground, Peterborough, Cambs.

The Branch continue to held meetings every month but are somewhat disappointed in the fact that after a personal letter to all the ex-Royal Anglian soldiers was sent out inviting them to the meetings, nobody appeared. As a Branch we will continue to do all we can along these lines.

The Peterborough Branch Dinner was held

on 21st October, 1978. Unfortunately the Secretary has not been well and a great deal of the work fell upon the Chairman, Albert Smith. He did it splendidly and a happy evening was spent. The numbers were down this year to just under the hundred. It is hoped that next year, when the Dinner is held on Saturday, 20th October, 1979, there will be a bumper attendance.

The Colours of 5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (TA) are to be laid up in Peterborough Cathedral on Sunday, 21st October, 1979.

The addresses of a great many ex-members of the Battalion are not known. In order to ensure that as many as wish to receive details of the ceremony are on the mailing list will all those interested ex-members of 5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (TA) make contact with Major D. Baxter, DL, Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road, Northampton NN1 3RE.

**'Kitcheners' Pioneers', by
Major Geoffrey Moore**

Of interest to members of the Northamptonshire Regiment will be the recently published history by Major Geoffrey Moore 'Kitcheners Pioneers'—the story of the 5th Service Battalion.

Brigadier Jervois, who was Colonel of the Northamptonshire Regiment 1953-1956 writes:

'Major Moore has produced a history which cannot fail to be of greatest interest to the survivors of those who served with the Battalion during those war years and, perhaps, of even greater interest to their descendants; to the last named, especially, the detailed rolls giving the names of many who served in it, of casualties, and of those who received honours and awards—which Major Moore has included in appendices to the main story as the result of much painstaking research—will be invaluable.'

THE VICTORY SERVICES CLUB

MEMBERSHIP

This is a MEMBERSHIP CLUB and the following only are eligible to join:

- (a) Serving and Ex-Service men and women (whether Officers or Other Ranks) of the Armed Forces of the Crown, including those of the Commonwealth and members of NATO Forces stationed in the United Kingdom.
- (b) Wives or husbands of members of the Club (even though they may not be serving or may not have served in HM Forces).
- (c) Widows of Ex-Servicemen.

The membership year is from 1st April to 31st March.

The Annual Membership Subscription is £3.00 plus V.A.T. If a member joins between 1st January and 31st March the subscription will be £1.50 plus V.A.T. for that portion of the year only.

Life Membership is £40 plus V.A.T. and is limited to Serving and Ex-Service men and women only. Those joining under (b) or (c) above cannot become Life Members.

Membership of the Club continues from year to year and unless written notice of resignation is sent to the Secretary before 31st of March in any one year, a member becomes automatically liable to pay the subscription for the succeeding membership year.

Applicants for membership are requested to complete the application form and send it to the Secretary, together with documentary evidence of service and the appropriate membership subscription.

All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary.

Members when writing should quote their membership numbers.

CLUB AMENITIES

The present magnificent premises near Marble Arch, in the centre of London, were opened in 1948.

The Club has always moved with the times and offers the most comprehensive services to its members.

The Victory Services Club
63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF
Telephone 01-723 4474
Telegrams Victoclub London W2

INFANTRY IN THE ARCTIC

by Lieutenant P. A. Ewans

(Lieut. Paul Ewans is a Platoon Commander in the 1st Battalion serving on a three-year Short Service Commission. He is an Oxford graduate with a degree in PPE and is planning to apply for the Civil Service in 1979, where his experience in the Arctic and latterly in the mechanised infantry role and Belfast will no doubt stand him in good stead.)

For the past four years the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, has been the British Infantry Battalion serving with the Allied Commander Europe's Mobile Force (Land), the AMF(L).

Most readers will know something about the AMF(L) and the background to its formation in the mid-sixties; as a reminder, it is the land element of SACEUR's "fire-brigade" that can form up at short notice and deploy to a threatened flank of NATO. The deployment options are, broadly speaking, either "Northern Flank"—Denmark or Norway, for example, or "Southern Flank"—Greece or Turkey. It is a multi-national force of about Brigade (Field Force) size commanded by a multi-national permanent HQ.

The AMF(L) strategy has interesting training implications. All units earmarked for the Force are required to be able to move at short notice to any European theatre of war on either flank and to fight there side by side, having previously (we hope) overcome the problems posed by different languages, traditions and operating procedures. In practice AMF(L) units specialise either in the conditions of the Northern Flank (mainly Arctic) or the Southern (can be very hot). Exercises are held as frequently as possible in the "threatened" countries. 1 Royal Anglian as a Northern-flank-option Battalion has thus exercised on four occasions with other NATO units in Arctic Norway as well as the national Hardfall exercises each winter from 1975 on. The latest exercise was Arctic Express which was held in February and March 1978 with Norwegian, British, Canadian, Italian and German units participating. The exercise took place in the area of the Lyngén Fjord close to the intersection of the Norwegian, Swedish and Finnish borders; the district is generally known as the Troms and it lies astride what would be, in all proba-

bility, a major Russian line of advance in the event of war.

The Battalion's work-up to Arctic Express started in the autumn of the previous year. It takes a certain amount of ingenuity and imagination to simulate arctic conditions on Salisbury Plain training area (East) but notwithstanding the inevitable absence of snow, useful progress can be made in familiarising soldiers with their arctic equipment and with arctic welfare procedures. Owing to normal turbulence in manpower, the Battalion finds itself with some eighty soldiers each year who have no experience of the north and no knowledge of the techniques they require to survive in sub-zero temperatures (to say nothing of their ability to ski or fight effectively). Each man is issued with a massive pile of unfamiliar arctic clothing from boots, ski-march to arctic cap; by way of socks, wool-freeze; gaiters; thermal underwear; quilted leggings; gloves contact; gloves waterproof; gloves partially waterproof; gloves, white, finger-immobilising; and head-over. Useful accessories include the arctic sleeping bag and sleeping mat; the new lightweight, close-woven arctic combat suit; and the highly-prized boots—"Womble". In addition to the soldiers' mass of personal equipment each section is provided with a 10-man tent and a Norwegian sledge or "pulk". To cater for occasions when the bulky tent cannot be used, each man carries a tent sheet which can be joined together with others to make a shelter. The resulting tent is surprisingly comfortable, though erecting it with gloved hands in a strong arctic wind in failing twilight using ski-sticks as tent poles can be a frustrating experience. It is only in unusual circumstances that soldiers are required to carry all this equipment on their backs—normally the tents and spare clothing are transported in the Volvo BV 202 over-snow vehicle together with the platoon stores, while the soldier fights as light as possible. The tracked, articulated Volvo has a very light nominal ground pressure—less than that of a man on foot—and its performance and capacity over deep snow are about the same as a ½-ton Landrover over grass. It also has a very efficient heater in the cab (i.e. the engine is in there with the driver), making

Volvo driver a privileged and enjoyed duty on extra cold days.

While the rest of the battalion was still fire fighting in Greater Manchester over the New Year the eighty or so men who had never been on skis before were sent ahead to Southern Norway for a basic skiing course. Ski equipment is provided by courtesy of the Norwegian Army. The skis themselves are of the broad cross-country variety (they need to be strong): "Langlauf" to the initiated or "Nato planks" to the bruised and resentful. In fact the vast majority of soldiers take enthusiastically to skiing and although few manage to achieve the swan like grace of Norwegian instructors, fitness and determination go a long way towards compensating for deficiencies in technique. In addition to those sent on the pre-ski cadre, a group of officers attended the Norwegian School of Infantry at Elverum for the Whiteshod Course in Arctic Warfare. All in all, the purpose of the initial training period is to ensure that the Battalion is not in the position of those British soldiers sent to Norway in 1940 whose condition was described by Churchill:

"They lacked . . . transport and training.

The whole of Northern Norway was covered with snow to depths which none of our soldiers had even seen, felt or imagined. There were neither snow shoes nor skis—still less skiers! 'We must do our best.' Thus began this ramshackle campaign."

The main body of the Battalion moved to Norway for Exercise Hardfall and was based in the Mjolljell-Rjoandalen-Uppheim area near Voss in the South. We concentrated initially on individual skills but as soon as these were mastered rifle platoons set their sights at the Inter Platoon Arctic Skills Competition which included a test of skiing ability on a slalom downhill course and platoon ski-joring, that is, being towed on skis behind a Volvo. This is a particularly effective method of increasing over-snow mobility, provided, of course, snow conditions are favourable. If they are not, or if the Volvo driver becomes over enthusiastic, the platoon will produce an involuntary imitation of the Keystone Cops, leaving a trail of prostrate bodies behind a rapidly disappearing vehicle. The more conventional military skills of NBC warfare, First Aid, Signals and Tent Erection each pose their own peculiar problems in the Arctic. A man wearing NBC equipment on sentry duty who is called upon to move quickly at short notice runs the risk of becoming a casualty through heat exhaustion. Paradoxically more men are laid low by this com-

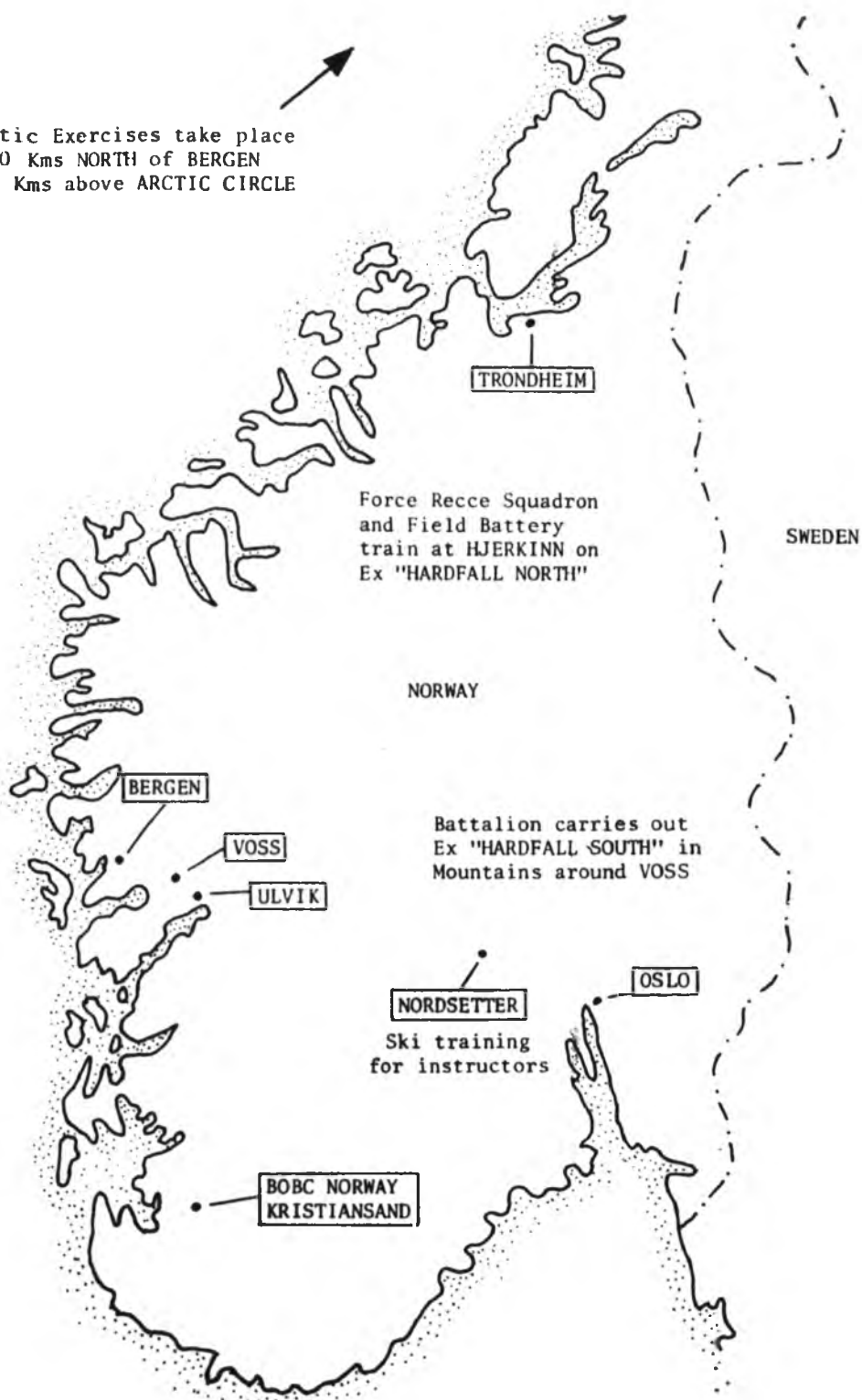
plaint than by hypothermia caused by the direct effect of cold. Not only the man, but his equipment also suffers. In extreme cold, metal becomes brittle and breaks. The life of radio batteries falls in direct proportion to the drop in temperature. A recommended solution to this particular problem—swathe the radio in the signaller's thermal underwear.

The natural progression from platoon training is, of course, to operations at Company level. Each rifle company was tested on Exercise Viking Raid: a long-range fighting patrol culminating in a Company attack on a road and rail bridge and its nominal destruction by the Company Assault Pioneer Section. Companies moved on skis pulling their pulks behind them for 25 kilometres over terrain remarkably similar to the mountains and valleys of the far north. The winter conditions make even simple movement and navigation a considerable challenge. The snow obliterates roads and rivers and masks the contours of the ground. Visibility can drop to a few metres in mist or falling snow and it becomes hard to estimate distance travelled and still to be covered. Much depends upon the abilities of junior commanders, as any mistake they might make could have serious consequences for their soldiers.

After Company training, a Battalion exercise: but not before Milan Platoon had conducted our first ever (and the Army's first) Arctic and night-firing of the missile. The Infantry Trials and Development Unit from Warminster fortunately witnessed success on both counts. During the same period a 20 kilometer Biathlon course was set for the Battalion by the RSM with a rousing cry of "full participation". Among those participating to the full: OC Headquarters Company on his first visit to Norway with the Army since 1945. On the basis of the 20km competition a team was selected to take on the Norwegian Infantry Regiment 10 over a 30 kilometer course later in the month. The results were gratifying. In the under 20 class the Battalion's young soldiers took eight out of the first 10 places, a reflection of the hard work they had put in on training. In the other classes performances were equally pleasing: the RSM finished second in the over 35 class.

The exercise started with a TEWT to consider the Battalion's anti-tank defence with particular reference to Milan. Should the firing posts be sited on high ground to obtain good fields of fire or on low ground where resupply of missiles is easier? Officers and senior ranks considered such subtle conundrums in a tem-

Arctic Exercises take place
1200 Kms NORTH of BERGEN
300 Kms above ARCTIC CIRCLE

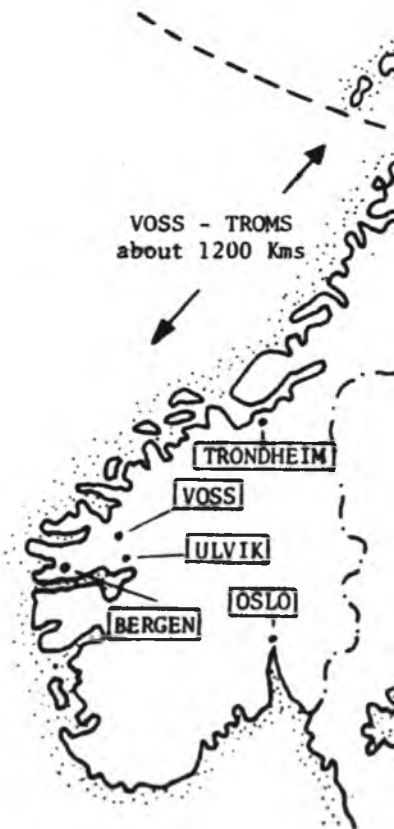


ARCTIC TRAINING
BY THE UK ELEMENT
THE ACE MOBILE FORCE (LAND)

Battalion deploys to TROMS
area North of the Arctic
Circle after "HARDFALL"
for NATO or Bilateral FTX
in Feb/Mar

30

Battalion trains
initially on Ex
"HARDFALL" in
VOSS area in
Mountains of
SOUTH NORWAY in
Jan/Feb





perature of 27°C before joining the rest of the Battalion on deployment. The exercise called upon companies to fight a series of delaying actions in a high valley before taking up positions as part of a Battalion anti-tank ambush on a major axis. The plan succeeded despite (as can now be safely revealed) the present author ordering his Carl Gustav crew to open fire prematurely. Connoisseurs of the cold remember the four days for the very low temperatures encountered. The hairs of the nostrils freeze at minus 11 degree centigrade (one can literally "sniff" the cold) while exposed flesh freezes at around minus 37. A member of the ITDU team was similarly impressed: "I don't know what the temperature is outside, but it's minus 35 in my briefcase".

The Battalion started to move north for the NATO exercise Arctic Express in mid February. 'A' Company moved first in a Royal Fleet Auxiliary LSL from Ulvik to Sorreisa as the key party deployed on deterrent operations. 'A' Company patrolled an area roughly the size of Northern Ireland for five days until the Battalion deployed on combat operations which started on the 26th.

Initial reconnaissance for the Exercise took place in heavily falling snow but thereafter the weather was clear. The ideal temperatures for operations in the north are between minus five and minus ten degrees Centigrade. At these temperatures the snow remains dry while the air is not too cold, and it is not difficult to make oneself comfortable. When the temperature rises above minus five degrees, as it did during most of the exercise, the snow starts to thaw making skiing difficult while clothing and equipment becomes damp. Similarly light days without snowfalls do little to assist the camouflaging of tents, vehicles and defensive positions, and OP parties and patrols can be easily traced. AMF(L) patrols did, in fact, locate patrols from 45 Royal Marine Commando simply by following their ski-tracks which gave away not only the direction of travel but also the size of the group.

The invading force was played (apart from two busloads of foreign military attaché observers) by the Norwegian Army's Brigade North, 45 Commando and some US and Netherlands Marines; they "invaded" from the direction of Finland down the Skibotsdalen which the Wehrmacht defended against the Russians at the end of the last war, along the line of the Lyngen Fjord, and over the mountain ridges in between. We held them off or held them up by a combination of anti-armour ambushes in the valley bottoms and along the sides of the Fjord using OPs and deploying one complete company high up on the crests. The enemy (i.e. Norwegian or Commando, and doubtless Russian) tactic is to outflank defensive positions by skiing high along the valley sides, so we tried to keep our OPs higher still and to counter attack high; this worked out well.

AMF(L) exercises are usually designed to give everybody in the Force a good go at every possible phase of war in the few days that the Force is deployed together; the result may not be truly tactically realistic at the formation or battalion level but it makes for interest at soldier level once he accepts that the "enemy" are being allowed to win to keep the war going. For real, it was encouraging to learn the lesson of how effective a small defending force would be in repelling a large invading force in the terrain of Northern Norway, and in practice it was no disadvantage to be operating as part of a multi-national force. It would be good to have the Norwegian Army operating on our side in the real thing instead of always being the exercise enemy, but their Brigade Commander paid 1 Royal Anglian the compliment of saying that we were the equals of his own soldiers in over-snow and mountain mobility and "a hard opponent". It was satisfying to have brought our arctic skills to that pitch for our last major exercise in the AMF(L) role, and now that we are mechanised we shall always look back on our training in Norway with pleasure; it was a great experience.

1st BATTALION

As usual, it was a busy year for the 1st Battalion. As soon as we finished our last season in Norway it was time to divert our attention to preparing for mechanised warfare in BAOR, hindered by the outdated advice from all the old Celle warriors. At the same time we were trying to win the Army Shooting and Athletics Major Unit Championships with varying degrees of success, and on arrival in Celle we found that there was only about a third of the training cycle left to prepare for the rather rare event of a Divisional exercise. In the meantime, of course, we were honoured to host the Queen Mother's visit to the Regiment.

Exercise Avon Express

In November last year the Battalion had an unusual role during an AMF(L) Exercise: this time we provided a large proportion of the Battalion as umpires. It proved to be an interesting experience, particularly for those umpiring the German and Belgian Infantry Battalions who did not speak the language. The exercise took place on Salisbury Plain and involved a withdrawal across the Plain before an advance and attack. The German Battalion had an enterprising Commanding Officer who personally captured some enemy vehicles and used them to seize a bridge on the River Avon in an operation regarded as rather underhand by the enemy. Unrehearsed realism was provided by 3 RTR who, during an attack on AMF(L) positions, managed to destroy a vehicle loaded with packed petrol when the driver accidentally threw a thunderflash in the back. Part of the enemy force was provided by the 2nd Battalion, who surprised the AMF(L) by how well they could dig. For the Germans it was just like the old days—hein? In December, however, the Battalion was to take on an even more unusual role—fire-fighting in Manchester.

OP Burberry

Christmas was fast approaching when the Battalion was warned of the need for a new hat. This time it was a steel helmet, unscrimmed and decorated with red dayglo strips reminiscent of Northern Ireland. As it became more apparent that the firemen were not going to return to normal working until the New Year, OP Burberry was put into effect. This involved

the Battalion in a recall on 26th December and a road move to the Greater Manchester area, where we assumed control of twelve temporary fire stations.

The training for this new role had been completed in November at the RN Fire-Fighting School in Portsmouth, where all ranks attended a one-day course. The syllabus covered the use of hoses, knot tying, rescuing incredibly heavy people from tremendously tall burning buildings and handy hints from the veterans. It was such a crammed course that few of us thought we would master the Green Goddess sufficiently to fight a fire.

On arrival the Battalion was divided into Company areas, each looking after a number of stations which had from two to eight Green Goddesses. Each 'appliance' had two teams of six men working in 24-hour shifts. Every station was allocated a formidable array of traffic policemen, who proved invaluable with their local knowledge of short cuts. A good relationship was established with the police despite initial suspicion on the part of the soldiers and one policeman who was heard to remark 'I've spent twelve years trying to catch criminals and here I am living with forty of them!'

The Mancunians were incredibly hospitable and generous. It took only a day or so to realise that every fire-fighting recce to the local brewery meant another free barrel. Almost everything was free—discos, cinemas, saunas, swimming pools. For nearly every fire there was a 'whip round from t'pub' and bottles of hooch appeared on every station doorstep.

There were also understanding members of the public when we made little mistakes, like selecting the wrong chimney to douse a chimney fire. A certain Drum Major, who shall remain nameless, could not understand why no water was appearing at the receiving end and kept calling for more pressure. But we got it right in time for the big fire in Oldham General Hospital shortly before we left.

Ex Hardfall/Arctic Express, 1978

As soon as the Battalion returned from Manchester we donned our Arctic kit for the last trip to Norway. The advance party had included all non-skiers, who were given two



Cpl. Taylor in pensive mood.

weeks' ski instruction before the main body arrived. This paid off handsomely and allowed training to get off to a good start. Congratulations at this point go to Pte. Noakes, who, for the first time in four years, managed to get past day three in Norway without breaking a bone, although he practically destroyed a company's worth of skis in the process.

Company training in the hostels and camps, miles from Battalion HQ, proceeded well, marred only by a tragic accident to a Puma which crashed shortly after dropping 'A' Company, killing all the crew. Each company carried out a 25-mile raid, carrying or towing all their equipment to blow up a bridge. It was designed to test skiing ability and fitness—and certainly did that. The Battalion exercise followed and was noted for having one of the coldest nights in that part of Norway for nearly 50 years. The exercise began with a TEWT in which officers

spent more energy in getting warm than getting to grips with the problem. It was also the first time we had deployed the 'Milan' Platoon tactically in the snow and many useful lessons were learnt.

The weather and snow conditions, however, were generally very kind and allowed us to complete the 20 and 30 km biathlon races for the first time. Nearly all members of the Battalion completed the 20 km race and the results were very encouraging for the 30 km. This proved to be so in the race against the local Norwegian Infantry Battalion, which the Battalion won. L/Cpl Norman of 'A' Company came first in a very creditable time, winning a set of racing skis donated by a local ski-shop in Voss.

In late February the Battalion moved North by LSL for the AMF(L) Exercise 'Arctic Express'. The Battalion established a strong defensive position in the mountains near the Finnish border and were attacked by a Norwegian Brigade backed by 45 Commando and some US Marines. Successful raids were carried out by 'C' Company on skis and by 'I' Platoon mounted in Hueys. It was a good exercise and the Battalion received some favourable comments from several senior officers. In the final NATO march and shoot competition the Battalion teams took the first three places, 3 and 6 Platoons tying for first place.

The Royal Visit

On 5th May, in almost a repeat performance of four years ago when the Battalion hosted the Presentation of Colours to the Regiment, we were again chosen to host the visit by Her Majesty The Queen Mother. Inevitably the Battalion had a long period of cleaning and rehearsing, particularly by 'C' Company, who provided our contribution to the arena display.



Firing in Range Valley.

C/Sgt. Sykes is presented with the BEM—Sgts. Mitchell and Nailard look on in the background.



Regrettably the Regimental Committees could not organise the weather, which was rain in the morning and cold and windy in the afternoon. Nevertheless there was a large turnout of families from Tidworth and Bulford.

Having inspected the 2nd Battalion's guard, the Queen Mother met the officers of the Regiment gathered in informal groups in the mess. After lunch the Queen Mother went to the Square to watch the arena displays. 'C' Company, with heart in mouth, ski-jorred on to the Square and then presented an impressive Arctic

Warfare platoon attack. An APC rumbling on to the Square acted as a reminder of our forthcoming role in Germany.

After the displays Her Majesty went 'walk about' amongst the soldiers and their families gathered round the static displays, in which she showed great interest. This proved to be a most popular part of the visit. Tea in the WOs and Sergeants Mess followed, during which C/Sgt. Sykes was presented with the BEM.

The day ended with the Queen Mother leaving by helicopter to cheering crowds, reinforced



C/Sgt. Bowden meets The Queen Mother and everyone smiles.

by all the local school children, who had been given the day off especially for the occasion.

Training for Celle

During the rest of May, June and July the Battalion became heavily involved in preparing for the mechanised role in BAOR. As the last time we had APCs was June 1969 in Catterick, most of the Battalion had never seen them before. Almost everyone soon became involved in training as instructors, drivers and operators or undergoing familiarisation training. The first experience many of us had of the APC was at the MT School at Bordon where our heads were soon buzzing with lists of first parade checks, halt parade checks, last parade checks, etc. Some, of course, revelled at changing tracks in waist high mud. But one of the most heart warming sights to come out of the oil filled sheds of Bordon was the most high powered fatigue party ever to take up a brush—the CO, 2IC, Adjutant and RSM were all competing with one another for the cleanest garage of the week award.

At the end of May, sadly for the last time for four years, the Battalion exercised its right to march through the cities of Norwich and Bury St. Edmunds. The 'freedom marches' were an annual event whilst at Tidworth and were immensely enjoyed by all who took part. As always it was nice to meet some old friends in both these cities, and particularly the local brew.

Celle

Our arrival in Celle was rather sombre as we were greeted with six weeks of continuous rain but this did not dampen everyone's enthusiasm for something new. The barrack blocks were little changed on the outside from our last occupation but the insides were altered to the new flat concept providing some of the best accommodation (albeit not enough) in the Army.

The start of training was briefly interrupted for an acting Minden Day on 18th August, a day thoroughly enjoyed by all except the CO, who is still smarting from a LAD victory in the Inter Platoon Sports Competition which ran throughout the day.

Training continued with the mechanised companies preparing for the Inter Section and Inter Platoon Competitions (sorry, exercises) held at Soltau. A lot was learnt during this period including how bloody minded an APC can be. It will always pick the most inconvenient time and place to break down, usually in



L/Cpl. Watts looks happy but Pte. Patten is not so sure.



6 Platoon on their way to help 'B' Company win the March and Shoot competition.



1 Platoon on the march.

deep mud, at one o'clock in the morning. These problems were soon overcome and 'D' Company came out winners of the Section Competition and 'B' Company the Platoon Competition. The Battalion exercise followed the Inter Platoon Competition and included a battle with 'A' and 'B' Companies on one side and 'C' and

'D' Companies and the CO on the other. Guess which side won!

We now look forward to the Divisional Exercise, Aintree Task, which takes place in November. After that our thoughts will be rapidly switched to Northern Ireland, where we shall be carrying out our first tour since December 1974. Very few of the soldiers have done a tour there, so we have a lot to learn.

Shooting

The shooting season started off in a promising vein. The Skill at Arms meeting in April produced some good results with 'A' Company winning the Inter Company Championship and Pte. Dickinson the Individual Championship, both for the second time running. It continued with the Battalion team winning the South West District Major Unit and Regular Army Major Unit Championship with comparative ease, taking thirteen of the twenty trophies available. Capt. Domeisen took the individual prize. The Bisley Squad was then formed and



Pte Fleming cleaning up after firing.



The Tech. QM's empire in their new office—Major Fowler, TQMS Amis and Cpl. Long.



Brigadier Watkins presents athletics colours to L/Cpl. Bruce.



Cpl. Fisher and family in their new quarter in Celle.

The Band and Drums beat retreat on Angel Hill, Bury St. Edmunds





The Bisley team.

some excellent and very encouraging results were produced in training. Pride, however, invariably comes before a fall, and fall we did at Bisley where we just could not produce the results as a team despite some very creditable individual performances: C/Sgt. Jones and Sgt. Todd came 6th in the GPMG pairs, Pte Dickinson 3rd in the Moving Target and Ptes. Dickinson and Weaire came 3rd in the Sniper Pairs. The result overall was 14th in the Major Unit Championships—well below what we had hoped for.

For the second year running the Battalion represented the Queens Division at the National Championships where the results we had been

hoping for at the Regular Army Meeting re-appeared. The team of four comprising Major Calder, Capt. Domeisen, Sgt. Denny and L/Cpl. Norman won the Malta Cup for the Hythe Competition which was an aggregate of two other competitions. Subsequently Capt. Domeisen and Sgt. Bullard went on to shoot for the Army in the Inter Services SMG Championships. Next year, as always, we hope to do better. The shooting year ended on a high note, however, when we entered two teams in a local German Army and civilian competition, firing the pistol and rifle. Rather to our surprise the teams came first and second, winning two rather handsome trophies in the process.

More victorious Vikings.



THE POACHERS

We finished 1978 the way we started it—on duty. Spearhead in Gillingham to Duty Battalion for Berlin Field Force did not seem such a great change but in between we had a great deal of variety. In platoon, company or Battalion strength, Poachers visited such faraway places at The Gambia, Morocco, Gibraltar and closer to home, gathered in Tidworth; exercised at Sennybridge and Stanford; shot at Hythe and even closer to home, accepted the Freedom of the Borough of Hinckley and Bosworth in Leicestershire and marched in Lincoln and Cleethorpes.

Spearhead

We staggered on for a continuous 12 week period and claim this as a record. It all began in the first week in December 1977, after 1 RRF suddenly deployed to sunny Bermuda leaving the Battalion to speed up its preparation. Major Mike Chambers (the Unit Emplanement Officer) quickly produced complicated tables and became the most sought after person in Gillingham as people gaped in amazement at tie down schemes and dangerous air cargo packing instructions.

As always seems the case, what appeared to be a minor panic soon took the shape of the whole Battalion briefed, packed up and ready

to go. With a rifle company and Battalion Headquarters at 24 hours notice to depart and the remainder at 72 hours notice, we began to prepare for Christmas in Barracks. The National Firemans Strike loomed, became fact and in anticipation of fire-fighting after relief, we trained sixty teams of fire fighters. They were never employed and weeks on Spearhead stretched to months. We practised our call outs, deployed to our nearest airfield (RAF Manston) and became Spearhead 'experts' without flying anywhere.

The time was not wasted. Amidst normal training, which was of necessity confined to barracks and local training areas, cadres sprang up. Name it and we had a cadre for it; Sniper's, Potential NCOs, Signalling, Driving, NBC, AFV recognition, Assault Pioneer and First Aid to name a few. Our Sports teams practised and played hard and our rugby, football and hockey teams progressed in Army competitions; while within the Battalion company and platoon teams competed vigorously in orienteering and cross country events.

As the end of Spearhead approached, activity increased in Gillingham. The Battalion carried out a short deployment exercise on the 5/6 February, aptly named "Poacher's Run".

After processing through the MCCP (estab-

Cpl. Slater sees to the security of Killy Camp.





A tired patrol return the easy way to Killy Camp.

lished in the garages), 'flights' moved by road to the 'Island of Stanford' where an extremely aggressive 'terrorist group' ('D' Company) and their leader Captain Peter Ferrary were firmly disposed of in eighteen hours. We then 'flew' back to Gillingham leaving Stanford at peace again! At the same time the Advance Party for Exercise Sun River departed for the dust and the sun in The Gambia, to unpack stores arriving by ship and prepare the base camp for 'B' Company's hoped for arrival on the 23rd.

With Sobraon Day sports played in a snow blizzard, we entered our last weeks on Spearhead with a Military Skills Competition to test forty-two section teams from every part of the Battalion. After a series of tests in first-aid mapreading, NBC, AFV recognition, assault course tasks and fire control orders, 2 Section from 2 Platoon commanded by Cpl. Watson took 1st place, with sections from the Mortar, Anti-Tank and Signal Platoons taking 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions.

The Gambia

The Battalion was only the second unit to have the privilege of visiting this small republic since it gained its independence in 1965. Exercise Sun River proved an apt name as this very small country lies astride the delta of the River Gambia and its many tributaries. With empty beaches and temperatures that often reach 120 degrees Fahrenheit, catering for winter holiday makers from Scandinavia is now competing as a major industry with peanut growing.

The advance party, with the second-in-com-

mand, Major Kerry Woodrow, and the Quartermaster Major Jimmy Jenks, arrived to discover that the stores due to arrive by sea had been delayed. They gratefully accepted hospitality and accommodation from the small Gambian Police Field Force. Eventually the stores, including vehicles, building materials and three Scout helicopters, arrived. Killy Camp with messes, a soldiers' dining hall, canteen, platoon accommodation, washstands and showers soon began to take shape fifty miles from the capital town of Banjul (formerly Bathurst).

The exercise consisted of three phases. 'B', 'C' and 'A' Companies spent a month each in The Gambia supported by a base camp party, a troop from 9 Squadron RE, a flight from 664 Squadron AAC and a Local Resources Section RAOC. It was the first time helicopters had supported an exercise in The Gambia and the three Scouts proved invaluable. The Engineers together with our Assault Pioneers were also deployed on tasks to aid the civil community.

The Gambian terrain although flat was difficult to navigate over. The Gambian River and its bolons with attendant salt-flats and mangrove swamps penetrate the dry scrub land everywhere. The scrub vegetation was dried and scorched by the hot season sun and the environment proved a challenge to everyone, in fitness, navigation and survival.

'B' Company, commanded by Major Mike Boocock, arrived first. Having boarded their RAF VC 10 with snow on the ground in England, they found that stepping onto the tarmac at Banjul airport, resembled entering a sauna

fully clothed. The intensive fitness training carried out in Gillingham was rewarded by rapid acclimatisation and after 48 hours 'B' Company entered a rigorous session of field training. Long distance patrolling, ambushes and watermanship training tested everyone to the limit.

Superb helicopter support proved to be a lifesaver. In darkness Lt. Sam Drennan, AAC, in a masterful feat of flying and at great danger to himself and his crew, air winched a casualty from a heavily wooded area to prompt medical attention. 5 Platoon's radio operator, who was miles from medical care, had sat on a scorpion with disastrous consequences. Lt. Drennan received the GOC's commendation for this action and the thanks of a grateful Poacher.

At the end of March 'C' Company, under Major Roger Howe, took over Killy Camp and after a 20 mile NAV-EX to assist acclimatisation, began their training. Their training progressed from section to platoon level and culminated in a 3-day escape and evasion exercise. The last day of this exercise was spent fighting a large bush fire on a three mile front! A highlight of their stay was a wild boar hunt that culminated in a pig being spit roasted. During the feast, the policemen of the Gambia Defence Force attached to the company, gave a demon-



Hot but happy in the Gambia—Major Mike Boocock and Cpl. Swaby.

stration of a number of old tribal dances which will be remembered by everyone.

'A' Company, commanded by Major Gordon Brett, brought the Exercise to its end in May after a month of activity which culminated in a 50 km escape and evasion exercise. As part of this exercise, each party of three men had to cross the one kilometre wide Bintang Bolon, with whatever they could find to float. 'A' Company group also completed the Kwinella Clinic, a flat roofed medical centre which had been constructed as a joint project by our Assault Pioneers and 9 Squadron RE. It took three months to build and gave the local area a modern medical centre with a waiting room, surgery and dispensary supplied with electricity and water. The clinic was opened by the Gambia Minister of Health and the British High Commissioner and brought much needed medical facilities to the large population in the surrounding countryside.

There was also time to relax in the Gambia. Each company arranged R & R to the capital, Banjul, and with the Atlantic coast close by, fishing, water-skiing, swimming, canoeing and river expeditions were popular pastimes. 'A' Company took the opportunity to play soccer with the Gambia Defence Force soccer team but came unstuck when they played a Banjul cricket team. After losing by four wickets, they discovered that they had just played the Gambian National Cricket team, recently returned from a West Africa tour!

The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. Patrick Stone, only managed a short trip to the Gambia



Mobile Water resupply for a rifle section in The Gambia.

Sir Sawda Jawrara, President of The Gambia, takes a close look at 6 Platoon's patrol base hide.



but was able to host a Presidential Lunch in honour of Sir Sawda Jawrara who visited 'B' Company and Killy Camp. The Quartermaster and the cooks had prepared a marquee and magnificent lunch fit for a Head of State.

Exercise Sun River was a rewarding experience. As well as working on foot in a new climate and in different terrain, we will remember the opportunity of training with the Local Field Force, meeting the Gambian people and seeing exotic wildlife on the grand scale. Private Hollis of 'A' Company will certainly remember the time he found himself with company on the thunderbox at Killy Camp. On asking his neighbour why he wasn't talking to him, he turned round to find a baboon staring at him in amazement.

Sennybridge

While the Rifle companies returned from and departed to The Gambia in April, 'A' Company (before going to The Gambia), Support and Headquarters Companies moved down to Sennybridge for rangework and field firing exercises. Model planes were blasted from the sky and a very impressive fire power demonstration was laid on for the Battalion by the Anti Tank Platoon under Capt. David Baylis and by the Mortar Platoon commanded by Captain Chris Groom.

On returning from Sennybridge, Support Company commanded by Major Mike Chambers departed on the 28th April to relieve a company of the resident battalion, 2 Queens, in Gibraltar.

Gibraltar

Support Company had become a composite 'Regimental Company' when it arrived in Gibraltar. The anti-tank and mortar platoons were joined by a platoon from the 1st Battalion commanded by Lieut. Alister Walpole and a number of soldiers from the 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th Battalions.

Duties and ceremonial guards interspersed a busy programme of shooting, sports and adventure training. Every soldier passed his Annual Personal Weapons Test (APWT) on the ranges but poor weather curtailed aquatic adventure



C/Sgt. Lenton explains the 84 mm M202 to an interested party of Gibraltar Scouts.

training like diving, windsurfing, sailing and canoeing for all but the most hardy. However, rock-climbing, abseiling and two expeditions were carried out.

An expedition led by Capt. David Baylis with fourteen soldiers from all three regular battalions, went 'on safari' in Morocco with two Landrovers kindly supplied by their host, 2 Queens. On a 1500 mile round trip they crossed the Atlas Mountains to Agadir via Tangiers, Mekries and Marrakesh and returned to Tangiers along the coast road via Casablanca and Rabat. The second expedition led by Lt. Alister Walpole travelled as far as Casablanca—but on their feet! This expedition after a number of adventures was trapped in Morocco for an extra two days by bad weather in the Straits. There were no complaints.

Our close links with the Gibraltar Regiment were consolidated with much entertainment, sport and hospitality shared and the 'composite company' returned to UK having made many further friendships with the Gibraltarians and between our own Battalions.

Meanwhile—back in Gillingham

As spring led into summer, Gordon Barracks resembled a transit camp from which the Battalion operated. The Commanding Officer, the Quartermaster and Paymaster, Captain Howard Esgate, returned from a recce of Berlin with good news and May began with the happy occasion of our Colonel-in-Chief's visit to Tidworth. 'B' Company provided the Guard of Honour commanded by Major Mike Boocock with the Colour Party consisting of Lieutenants Sam Weller and Mike Beard carrying The Colours, escorted by CSM Blanchard and C/Sgts. Smith and Dunthorne. In the afternoon 'C' Company gave a humorous demonstration portraying 'A Year in the Life of a Poacher'. When Her Majesty departed the Poacher's gave her a rousing send off from the hill behind the barracks.

Freedom Marches

Battalion Headquarters with 'B' and 'C' Companies moved on the 18th May to Beckingham Camp in Leicestershire in preparation for a weekend of Freedom Marches. That night the Band Beat Retreat in Northampton Market Place and the following day we exercised our Freedom by marching through Lincoln 'with bayonets fixed and colours flying'. After the march the councillors held a reception for the marchers in the TAVR Centre in Sobraon Barracks. In the evening the Band beat the Retreat



Descending the rock the slow but safe way to Europa Point.

in the Castle grounds which was followed by a reception in the Judges Chambers, hosted by the Battalion.

On the morning of the 20th the Colonel of the Regiment accepted, on behalf of the Regiment, the Freedom of the Borough of Hinckley and Bosworth in Leicestershire from the Mayor. It was a doubly memorable day as HRH Princess Alice was present as a guest of the Borough. After exercising the new Freedom by marching through the Borough, the Battalion held a reception in the Council Chambers. The Band later joined the British Airways Drum Majorettes for a performance at the Hinckley Searchlight Tattoo.

On Sunday the Poachers marched through Cleethorpes, exercising the Freedom which was followed by a reception in the Town Hall. South Humberside is still Lincolnshire! In the evening the Band concluded a busy weekend by Beating the Retreat in Grimsby. Over the weekend we found the support from the local populations very encouraging.

Skill at Arms camp

At the end of May almost all the Battalion was in Gillingham again and before we got used to the tin huts again, we moved down to Hythe for our annual ISAAC. In the fine wea-

ther almost everyone classified and we ended a good camp with the Battalion Skill at Arms meeting on the 8th and 9th June. Some very skilled shooting was demonstrated and Sgt. Marrison (1 Platoon) took the 'Belfast Armalite' as prize for the best overall SLR shot. Major Mike Boocock was best officer and 2/Lt. Paul Zmitrowicz, best young officer, Headquarter Company under the expert coaching of Major John de Bretton Gordon achieved champion company as well as producing the champion Platoon. While we were at Hythe we were also able to return some hospitality to the Gibraltar Regiment who had a company group training near Folkstone.

On returning to Gordon Barracks the Berlin Advance Party disappeared on leave whilst the remainder prepared the barracks for handover to the demolition men.

Shooting results

Shooting standards within the Battalion have improved still further since last year.

In the Tickle Trophy Match 71 Series A, the Battalion came third in the Infantry. 'A' and 'B' Company teams came fifth and sixth in the Match 72 (SLR) competition, winning £57 and £45 respectively. In the GPMG competition only five non-Ghurka rifle companies were better than our company pairs but as in the past our SMG shooting was still below the necessary standard.

RASAM-Bisley 1978

The Bisley team have improved on last year. They came 17th overall with L/Cpl. Wilson coming 84 in Army 100 (SLR) and C/Sgt. Morrison 101! L/Cpl. Wilson and Pte. Easey won bronze bars in the Sniper match by coming fourth, and in the Army SUIT Sight Trial the team came third, winning £15. Seventh in the Whitehead Trophy (SLR) and tenth in the Section Match were encouraging results. In Berlin our shots have figured prominently in the allied shooting competition.

Berlin

We said goodbye to Gillingham with a 'Farewell' cocktail party and Beating the Retreat, hosted jointly by the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes. The entertainment carried on into the early hours in both messes and we were able to say farewell to many regimental guests as well as welcome back from Canada to our Deputy Colonel, Brigadier Gerrard Wright. We left Captain David Greenfield in Gillingham to

close the gates for the last time on possibly the Army's worst barracks and by the end of August the Battalion was complete in Berlin.

Advance Party preparation had been thorough and the friendliness and hospitality of 1 Green Howards helped us achieve a smooth hand-over. Captain Denis Thornton, our Families Officer, and his staff, had the families settled in with a minimum of fuss but as he found out, you just can't please some people. On the 17th August our flag was raised for the first time outside Battalion Headquarters and we were 'open' for business.

The facilities in Montgomery Barracks are excellent, with a 200 metre and 30 metre range; training theatre; swimming pool; assault course; well equipped gymnasium; rugby, football and hockey pitches, and even a running track. The soldiers accommodation is first class and even though we are some way out of the city, buses into the centre are cheap, frequent and run all night. We can exercise in most of Berlin's Forest Parks (the Tiergarten excluded!) and share the facilities of our Allies including a MOUT village in the American sector. (Mobile Operations in Urban Terrain?)

Many people who have not served in Berlin regard a Berlin tour as something of an R & R posting. There was a certain amount of Berlin 'euphoria' before we arrived but this was soon dispelled as we entered the busiest months of 1978.

We are one of three infantry battalions who have retained their recon and assault pioneer platoons in the 650 Battalion re-organisation. They both have an operational role in Berlin. The recon platoon, in addition to their traditional role, are equipped with six AF432s, three of which are fitted with RARDEN; they carry out border patrols in the British sector. The Assault Pioneer platoon now handle heavy ferries as if they had always had them and have now ferried the Battalion across the 1km wide River Havel on a number of occasions.

Each Battalion in Berlin takes it in turn to do duties. As Duty Battalion we supply an Alert Platoon at thirty minutes notice to move, an Alert Company Headquarters and numerous guards, ranging from the British Military Train to the 'Summit House' NAAFI! Once every three months we also take our turn guarding Spandau Prison.

Shortly after arrival the Battalion was lectured on and visited East and West Berlin by the coach load; called out on alert practice (which went very smoothly) and visited in turn by Major General Saunders, OBE, The Pay-



'American Hawks and English Poachers in Berlin.'

Poachers basketball team from left to right: Back row—Cpl. Maynard, Pte. Rutter, Pte. Clark, Pte. Flynn, C/Sgt. Stamps, Pte. Burnett. Front row—Pte. Gladwin, L/Cpl. Colho, ACC, Pte. Jackson, L/Cpl. Rose, REME, L/Cpl. Rogerson.

master in Chief, Mr Frank Judd, MP, Minister of State Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and Brigadier McMicking, the Field Force Commander.

We found time for sports and 'A' Company won the inter company novices boxing shield after an excellent nights sport, and 8 Platoon demonstrated they can run as well as drill when they won both the inter platoon cross country and drill competitions.

In Berlin as elsewhere in Germany, autumn is the traditional time for field training and at the time of going to press we are preparing for exercises both in Berlin and later in Schleswig-Holstein.

Gute Freunde Musizieren fur Berlin

The highlight of a busy band programme since the Battalion has been in Berlin was the Gute Freunde Musizieren fur Berlin, an annual charity concert held in the Deutschlandhalle in the presence of the GOC.

The concert was a grand muster of over two hundred musicians from the three Allied Bands who were joined by the famous Berlin Polizeiorchester under their director of music Herr Michael Kern, the Mounted Band of the Royal Artillery from Dortmund and the choir of the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards.

The massed Bands played music from Beethoven to Bacharach and the programme also included solo vocal pieces by the well known German singers Anita Zeller and Rainer Grub.

This charity concert is an annual event for the resident allied bands and this year had a record attendance.



WO.II Skayman plays the Post Horn Gallop in the Tiergarten under critical gaze.

Pompadours

For the Pompadours the past year has been one of great change, hard work and moves from one extreme to another. It is with enormous credit that the Battalion and its families can look back on travelling from the heat of Cyprus to the cold of Ulster, changing homes and schools three times and taking on a tough operational role in Ulster in such a short space of time. But most credit must go to the soldiers who in this short time have prepared themselves so well for handling one of the most difficult Internal Security situations in the world.

Cyprus

Our notes begin in Cyprus in November 1977 with the Battalion football team taking on one of the Cyprus national teams—Evagoras Paphos—and beating them 2-0. It was a tough, skilful match.

A week later we received our last official visit from a senior officer on Cyprus—Air Marshal Sir Neil Cameron, Chief of the Defence Staff. In December we had our final fling with Ex Golden Barque—a five-day Counter Revolutionary Warfare exercise which involved many units on the island and took place under the most appalling weather conditions. The rain poured, then the snow fell, gradually turning the dirt tracks into treacherous crumbling quagmires, impassable to any vehicles. The exercise was curtailed, leaving three vehicles perched in precarious positions to be eventually recovered by the REME.

The Battalion was under command of Major Trevor Veitch at this time, due to the casevac to UK of Lt-Col. Bill Dodd, who had sustained an eye injury. In January the Commanding Officer reassumed command of the Battalion as we prepared to move to our temporary new home—Bulford, in Wiltshire, where we would prepare for our next tour—eighteen months as resident Battalion in Palace Barracks, Holywood, Belfast.

Our final sporting success on the island was

Pte. Martin James' victory in winning the Army Individual Cross Country Championships at Dhekelia.

Bulford

On 1st February the final main body flight left the island and the Battalion went on immediate block leave until March 6th.

At this stage the Battalion reorganised to form four rifle companies and lost Support Company—at least until the next Infantry reorganisation!! Support became Delta Company, and although they grimly held on to their Support Company flag for a few months, it, too, was replaced.

For the next two months the Battalion carried out their preparations for the Northern Ireland Tour. All the old drills had to be remembered and many new ones learnt. The days were long, with much overtime (unpaid, of course) being put in.

Each company went through a two-day exercise at Sennybridge and were put through their paces by the Training Wing under the expert guidance of Capt. Sam Mallett and WO.II Bob Eke.

The finale to the training was a two-week stint at Lydd and Hythe, making good use of



There were one or two teething problems.



The RSM and Mrs. McDonnell meet Her Majesty.

the specialised ranges and facilities. Each company was put through the mill by the Northern Ireland Training Advisory Team and various errors of technique corrected. We learned that it is unwise to put ELEVEN people in a half-ton Land Rover at once, and C/Sgt Roy Watret is still trying to straighten his rifle barrel after getting it caught in a door. The prize for the best rioting company went to Delta Company, who can be located in Yellow Pages under Rent a Rioter.

We had two visits: one from Major General Jack Dye, Colonel of the Regiment, and also a visit from Brigadier Dick Randall, the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment.

The Battalion's final act in England was to greet Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother at the Regimental gathering at Tidworth. 'D' Company put on a demonstration of anti-riot drills whilst the Band played on as part of the Regimental massed bands demonstration on the square.



Into action for the Queen Mother.



A rioter held—the tension shows

Sometimes the training is tougher than the real thing.



All smiles in 1 Platoon for the first deployment.

Ulster

At the same time as the Queen Mother's visit was taking place, the pre-advance party was already settling in in Palace Barracks. On 19th May we took over operational control from the Gordon Highlanders with our first platoon—3 Platoon—commanded by Lt. Mike Lane and Sgt. Watson deploying to Abbotscroft in North Belfast on 20th May—an outpost in which they were to remain for four months.

In the next ten days we had our Brigade Commander visit us, followed at the end of the month by the General Officer Commanding Northern Ireland, Lieutenant General Sir Timothy Creasey (haven't I heard his name



The GOC meets the Big Three.

before somewhere?). A week later the Commander Land Forces, Major General Dick Trant, RA, also dropped in to wish us well.

At the end of the month, on his visit to the Pompadours the Adjutant General, Lieutenant General Sir Jack Harman, presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to Cpl Freddie Dymond and Cpl. Tom Carpenter for eighteen years' service.

Meanwhile operational commitments continued steadily. On 12th July all four companies were required to cover the Orange Day Parade, the annual Protestant march to Edenderry Field. The event was colourful and passed without incident.

At this time a surprise visitor came to pay us a short but very successful visit. Tom Baker—the irrepressible Doctor Who—visited about fifty of our children in the community centre. He delighted them all by signing individually a photocard for each of them before leaving via the Corporals' Mess, then the Officers' Mess.

Until this time the operational situation had been incredibly quiet. The worst incidents involving our soldiers had been dog bites or the odd stone from some under-age hooligan. However, tragedy struck in the form of a booby-trap bomb in a lamp post. Lt. Paul Currell—leading his platoon (5 Platoon) in the Clonard area of Belfast—had his right leg blown off by the radio-controlled device and received other serious injuries. He was rushed to the Royal Victoria Hospital—only 250 yards away. There he underwent emergency surgery which undoubtedly saved his life. In the next few weeks Lt. Currell's personal fitness and determination paid off as he recovered at an

astounding rate. He is now in England, and all ranks wish him well for the future.

In August the Inter Company boxing match was held. The heats were held on the 2nd and 3rd, eliminating all but the two finalists in each of the seven weights. The finals were fought in the gymnasium on the 4th in front of a large and enthusiastic audience of Pompadours.

The Regimental Sergeant Major WO.1 Brian McDonnell acted as Master of Ceremonies and introduced each pugilist. The matches were all hard fought despite one or two of them ending very quickly! Pte. John Brandon, of 'A'



Captain Thompson, the Press Officer, and guess who!



**Miss Pompadour, Hilary Crux, meets
Lt. Paul Currell.**

Company, received the prize for the best individual boxer, and 'A' Company, commanded by Major Pat Shervington, won the match and the trophy.

In the middle of the month Pte. James again did the Battalion proud by running for the combined services under-twenty team against Wales and coming 5th.

On the 18th of August the Battalion pin-up girl arrived to stay for three days. She is a

twenty-year-old model from Essex called Hilary Crux. She spent a hectic seventy-two hours visiting all the companies and most of the departments and messes. Miss Pompadours' visit ended on the 20th—the day of the Battalion Fete organised by the Tech. QM, Capt. Tony James.

Despite the continual ominous threat of rain, the Fete went ahead and was a tremendous success. Two thousand people turned out to visit the stalls and sideshows, watch the band, or take part in the competitions. The day ended with the glorious defeat of the Officers by the WOs' and Sergeants' Mess in the Tug-of-War stakes; a piano-smashing contest; and the final of the Company Tug-of-War competition, which was won by 'B' Company. Miss Pompadour presented the prizes and drew the winning ticket for the Grand Draw—star prize a colour television. A splendid day enjoyed by all. (It rained ten minutes after it was all over!)

In September the Battalion deployed 'B' Company plus one platoon to North Howard Street Mill for six weeks. This deployment was aimed to cover the partial reorganisation of the Battalion boundaries in Belfast caused by the introduction of a further resident Battalion at Aldergrove and the removal of a roulement unit from the city. The area covered by 'B' Company includes Lower Falls and Divis, and has been very quiet. If nothing else, it makes the Company appreciate the civilised atmosphere and surroundings of Palace Barracks.



**Miss Pompadour and
5 Platoon.**

The WOs' and Sergeants' Mess gritting their teeth on the way to defeating the Officers.



We had two politicians visit us during the month. The first by Robert Brown, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence (Army). On 19th September Roy Mason dropped in and visited several departments, including the Close Observation Platoon.

Family life

High morale is essential before any unit can achieve success. Improving the quality of family

life in Ulster goes a long way to aid morale and we must thank our wives and families for helping us. Particular thanks must go to those who play a leading part in setting up and running the Battalion's activities—Mrs. Jenny Tunstill, who ran the job-finding agency; Mrs. Roni Felton and Mrs. Lynn Speakman, who help so much with the Swimming Club; and finally Mrs. Carole Armes-Reardon and Miss Linda Downes, who run the Pony Club.



Who says the Army are non-productive?



CO's Rover group

Conclusion

So we now have slightly over one year left in Palace Barracks, during which we expect to maintain our contribution to the operational manning and deployment of 39 Brigade as well as involve ourselves as fully as possible in all

other aspects of Battalion sporting and social life.

For a Resident Battalion, Palace Barracks is a good station with a wide variety of first-rate amenities. We are enjoying life and feel we are making a very real contribution in the battle against terrorism in Northern Ireland



The big 5 of the old Call Sign 5.

5th (Volunteer) Battalion

Every edition of Castle has an article from us saying that we have been busier than the previous period and we always wonder how much longer this can continue. Yet again it is the same story but even more so, for over the last few months the Battalion has undoubtedly moved into a higher gear. In April a major reorganisation took place and a reshaped 5th Battalion became part of 7 Field Force. Our new role gives us a demanding and absorbing challenge, but the reorganisation had a little tinge of sadness because we said goodbye to our Lincoln and Leicester Companies after 11 years in this Battalion. Both are now part of the 7th Battalion, from whom we gained a Company at Wellingborough. Overall we dropped from five Companies to four, and our geographical plot is now:

No. 1 (Suffolk) Company at Ipswich with Lowestoft detachment.

No. 2 (Northamptonshire) Company at Wellingborough with Rushden and Corby detachments.

No. 3 (Essex) Company at Chelmsford with Colchester and Warley detachments.

No. 4 (Hertfordshire) Company at Hertford with Hemel Hempstead detachment.

Battalion HQ and HQ Company at Peterborough with Corby detachments.

Many personalities have changed as well. Major John MacPhie joined us from the regular army and he now commands I Company vice Major Searle. The Wellingborough Company was inherited without an OC and Major David Turner took up this post. 3 and 4 Companies are still in the capable hands of Majors Roland Wreford and Colin Albany. At BHQ Major Peter King returned to the Battalion from the watchkeeper's pool to take over as Battalion Second in Command from Major John Hayton. Changes in the Regular staff have brought in a new Commanding Officer—Lt.-Col. Anthony Swallow, who succeeded Lt.-Col. John Tadman in late 1977. We have a new Adjutant, a rugby-playing fanatic Capt. Peter Barnes, and a new Training Major, Major Ingleby Jefferson. The Battalion was efficiently steered through the reorganisation by our Quartermaster Major Roy Jenns, and very quickly found itself heavily committed by the demands of our new masters with flying colours. This culminated in the visit

of the GOC Eastern District, Major General A. L. Watson, to a weekend exercise in March. Our move into 7 Field Force started unglamously with an Audit Board, but very quickly after that the pace hotted up and the paperwork increased daily with every postal delivery. If we are painting a picture of Headquarters 7 Field Force being a conglomerate of people with the sole aim in life to beat us into the ground with a paperwork war, this could not be further from the truth. From the outset they have been realistic and, more important, understanding of us as a TAVR Battalion. Obviously the initial beginning of a new formation means a lot of work for some one, and in the Battalion our Orderly Room at Peterborough under WO II (ORQMS) Sharpe and C/Sgt. (ORS) Bradley have coped magnificently.

at 7 Field Force. This, however, was not before the old formation had passed its FFR inspection.

The summer of 1978 saw several long (and we mean long) weekend exercises. We had our



C/Sgt. Dave Gridley, Senior PSI of HQ Company in Peterborough, receives his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from the GOC Eastern District, Major-General A. L. Watson.

own CPX, followed by the Field Force CPX. Communications are a problem and at present it seems that this is one area where we have insufficient equipment to do our job. Many soldiers found themselves having to interfere with personal holiday arrangements to take part in the Battalion and Field Force FTXs in August. Sgt. Berrisford (Int. Section), for example, travelled over 100 miles from his holiday to take part in Exercise 'Lucky Strike' on Salisbury Plain and then went back for the second week. The Battalion FTX Exercise 'Bright Castle' started off with the hottest day of the year and ended with the wettest. It gave us our first real experience of working with our close recce troop of 6 Fox from the 9th/12th Lancers. Since that day we have come to know them very well and they are a great team to work with.

The Field Force FTX 'Lucky Strike' saw us working with more of the support arms we now usually expect to find in our Battalion area, such as Striker, Rapier and Blowpipe. There was also a new experience for many in night moves by Support Helicopter. All the Companies endured an enthusiastic heliborne attack during the first phase and were settled in for a main assault in the second, when the Royal Yeomanry decided that if they were to be home for Sunday afternoon they had better end the exercise. This they achieved by two squadrons shooting each other on the FUP!

Just prior to Annual Camp an Officers/NCOs Study Weekend took place in the superb surroundings of St. John's College, Cambridge, and we were all pleased that the Colonel of the Regiment was able to visit us.

Annual Camp, 1978

The Battalion were part of 7 Field Force Exercise 'Provident Gesture' and the whole Force assembled in Reinsehlen Camp. The first week was spent practising our helicopter drills by day and night, familiarisation and liaison with Striker, Blowpipe, Close Recce troop, Helarm and Tanks. The week ended with a Battalion Exercise with tanks called 'Panzerburg'. As is usual on Battalion Exercises, the weather decided to do its worst and everyone received a real dose of German rain which turned an already saturated training area into what appeared to be one huge bog. Battalion Headquarters distinguished themselves by driving straight through the FUP and into the enemy position!

The middle weekend saw us *all* taking part in the Tickle Fitness Competition. This is the



Pte. Mark Corney meets the DVT & C with Major Alan Petch in the background.



O/Cdt. Simon Porter and some members of his Platoon pose in front of Chieftain tanks on Luneberg Heath before commencing familiarisation training at Annual Camp.



A mortar detachment under Sgt. Bob Mills (background), a Customs and Excise Officer from Harwich gets into action after being dropped.

new individual fitness test for the TAVR, but which has been made an inter-unit competition with a prize of £100 to the unit with the highest percentage of passes. The Battalion achieved 98%, which we hope will take some beating.

Our normal Sunday morning service, designed to restore us back to the sublime after an evening off in Hamburg, was followed by the start of Exercise Keystone—a major exercise featuring 7 Field Force. The Padre used his new 'TD' influence to get us four days of excellent weather and we knuckled into what all previous months' planning and training had been designed for. Unfortunately, in the corridors of power of divisional headquarters where they write exercises, no one had told them, that a TAVR Battalion has to go home at the end of two weeks. The result was that we had to pull out before the final attack and counter-attack. This was disappointing, as few of the Battalion saw any enemy at all in four days. Nevertheless, everyone enjoyed it and it had many moments of ingenuity and lightheartedness.

Perhaps amusing now, but not at the time, was the RAF mistake of putting down Officer Commanding 4 Company plus some of his Company Headquarters 25 km. away from the designated LZ. Although without a map of where he was, he found his way to a major bridge crossing and met on the bridge Lieutenant General Sir Peter Leng, the Corps Commander. After that, life got more friendly and transport (courtesy of 1st Staffords) got



O/Cdt. Simon Porter carries the set whilst 2Lt. Charles Thomas speaks. FOO emerging from Platoon CP in foreground.

him to his Company position some six hours behind the rest. His vehicles now have the slogan 'It is quicker by road'.

Shooting

We have had another good year for shooting success, but perhaps not quite as good as 1977. Our Battalion event at Colchester in April saw

Now squeeze that trigger gently! L/Cpl. Sid Hall tells Pte. Ian Cope (both in Defence Platoon and based at Peterborough) how to get a kill with his 84 mm.





Say, this M-16 rifle is a beaut! Nice to see it rains in America.

4 Company very much in domination, as was to be expected, but the Commanding Officer, determined that they should not win everything, was part of Headquarter Company's winning SMG team. Mrs. Anthony Swallow presented the prizes, including one to Sgt. Parrish from Hemel Hempstead, who promptly decided to

do a juggling act involving his beret and the medal. Fortunately, Mrs. Swallow showed that she was far better at catching the medal than Sgt. Parrish, which she re-presented to him. Disappointingly, 4 Company lost the TAVR Cup at the Eastern District Skill at Arms to Cambridge University OTC, although they won most individual events. The Section Match let them down with a single target at 500 metres refusing to go down. Ironically, it was the same event which brought us our biggest success at Bisley, when the Battalion team were runners-up in the coveted China Cup. Overall, the Battalion were 6th in the TAVR Championship. The team was: 2/Lt. K. Swetman, Sgt. T. B. Binley, Sgt. P. A. Parrish, Cpl. H. R. Batchelor, Cpl. T. G. Bentley, Cpl. J. J. Erne, Cpl. C. D. Wilson, Pte. P. T. Blatch.

Orienteering

The Battalion started the year well when our new No 2 Company from Wellingborough won the TAVR Cup at the Eastern District Championships. Unfortunately, as we go higher up the competition ladder we come up against the University OTCs and for whom we are no match. The students, who are also running in other sports, have ample time and facilities to train, whereas we are asking men in full-time employment plus their TAVR commitment to reach ever-increasing standards in this sport. There is a lobby to get the OTCs in a separate



Lt. Bob West (1 (Suffolk) Company) complete with radio on his helmet, briefs his Platoon Sgt. David Gurney, plus three National Guard soldiers. A resemblance to Gen. Patton?



Winners of the 1978 Eastern District Orienteering—No. 2 (Northamptonshire) Company with Lt.-Col. F. A. H. Swallow and their cup. Team was, left to right: Sgt. Watts, L/Cpl. Paton, C/Sgt. Garton, Pte. Birch, Sgt. Binks.

category, and until they are the chances of carrying more silver home are relatively small.

Other Camps

Besides taking over 450 men with us to Germany, 23 men found time to go to Gibraltar for four weeks with the 2nd Battalion and 54 went to the USA to form a composite 'E' Company of the 6th Battalion. Obviously the American excursion caught the limelight, but those who went to Gibraltar enjoyed themselves and most had the added experience of an exercise on Moroccan soil. In the USA we trained with the National Guard and donned the familiar US Army helmets (see photos), but more interestingly we used their M16 and M60 weapons. Much has already been written and spoken about the USA excursion and so we will only say that it is hoped it is the first of many. Certainly we were well received and we undoubtedly created a good impression if the letters and statements issued at the end of the two weeks are anything to go by. Our congratulations and thanks therefore to A/Major Ian

Arnold, who commanded the Company, and all who carried the flag across the Atlantic. It is also fitting to mention the action of Cpl. Tony Simants from 2 Company, whose efforts in saving the life of a woman severely injured in a motor accident earned him the Governor of Pennsylvania's Commendation Medal. This is the first time this medal has been awarded to anyone other than a citizen of Pennsylvania.

The Battalion is now in a super league of TAVR Battalions which are part of the new Field Force. These combined Regular/TAVR formations emphasise the one-army concept and we were delighted when the Field Force Commander announced publicly that we were better than the Regular battalions in some aspects of our training. Our participation in a Field Force makes us raise our standards, for if we show we are unworthy to take our place there will be others ready to do so. However, we march into 1979 confident we can fulfil our role and, in words from a famous film, 'May the Force be with you!'

6th (Volunteer) Battalion

1978 has been a typical Territorial year: a full and diversified training programme on to which was superimposed the task of being hosts to a Company of the American National Guard at our Annual Camp and at the same time the organising of a Company to train with the parent National Guard Battalion in the States. All in all a normally busy year.

On 15th/16th April the Battalion Skill-at-Arms Meeting was held on Fingringhoe Ranges with the following major results: Champion Company, 'D' Company; Champion Shot, Pte. Porter, 'B' Company; Best Officer, O/Cdt. (now 2Lt.) Veal, 'D' Company; Best WO/Sgt., Sgt. Marshall, 'D' Company.

We were pleased that at the Eastern District Skill-at-Arms Meeting on the first weekend in May, 'A' (Royal Norfolk) Company carried off the Section Match Trophy, with 'D' (Cambridgeshire) Company only one point behind them, a most satisfying result in what is often regarded as the most significant team event. Battalion Headquarters was represented on the Winners List by the good shooting of Pte. Craig Jenkins, who did well to win the Best Young Soldier Trophy.

A week later the Battalion moved to Sennybridge for Annual Camp, fully expecting the Sennybridge weather of previous visits. Quite uncharacteristically, the weather was superb for the whole fifteen days—very much better than in our home locations. This departure from the normal was doubly welcome, firstly for itself and secondly because we acted as host to Company 'C' of the 2nd Battalion 112th Infantry United States National Guard. They joined us in the small hours of Monday, 15th May. After allowing them time to recover from jetlag, they were officially welcomed by Lt-Col. Roger Tomkins, Major Duncan Stewart, Second in Command, and RSM Mick Dear. The pleasantries over, they were then whisked out to join our Companies on the Training Area, where they were subjected to a crash course in weapon training to accustom them to British weapons. It is to the great credit of our NCOs that all these weapons were being put to good use on the Night Firing ranges on that first evening. It appears that they do not do too much live firing during training in America, and so the enthusiastic reaction they displayed

played havoc with our ammunition resupply arrangements. Eventually the lesson dawned that 'Blast their ass' did not constitute a good Fire Order and we were able to put over the message of Fire Discipline. Resupply then became a daily routine rather than an hourly one.

Generally there were no insurmountable language problems after the first day, when the Company Commander of 'B' (Bedfordshire) Company, Ron James, had the following intriguing exchange with one of the young American Platoon Commanders, who had just announced that his name was Stan: 'Hello Stan, I'm Ronald, are you tired after your long journey?' 'No, I'm Stan.' 'Yes, I know, we have just been introduced, are you tired?' 'No, I'm Stan, S-T-A-N . . . ' Oh, well, the effects of jet-lag probably.

We were pleased to welcome Deputy Colonel of the Regiment Brigadier Dick Randall to our Guest Night, which, under the guiding hand of 'Kipper' Place, went off extremely well. Amongst the other guests were the Chairman and Secretary of East Anglian



C/Sgt. Jones looks a bit apprehensive.

TAVRA, Colonels Hunter-Jones and Pakenham Walsh, with Colonel Dick Flower (Hon. Colonel of 'A' (Royal Norfolk) Company) and Colonel Peter Franklin (Hon. Colonel of 'C' (Essex) Company). We were fortunate to have the services of the Band of the 4th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Regiment of Wales to provide an excellent musical programme.

The Americans had the weekend off and visited London, culminating in a tour of the Tower of London with an ex-Royal Anglian Yeoman Warder as guide. They all rejoined us on the second day of our Battalion Exercise and found themselves being harried across the Welsh hills. Either the terrain or the London visit took a toll of our friends, some of whom made their exit from the area in the ambulance.

Later in the week we were visited by the DVT & C, Major General J. H. Foster, accompanied by the Hon. Harold Chase, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence, US Reserve Affairs (direct from the Pentagon), and Major General Stanford Smith, Policy Board, US Military Reserve Forces. Their visit coincided with our Annual Gaza Cup Competition, a navigation, assault course, march and shoot competition, which this year was won by 'A' (Royal Norfolk) Company in a close-fought struggle. Happily our visitors arrived in time to see some of the American teams in action and we believe that they went away duly impressed by the success of the exchange visit.

The Recruit Cadre produced a most efficient



Cpl. Willars 'you put it in here . . .'

Passing Out Parade, when the Commanding Officer congratulated Pte. Michael Foster, from 'B' (Bedford) Company, on achieving Best Recruit against fierce opposition from some fifty young soldiers. The course instructors are to be congratulated on producing an excellent standard from all those who were on the course.

"... and it comes out there."



On the official farewell parade, Lt.-Col. Tomkins accepted, on behalf of the Mayor of St. Edmundsbury, an Address and Presentation from the Mayor of Altoona, Pennsylvania, the home town of Company 'C'. Unfortunately, the Mayor of St. Edmundsbury was unable to be present, but at his request the Commanding Officer asked Capt. Mike McCormick, the Company Commander of Company 'C', to deliver a message of goodwill from the Borough to the Mayor of Altoona. With the message went a presentation of a book on life in Suffolk seen through the eyes of an American Serviceman during the last war.

The Battalion was presented with a plaque commemorating 'The Raising of Mr. Franklin's Regiment in 1747', from whom Company 'C' are descended, together with the State Flag of Pennsylvania and the American National Flag. We had observed Company 'C' march on with their Guidon and were completely taken aback when, at the conclusion of the parade, it was marched forward and presented to the Commanding Officer as a token of their appreciation 'of friendship and co-operation' the Company had received. We are very proud to have received this singular honour.

At the same time that we were at Sennybridge, 'E' Company 6th Battalion was the first volunteer company to visit the United States for training with the National Guard. Because numbers prevented us from doing justice to the National Guard at Sennybridge and to send 120 men to the States, 'E' Company was a composite company formed from ourselves and the 5th Battalion, with help from 3 WFR and even five regulars from the 1st Battalion. We thank the 5th Battalion for all their assistance, particularly in the form of Major Ian Arnold,



Cpl. Stimpson instructs National Guardsmen.

who commanded the company. In spite of their mixed composition, everyone knitted in well together and the whole exercise was well worth while. In contrast to the sun of Sennybridge, there was almost continuous rain at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. During the middle weekend some members of the company visited the sights of New York, whilst others stayed at the homes of National Guardsmen, with whom friendships soon blossomed. The generosity of our American hosts, both official and private, was overwhelming. Our thanks are also due to 'our Royal Anglian man in Washington', Major Julian Browne, who carried out a lot of diplomacy behind the scenes.

These reciprocal training exercises were most successful and it is fitting here that appreciation should be expressed to the unsung heroes on the Permanent Staff, the Adjutant, Harry Woods, Danny Bebbington, the Quartermaster, and John Robinette, our Training Major, and the civilian clerical staff whose hard work smoothed the administration of this great undertaking.

During the year some old faces have disappeared. Early in the year we reluctantly allowed RQMS Les Cotter to retire. He has served with us since the Battalion was formed and his cheerful good humour and unfailing efficiency will be much missed. We wish him a long and happy retirement. (We wish him a



C/Sgt. Bear and friend.



Brigadier General Harold J. Lovell greets L/Cpl. Game at Harrisburg Pa.

rapid recovery from his recent eye operation—Stop press). In his place we welcome Brian Cocksedge. 'B' Company, said goodbye to C/Sgt. Barry Sutcliffe, and his replacement, C/Sgt. Paul Jones, seems to have adjusted to the volunteer style well. Capt. Richard Parry has joined the company to run the Dunstable Platoon. He comes to us from the Royal Navy, which is evident from his habit of describing 'fire practice' as 'boat drill'.

Michael Veal, from Cambridge, successfully completed his Sandhurst course this summer and is now gainfully employed in 'D' Company. Major Trevor Nightingale joined us at Camp and is employed as Volunteer Training Officer, keeping us on our toes on Exercises.

We congratulate Sgt. John Whitley of 'B' Company on joining the Sergeants' Mess, and also Sgt. Richard Ashley, who works so hard as our Armourer.

Major Alan Dann retired in November this year in order to pay more attention to farming, and 'C' (Essex) Company is presently running under the guidance of Capt. John Metcalfe. Alan was a volunteer of some years' experience and originally joined us from 5th Battalion. We wish him well in his retirement.

In October we bade farewell to Lt.-Col. Roger Tomkins, who has served as a Territorial

for over 25 years. He saw service in the Suez Canal Zone during National Service with the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, and joined the TA Battalion immediately after. On moving his job to Essex he joined the 4th/5th Battalion The Essex Regiment (V), and from there went on to join the newly raised No. 3 Company, 5th Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment in 1967. In May 1969 he took over command of the Company, and after two and a half years was appointed as Second in Command of the 5th Battalion. He took command of our Battalion in 1976, and his thorough and energetic approach to all aspects of Battalion life will be missed by us all. We send our thanks and good wishes to him for a long and restful retirement.

We are delighted to welcome Lt.-Col. Tom Dean as his successor and also to note that, like all our previous Commanding Officers, he has served with one of our old 'local' Battalions. His service with 4th Battalion The Suffolk Regiment (TA) ensures that the exposure to the volunteer environment after Regular Service will not come as too great a shock. We hope that he will have an enjoyable and rewarding tour of duty with us.

Congratulations and good wishes go to Pte. Gary Hitchings and Pte. Mark Warnes, of the



Easy riders—members of 'E' Company at 'the Gap'.

Fort Indiantown Gap looks just like Stanford.



Defence Platoon, who have taken brides this year.

Finally, our Colour Sergeant of the Year Award goes to C/Sgt. 'Teasmade' Bate, of 'D' Company. Day two of the exercise at camp saw dawn breaking and a four-tonner racing with Keith Bate and the 'D' Company breakfast. Round a corner was a check point at which all vehicles were stopped. The driver braked hard with a disastrous effect, out jumped the brave Colour Sergeant to survey the damage done to his precious containers and to exercise his new-found linguistic ability. Steam from the hot tea rises into the early morning air whilst the Colour Sergeant tries to stem the tide which has flooded the back of the truck. Some breakfast is saved for the Company and a hot and steaming (literally) figure leaps back into the cab and with a flourish slams the door—on his hand. It is tough being a Colour Sergeant.

EXERCISE "MULBERRY TREE"— APPALACHIAN TRAIL

An account by Major David Thorogood

Henry Knauber, a 58-year-old from Wiconisco, Pennsylvania, who was a member of the US 1st Infantry Division and landed on D-Day at Omaha Beach, Normandy, who spends his spare time in the hills, offered to lead a party of us on a walk along part of the Appalachian Trail. Only a small party could go in order that

training should not suffer, and beside myself S/Sgt. Broyd, Sgt. Wilcock and L/Cpl. Patton from the 5th Battalion and Cpl. Taggart, L/Cpls. Scott and Game, Ptes. Rowe, Painter and Bassett from the 6th Battalion were the lucky ones.

The date chosen for the walk was Tuesday, 23rd May.

The Appalachian Trail is a wilderness foot trail running continuously along the crest of the mountain system known as the Appalachians, passing through fourteen eastern states of the USA from Katahdin (Indian for "Greatest Mountain") in the central Maine wilderness to Springer Mountain in northern Georgia.

The first mile of the trail was cut and marked in 1922 and the trail was completed (although later modifications have been made) in 1937. It runs for 2,000 miles and is the longest marked footpath in the world.

From the Delaware River as far as the Susquehanna the trail follows the Blue Mountain range. The trail passes the sites of several of the line of forts erected in the French and Indian wars to guard the frontier. At Swatara Gap, to avoid the Indiantown Military Reservation ('E' Company's home for the two weeks), the trail turns northwest, crossing diagonally Second, Sharp and Stony mountains and for some 15 miles traversing St. Anthony's wilderness, a Pennsylvania game preserve. It is this part of the trail that our party followed.

The Trailers.



We joined the trail at Swatara Gap. The first mile was uphill—steep—and came out on to a section of track built up on one side with rocks. This was an old wagon trail, over 100 years old. A mile or so further on we were shown a small cemetery in woodland just off the trail. There were four headstones, all dated 1854. A short distance further on was an old well, lined with stone and now partly filled.

Among the wildlife seen were groundhogs, scarlet tenagers (beautiful bright red birds not to be confused with teenagers!) and an occa-

sional white crested nuthatch. The area abounds with deer; rattlesnakes and copperheads are common, although none were seen.

We also had John and Grace Wozniak of Harrisburg in the party, John was acting as "Sweeper" and Grace was just along for the walk!

Fifteen and a half miles were covered and although this distance may not be especially far, Henry had led us at a cracking pace. We learned afterwards that no one else will walk with him!

Now which way?



7th Volunteer (Battalion)

All change! That was the keynote for the start of 1978. As announced in the last edition of Castle, the Battalion was to be re-rolled from a General Reserve to a NATO committed unit. The magic date on which we became part of 7 Field Force was 1st April and prior to this date many changes took place.

Battalion Headquarters moved from Northampton to Leicester on 6th February. This move was due to take place in January but was delayed because our new offices were being used to house a fire fighting crew. Several of our own Permanent Staff were also involved in manning the 'green goddesses'. However, the move was duly completed and we welcomed as our first official visitor the General Officer Commanding Eastern District, Major-General A. L. Watson, just a few days later. He inspected our new headquarters and wondered how the Regimental Sergeant Major had managed to get the Sergeants' Mess so palatially redecorated when the Commanding Officer's carpet had not yet been laid!

The end of January saw the Battalion all together in its old shape for the last time. As a training weekend at Proteus the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel John Gleadell, presented the Champion Company Shield to Major Mike Shaw of 'A' Company. Following this presentation the Commanding Officer bade farewell to 'C' Company, based at Wellingborough. This was their last official weekend before transferring to the 5th Battalion in February. We wish them every success in their new role and look forward to renewing old friendships when we both meet as part of 7 Field Force.

Also in February 'B' Company amalgamated with 4 Company, previously with the 5th Battalion, to form our new Headquarter Company, based at Leicester and commanded by Major Derrick Connell.

Our reorganisation was finally completed on a training weekend 1/2 April, when the Lincoln Company of the 5th Battalion became our new 'B' Company. The Commanding Officer welcomed Major David Harris and his men to the Battalion and hoped that their experience and skills, gained as part of a NATO committed unit, would be of valuable assistance in our re-training task.

Needless to say the two busiest people during the first four months of the year were our new Quartermaster, Captain Stan Bullock, and our new Adjutant, Captain Seymour Blyth. Both of them joined us from the Regular Battalions and we wish them a happy and successful tour with us. The Quartermaster was inundated with new equipment which had to be disseminated to the rifle companies. This task was speedily undertaken but was not made easier by the return flow of some of our General Reserve equipment which was to be reallocated to the 6th Battalion.

However, the mammoth task was duly completed prior to Annual Camp at Stanford Training Area in May. For this year it had been decided that the Battalion should not camp with 7 Field Force to allow us time to complete the re-training and specialist training required for our new role.

The first week of camp was devoted to cadre and company training. We received much assis-



Major-General A. L. Watson presents a Lord Lieutenant's Certificate to Colour Sergeant Percival, LDY Company.



A General Purpose Machine Gun in action during Company training.

tance from the Regular Army units of 7 Field Force who provided instructors for the Signals, Intelligence, Assault Pioneer, Mortar and Anti-Tank Cadres. These cadres were extremely beneficial for those specialists who had not been lucky enough to attend courses at the School of Infantry.

Meanwhile, the rifle companies were busy field firing, dry training and firing the platoon anti-tank weapons for the first time. Some thirty recruits passed their Recruit Training Syllabus during the first week, having completed the first stage on a series of weekends prior to camp.

The climax of the first week's training was a firepower demonstration. This gave the other members of the Battalion, our Honorary Colonels and members of the TAVR Association a chance to see some of our new weapons in action and included live shoots with the General Purpose Machine Gun in the sustained fire role and the 81mm Mortar. The Anti-Tank Platoon demonstrated their crash action drills as they were only able to fire their spotter machine guns. The demonstration concluded with a series of versatile manoeuvres by the Fox armoured recce vehicles of our affiliated Recce Regiment—9/12 Royal Lancers.

Following the demonstration, Major-General A. L. Watson presented several awards to members of the Battalion.

The second week of camp was devoted to a four and a half day Battalion exercise—Exercise Spring Canter. The name was changed to Spring Gallop after the visit of Commander 7

Field Force, Brigadier P. M. Davies, who being a tall Scotsman and obviously used to striding over the heather, had Battalion Headquarters' staff leaping around our defensive position in hot pursuit.

Having spent two and a half days in a defensive location, during which the only lull was for an informal Church Parade, the Battalion exfiltrated over a distance of some seven miles. By dawn on the next day all elements had reached their new positions. Company Commanders had the chance to recce the withdrawal routes and river crossing points in a Gazelle helicopter—something new to most of them! Not to be outdone, the whole of the Battalion had the opportunity to get airborne during the closing phases of the exercise. Three company heliborne assaults took place—two against enemy held bridges and the third against a village. The final phase of the exercise was a battalion attack on the main enemy position. Morale was extremely high and after a clean up and a few hours rest back at camp several companies took to local hostelrys for an evening's entertainment.

As a result of camp 1977, when we hosted a unit from the US National Guard, we have learnt to take official visits in our stride. We were delighted to welcome Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Hudson, Inspector General of TAVR, and also the Colonel of the Regiment who attended our Officers' Mess Dinner Night. We achieved another notable 'TAVR first', being selected by the Health and Safety at Work Inspectorate as a 'suitable' unit to visit. Fortunately there were no accidents and one enter-



The 81 mm Mortar in action during the Firepower demonstration.



**LDY Company's team—
winners of the Inter
Company March and Shoot
competition.**

prising Safety Officer had painted red danger signs around a few holes in the footbridges crossing the stream in the assault course area.

The climax of camp was the Inter Company March and Shoot Competition comprising an Assault Course, a six mile march and a falling plate shoot. LDY Company's team, led by Lieutenant Martin Mee, tied with 'D' Company's team, led by Lieutenant Tim Daplyn, but a faster time by eleven seconds over the assault course made LDY Company the winners.

Out of camp training has continued unabated throughout the year and there is seldom a weekend passes when either a company or a

platoon is not training. The emphasis has been on physical fitness, the development of shooting skills and specialist training. 'A', 'B' and Headquarter Companies have been adventure training in Edale, while LDY Company made their annual pilgrimage to the Highlands and an intrepid party from HQ and 'D' Companies accompanied our new Regimental Sergeant Major, Roger Jones, across Snowdonia in very bleak autumn weather.

Several signals exercises have been held during the year and the Signals Officer has been busy not only recruiting for his platoon but also training his men on our new radio equipment.

**CQMS Smith wishes he
had this in his stores!**



Senior Chaplain, 7 Field Force, addresses the Battalion during a lull in Exercise Spring Canter.



Captains Newsum and Clark have had the task of starting from scratch with their Mortar and Anti-Tank Platoons and although the mortars were able to fire live ammunition at camp the anti-tank personnel will have to wait until early in the new year before they can fire their first live shoot. However, they have been able to zero their guns at Warcop and have proved themselves a very viable platoon.

Recruiting has continued to run at a high level and there has been no shortage of takers for the Depot Recruit Cadres. In fact, pressure has again been so high that we shall shortly be running a Battalion recruit cadre at Proteus Camp.

Most companies have held Open Days at their TAVR Centres. Many members of the public and indeed some families have been extremely surprised at the skills required to be a soldier in the TAVR today. A Company challenged several local teams to a sponsored assault course competition and succeeded in raising £329 for the Scunthorpe Blind Association.

As a result of the re-role we have welcomed many new Permanent Staff Instructors to the Battalion during the past year. We are much encouraged by the expertise and enthusiasm that they bring from their Regular Battalions and we hope they will enjoy their tour of duty with the TAVR.



The Anti Tank Platoon zeroing their Wombats at Warcop.

We have also welcomed several new officers—Major David Young from the Yorkshire Volunteers, Captain Philip Clark from 5/8 Battalion The King's Regiment, Lieutenant John Barrell from 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment and Lieutenant Peter Oldfield from the Army Cadet Force.

We have also had to say many sad farewells. In June Regimental Sergeant Major Trevor Fisher departed to 3rd Battalion Queen's Regiment. He has exercised a firm but fair hand over the Battalion for the past two years and we thank him for all his hard work during his tour. In his stead we welcome Regimental Sergeant Major Roger Jones, who left the sunny climes of the Bermuda Regiment to join us.

This year we had to say goodbye to our Conrate Sergeants who have borne a great deal of the administrative load within the companies over the past three years. We wish Sergeants Dixon, Federl and Turner every success in their new jobs in civilian life.

Any organisation that draws on civvy street is bound to encounter change and we have to say farewell to the following officers who have gained increased responsibility in their part-time (non TAVR) jobs and have had to move from the Battalion—Majors Derrick Connell and Trevor Gough, Captain Geoff Newsum and Lieutenants Peter Darbyshire and Tony Lake. Lieutenant Tim Daplyn, who joined us just over two years ago, following a Regular Short Service Commission tour, has decided to rejoin his old Light Infantry Battalion. We wish him and all the others every success in the future.

We are now looking forward to camp in late 1979 when we shall be fully fledged members of 7 Field Force.



Cpl. Boggs of 'B' Company is the first man out of a Wessex Support helicopter.

**Get a Royal
Anglian on
your committee**

Depot Queen's Division



The Anglo-American Air Festival — 27/28 May

During the last twelve months 167 recruits have passed out from the Depot to join their Battalions, of these 75 were from the Juniors. In April 1978 the first junior platoons to complete the newly introduced 42-week integrated course Passed Out. Of the 550 recruits under training at present, 199 are badged Royal Anglian, 154 of these are Juniors.

During the Fire Fighting emergency the Depot provided initial cover for Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Leicester. We provided 38 teams at 16 locations, made up from the Permanent Staff and the Adult Recruits who had reached the seventh week of training. After this commitment had finished, we formed several

incremental platoons to catch up the recruiting backlog.

The highlight of the year was in May, when we hosted a large group of Americans from the 91st (Heavy) Bombardment Group who had flown on daylight raids over Germany from Basingbourn in World War II. There were three major items on the programme which involved the Depot. During the week a War Memorial, consisting of a B17 propeller, was unveiled by Major General (Retd) Stanley Wray, USAF, who commanded at Basingbourn for part of the war. The next item was a concert in the style of Major Glenn Miller. This was held in the same hangar that was used



The Memorial to the 91st (Heavy) Bombardment Group unveiled on 23rd May. Cpl. Cousina is the Royal Anglian drummer.

for these concerts in the war, and Anne Shelton headed the cast. The climax was a two-day air show over the weekend. The event raised a considerable sum of money which has been distributed to the Army Benevolent Fund, the RAF Benevolent Fund and the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society.

We entered Senior and Junior teams for Bisley this year. The Senior teams came sixth in the Minor Units competition, our best indi-



Trench week at Stanford. The 2IC, Major Nigel Lewis, visiting recruit training.

vidual was Cpl. Carr, of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, who won the Whittaker Moving Target Trophy, was placed 13th in the Henry Whitehead Cup and achieved 20th place in the Army Hundred. Our star in the Junior Soldiers meeting was Private M. Havercroft, now serving with the Second Battalion, who achieved 7th place in the Iraq Cup (Roupeil Conditions) and was placed in the top 30. A very creditable achievement, bearing in mind that he had only completed nine months' training and was shooting against Junior Apprentices with eighteen months' or more service.

1978 has been a very active year. Besides the recruits and Junior training, there has been a host of other activities both sporting and social, all adding to the variety of life and challenge that a permanent establishment such as this can offer. There is a challenge here for all levels of command, not least to the junior NCO, who has a vital role to play.



HQ The Queen's Division Falling Plate team off to a flying start. Major John Calder takes it a bit literally!

ARMY CADETS

ROYAL ANGLIAN (Leicestershire and Northamptonshire) ACF

Another busy and exciting year is now behind us and much has happened during that period.

'B' Company's annual Physical Endeavour involved twelve teams of four cadets each and was won by the Ulverscroft Road Detachment. The County Commandant, Col. R. A. Gill, presented the trophies and prizes to the winners on his first visit after assuming Command.

Ex-Cadet Sgt. Ian Cramp, who went to Canada on the 1977 visit, obtained special leave from the Royal Army Pay Corps to visit his former Detachment at Wigston when he was presented with a silver tankard. The presentation was made at the annual dinner-dance held for parents and friends. Some 30 off-duty servicemen who were on fire-fighting duty in Leicester were also present.

Cadets from Hinckley Detachment 'B' Company were active in organising a collection of a mile of 10p pieces for charity. The collection was made on a measured stretch of Castle Street, Hinckley, with the aim of raising £5,500 for youth projects in Hinckley.

For the first time cadets of Wigston Detachment 'B' Company were treated to a dinner in full regimental style with the table decorated with regimental silver on loan from the Royal Tigers Association. Over 40 cadets, together with officers, parents and friends were present. Following the dinner, a silver salver was presented to Major John Turner, OC 'B' Company, as a gift to mark his recent wedding.

In January Wellingborough Detachment 'D' Company held a parade to salute its top Cadet, Corporal Stuart Hunter, who was presented with the Philip Drake Memorial Trophy for being the outstanding member of the Detachment. The trophy is presented annually in memory of the Wellingborough soldier Philip Drake who was killed in Northern Ireland. Corporal Hunter has been a member of the Detachment for four years. Other prizes were presented to Cadet D. Felton for shooting, L/Cpl. E. Holod for military knowledge and L/Cpl. P. Curtis for keenness.

The officers held a special dinner in March to mark the retirement of our former County

Commandant, Col. A. P. Gilks. The dinner was held in the Officers' Mess of the Royal Pioneer Corps Training Centre, Simpson Barracks, Northampton, and during dinner Col. R. A. Gill, the County Commandant, presented Col. Gilks with a pair of limited edition crystal decanters.

Amongst others present were Col. R. A. St. G. Martin, The Lord Lieutenant, Col. S. J. T. Ennals and D. M. Smith (both former County Commandants), and Lt.-Col. J. R. Britten, our immediate past Cadet Executive Officer.

Major H. K. Beard, OC 'D' Company, and SMI D. A. Panther, with 11 cadets, visited 16/5 Royal Lancers in BAOR. The visit was both enjoyable and profitable to all concerned. On 23rd April Lt.-Col. J. Chandos-Pole, Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, officially opened the new joint premises of our Daventry Detachment ('A' Company) and Air Training Corps Headquarters at Oxford Street, Daventry. Col. Chandos-Pole was welcomed by the Chairman of the Daventry District Council and then inspected the combined ACF/ATC parade. There followed a Drumhead Service and a march past at which Col. Chandos-Pole took the salute.

To mark its first successes in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, Hindoostan Detachment ('C' Company) held a Parents' Evening at which Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme Bronze Badges and Record Books were presented to Cpls. James Johnson and Paul Linnett by Lt.-Col. M. J. B. Farnsworth, our PRO. Cadets Mark Brogan, Andrew Damsell, Steven Annett and Martyn Wright were formally enrolled as Cadets of the Detachment and Record of Service Books were presented to them by Major P. H. Kellett, the Company Commander. There were some 20 to 30 parents and friends present.

Cadets of Wellingborough Detachment 'D' Company were praised for their efforts in raising £180 for the Army Benevolent Fund from a flag day held in Wellingborough. Silver Jubilee Crowns were presented to the cadets who collected most, Cadet Simon Howe (£15.22), Cadet Seamus O'Keefe (£15.16), Cadet Paul Pratty (£14.32), and L/Cpl. Kevin Laurence (£14.16).

Wellingborough Detachment took part in "Youth on View", being a display by many of the town's youth organisations held in Wellingborough T & AVR Centre to show some of their activities to the public. Lt. Alan Sturman, Detachment Commander, a radio ham normally operating under the call sign G4HIQ, successfully obtained a special one-day licence from the Home Office under the call sign GB3 ACF under which the Detachment contacted other radio hams, particularly other Army Cadet Units in Canada. The grant of a Home Office licence is a rare privilege and Lt. Sturman has had special cards printed with the unique call sign which will be sent to any radio hams contacted. The cards will be much sought after by radio hams all over the world.

Hinckley Detachment 'B' Company collected £120 for the Army Benevolent Fund during the Freedom Parade of the Royal Anglian Regiment held in the Borough of Hinckley. They also gave a demonstration of "Platoon in the Attack" at the Hinckley Tattoo which followed the Freedom Parade. Their demonstration was highly praised by the Regular Army.

Sport

Our annual Rifle Meeting took place at Kibworth Range, Leicestershire. 'D' Company won the team event with 549 points, followed by 'A' Company 416 points, 'B' Company 266 points and 'C' Company 90 points. The individual champion was L/Cpl. David Keith of Prince William School Detachment, Oundle ('D' Company), with 69 points, followed by Cpl. Kelvin Butler also of Prince William School, with 62 points. In the knock-out competition 'D' Company cleared the board taking the first three places. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Barbara Gill, wife of our County Commandant.

Of the cadets in the teams entered in the District Athletics Meeting, Cadets Jones, Sankey and Mee (all of Brentwood Road Detachment 'C' Company) were selected to represent Eastern Region in the National Athletics Competition where Cadet Jones was placed 4th in the high jump and Cadet Sankey 4th in the 200 metres.

We congratulate the following on their performance in the Regional Swimming Championships and on their being selected for the National Championships:

Sgt. Howard (Ulverscroft Road Detachment 'B' Company)—winner senior backstroke.

Cadet O'Brien (Ulverscroft Road Detach-

ment 'B' Company)—runner-up senior free-style.

Cpl. Pike (Prince William School 'D' Company)—winner senior breaststroke.

Cadet Hunter (Wellingborough Detachment 'D' Company)—runner-up senior freestyle.

Our congratulations to the team on winning the senior medley relay at the Regional Swimming Championships and to Capt. F. W. (Bill) Aldwinckle, our sports officer, on his appointment as Regional Team Manager at the National Swimming Championships.

Teams competed in the London and Middlesex Cadet Rifle Meeting and the Cadet Forces Rifle Meeting, both held at Bisley.

Annual Camp

Annual Camp was at Nesscliff Camp, Shrewsbury, and was attended by 32 officers, 45 SMIs/SIs and 360 cadets, who travelled from detachment locations by coach. Whilst the weather during camp could have been kinder, rain only interfered with one night exercise by 'B' Company. The CTT ran a course for three and four Star Cadets, both of which were successful and enjoyable.

Training for the remainder of the cadets was organised on a Company basis and included a number of night exercises, some of which involved two nights out. From all reports these exercises were much enjoyed by the cadets, quite apart from the fact that they entailed excellent training. During the evening various activities were laid on for the cadets such as air rifle shooting, cinema shows, etc. The WRVS organised and ran the Cadets' canteen and games room and once again our thanks are due to Mrs. M. Edmonds, Mrs. J. McLaren, Mrs. N. Blunt and Mrs. L. Shepperd for all their hard work. Our Medical Officer was again blessed with the assistance of Mrs. A. Collier and Mrs. Speachley, both of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and we thank them for all the help they giving during camp. Both our annual swimming gala and athletics meeting were held during camp.

The Commandant's annual inspection and presentation of prizes and march past took place on the Saturday morning, after which a Drumhead Service was held under the auspices of our Senior Padre, Canon F. Pearce, CF, assisted by the Rev. F. B. Corke, CF, of 'A' Company.

We were delighted to have with us on Tuesday and Wednesday representatives from the Leicester Mercury, the Kettering Evening Tele-



**Annual Camp, left to right:
The pilot, Sgt. Paul Habon,
Cdt./Sgt. Gerald O'Brien,
Cdt./Sgt. Kenneth Longwith,
RSM J. H. Blunt.**

*Courtesy Northampton
Chronicle & Echo*

graph and the Northampton Chronicle & Echo, and having read the published accounts of their visit they obviously found that the cadets were doing extremely worthwhile training as well as enjoying themselves.

Amongst our visitors were General Sir Anthony Reid, Chairman Army Cadet Force Association, Col. D. W. Fladgate, Commandant Designate Cadet Training Centre Frimley Park, Brigadier D. M. Stileman, Brigadier (Nottingham) Eastern District, Lt.-Col. J. Napier, Royal Pioneer Corps Training Centre, Northampton, the Lord Mayor of Leicester and the Mayor and Mayoress of Kettering.

A trip by helicopter was "the best birthday present I've ever had" said Cadet/Cpl. Kenneth Langwith ('A' Company, Northampton) when he and Cadet/Sgt. Gerald O'Brien ('A' Company) were chosen for a trip to Liverpool in Brigadier Stileman's Gazelle helicopter. Cadet/Cpl. Langwith was celebrating his 17th birthday on the day of the trip.

On Thursday the Sergeants' Mess held their dinner night with the Commandant, Col. R. A. Gill, and Senior Padre, Canon F. Pearce as their guests.

On the Friday Col. R. A. St. G. Martin, President of East Midlands T & AVR Associa-

Annual Camp.



Courtesy Leicester Mercury

tion, Col. G. L. Aspell, Chairman of Leicestershire County Committee, and Lt.-Col. H. W. V. Charlton, Commanding Officer 222 Field Ambulance RAMC(V) dined with the officers.

NORTH-EAST LONDON ACF

Annual report of A.C.F. detachments habitually begin by saying how busy and successful a year they have had. 31 and 32 Companies N.E. London A.C.F., the only two Royal Anglian units in N.E. London, have been only moderately busy, and in terms of successes have only the pride of a job well done for the greater part, but this period of apparent slackness has allowed a valuable period of consolidation and "back-to-basics" training after a hectic 1977.

Amidst the snows of February and the aftermath of the firemen's strike, we attended two camps in rapid succession. The first was a Royal Anglian weekend at Thetford organised by the Regimental Recruiting Team, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all cadets who attended it but at which none of the contributors to this article was present due to illness. This was followed by a first-principles skill-at-arms weekend at Vange (Basildon) at which the modest achievement was a thorough course in weapon handling and safety—an essential preparation for our slightly longer Easter camp.

With our anticipated Easter camp cancelled at three weeks' notice, 32 Company went into overdrive, and thanks to the tremendous assistance from Major Ayling and his staff we were able to have a completely normal camp at Crowborough. The weekend's administrative problems would fill a further volume, and were not assisted when the scheduled 4-tonner on loan from a well-known regiment (!) failed to materialise at all and we hired a very expensive coach at six hours' notice. The training again included very basic tactical movement by day and night, and practical weapon handling, whilst the more senior cadets did a two-day adventurous training exercise, and learnt the perils of insufficiently guarding an over-night position when a couple of officers visited them in the small hours with a few well-intentioned pyrotechnics. A more ambitious programme would have been possible but no more enjoyable and far less worthwhile. We were again indebted to Sgt. Stenner for his almost solo efforts in the cookhouse which sustained us more than adequately for the four days. (I, in all honesty, cannot recommend the mince-meat

in red wine sauce, possibly due to the choice of Chateau Sainsbury's by Sgt. Jaques, who joined 32 Company in February having been a cadet with 31 Company for some years).

Crowborough was the springboard for 32 Company's ambitious parade a few weeks later when our Deputy Commandant, Lt.-Col. Deeks (accompanied as a bonus by our new CO, Major Sugg) inspected the unit. The occasion was thoroughly impressive, and a successful means to the end of improving the unit's drill. Cadets performing a march-past in line and advancing in review order with immaculate dressing is no mean achievement.

Our cadets again visited Ypres, Belgium, for a series of formal parades at the Menin Gate memorial to the Great War. We renewed many of the old and firm friendships which now exist between their townfolk and ourselves, and many of the citizens still think of our boys as junior soldiers.

A fairly informal camp at Dibgate (Folkestone) preceded our Annual Camp at Burniston Barracks, Scarborough. This is an ideal setting for the social side of camp, but for serious training we had a 30 mile drive to the open ranges and a 70 mile drive (in August holiday traffic) to the training areas at Catterick. Once at Catterick the only problems were the rough ground, hills, cold and rain. Those cadets who had the misfortune to end up with Lt. Pearson on the second day of their 48-hour exercise moved a total of over 25 miles tactically on foot with full kit during the exercise—perhaps not much for trained soldiers, but our cadets are not trained soldiers (nor is Lt. Pearson!). Once at the ranges we were rewarded with a fine range day, and the assistance from 6 Cadet Training Team with their SLRs only enhanced this.

Autumn was quite slack, as is normal, except that we were able to start small-bore shooting on a regular basis for the first time in some years. Annual Inspection (for which both detachments received "Above Standard" reports from Capt. Greenfield, Depot Adjutant, Scots Guards), and Remembrance Day parades provided a little ceremonial interlude before Christmas Camp at St. Martins Plain, Folkestone. This camp incorporated our traditional cadets' Christmas dinner, where they are waited on by the officers and sergeants, as well as (as usual) the basic training during the daytime.

It was at this camp that it dawned on 31 Company just how much of a shake-up it had suffered in a relatively few weeks. The OC, Lt. Robinson, became our Staff Officer, handing

over to Lt. Baker. Mr. Hetzel (formerly 3rd Battalion, Royal Anglian) became an A.A.I. on our County's permanent staff, and amongst the senior cadets CSM Sanders became an adult instructor and was promptly moved to another detachment, whilst C/Sgt. Grier left for higher things—six months at R.M.A. Sandhurst followed by a commission in the R.C.T.

So a quiet year, almost deliberately and certainly deliberately. As well as all the staff mentioned above it is only fair to now name those who have not found their way into this report through no fault of their own: CSM Hayman, CSM Clarke and Sgt. Cook—they, like the others, have all played their full part in the year's training. Now all we have to do is build together on the foundations laid down during the past twelve months—I'm sure we can do it.

SUFFOLK ARMY CADET FORCE

**Report by Major H. J. W. Tebboth,
County Public Relations Officer**

The strength of the County Force as at 30th September, 1978, was: Officers 44, Adult Instructors 62, Cadets 630, total 736.

This is a very useful and satisfying increase over the previous year and can be attributed to the introduction of the new training scheme—based upon the Cadet Army Proficiency Certificate which is now established, also to the dedication of the Officers and Adult Instructors who are required to give more time and be more professional themselves, and finally to the cadets who must attend numerous training and testing weekends to secure the desired results. The syllabus is more interesting for the cadets and the Certificate can be obtained by progressive stages.

Without doubt many readers of The Castle will have joined the Regiment after service with the Army Cadet Force and will we hope have pleasant memories of the annual camp attended which may have led them to choose a career with the Regular Army.

To bring our readers up to date this year's annual camp was at Proteus Camp, Ollerton, Nottinghamshire. Although a fortnight later than usual and contrary to expectations, the attendance was greater. The training under company arrangements followed the normal pattern established over previous years. With excellent training areas, good food and reasonable weather (the rain did not unduly interfere

with our programme), a most enjoyable camp was held.

Four senior cadets spent the first week in the Lake District undertaking 50 mile plus expedition over four days to qualify for the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award. The area suffered much heavy rain at that period and some diversions had to be made due to flooding. In spite of these conditions the course was completed. Reports have been written up and the independent assessors report and assessment is eagerly awaited.

Principal visitors this year included Brigadier M. N. S. McCord, OBE, MC, Deputy Commander Eastern District, Sir Joshua Rowley, Bt, Lord Lieutenant for Suffolk, and Mr Alan Seabrooke, Mayor of Ipswich.

Annual Camp 1979 will be at Stanford PTA—Thetford area, almost on our home ground, and for this reason some special planning will be desirable for this particular location.

Suffolk cadets are out and about almost every weekend—training, shooting, visiting Regular units, sporting competitions, fund raising (market stalls, jumble sales), sponsored events, Signals assistance, at Point to Point meetings, gymkhanas and fetes, whilst the ACF bands and trumpeters, the REME Jeep Display team (stripping and assembling Jeep vehicle) are in regular demand. All these activities are time consuming for both cadets and adults but are cheerfully undertaken.

The Royal Anglian Information Team has been well received and the efforts of Sgt. Todd and his assistant are greatly appreciated. Cadets from 'B' Company (Leiston-Lowestoft) area made their visit to Holland over the Easter period. Camping at Overloon (Nord Brabant), by kind permission of the St. Theobaldus Scout Troop. Self financed and travelling in three minibuses, the programme included visits to Overloon War Museum and War cemetery, the famous bridges at Arnheim and Nymegan, the Airborne Museum at Doorwerth Castle and finally the Rhine and Reichswald Forest. An experience cadets will long remember and RSM Arthur Smith (Leiston) is to be congratulated for organising this excellent trip.

The month of October is generally very active with shooting competitions and orienteering championships being the main features. This year has been no exception but more gratifying for we obtained good results in the Eastern District Cadet Skill at Arms meeting held at Middlewick Ranges, Colchester, with 15 year old cadet T. R. Rickwood (Ixworth

Detachment) becoming champion cadet shot of the whole meeting, whilst 1st team prize for non-Bisley cadets was won by our 'A' team which comprised the Parson brothers from Mildenhall, T. R. Rickwood (Ixworth) and J. Howard (Lowestoft). We are pleased with this success which amply reflects the value of the instruction and coaching courses arranged by Capt. H. F. Woolrich, Capt. R. E. Sharpe and RSM Frank Collins.

In the Suffolk Youth Orienteering Championships 1978 we recorded three runners-up positions—a step in the right direction which with a few more entries next year could bring home some of the main trophies.

ESSEX ARMY CADET FORCE

The Essex Show, 16th/17th June, 1978

The Essex Show was held at Chelmsford on the 15th and 16th June, with the opening day being marked by an official visit of Her Majesty the Queen.

The Show organisers had asked the Essex ACF to provide working parties for both the Grand Ring and the Show Jumping Ring, and also requested that our Lord Lieutenant's Cadet, S/Sgt. K. Moore (Chelmsford Platoon), accompanied by his opposite numbers from the Sea Cadets and Air Training Corps, should be present and remain in personal attendance upon the Queen and many other special visiting guests.

Overall, no less than 50 Cadets from B Company (Chelmsford) and D Company (Colchester), under the command of Major John Clarke, took up tented residence at the Show Ground on the Thursday evening and prepared themselves for the programme ahead.

Special red T-shirts, emblazoned with the Army Cadet Force insignia, were worn by the teams, and work started at 0900 hrs, continuing through until 1900 hrs with only brief refreshment breaks.

The Show Jumping Ring proved the more arduous, as Cadets were in constant attendance to re-build jumps throughout the programme.

The Grand Ring demanded only four major changes each day, but was more strenuous as the equipment was heavier. Apart from Championship Jumping events, there were cattle shows and, of course, the ring had to be cleared completely for the daily display by the Royal Horse Artillery.

Happily, there was only one accident to our

party and that was suffered by Major John Clarke. Together with some Cadets he had cornered a loose animal and secured it with a halter, when the animal took fright, bringing John Clarke down and breaking his hand in two places. However, after a quick repair job John was soon back in the Ring.

Great appreciation was shown for the work of the Cadets and indeed they were surprised that, following an acknowledgement over the public address system, they received a standing ovation from the crowd.

They later received personal commendations from the Show President and the Senior Judges, who particularly asked that they should do the job again next year.

Presentation of Standards at Wickford

In a most generous appreciation of their work on behalf of the Royal British Legion, the Wickford Platoon, C Company, Essex ACF and 1474 (Wickford) Squadron ATC were presented with new Standards by the local branch of the Legion on Sunday, 9th July.

The Wickford Platoon, under the command of Lieut. Dennis Fitzgerald, paraded with 1474 Squadron ATC and a party of Sea Cadets from Basildon in the presence of the members of the Royal British Legion and were inspected by Commander Heseltine, County Chairman.

There followed a brief Drumhead Service, conducted by Padre Carter, and the Standards were duly dedicated and presented to bearers from Colour Parties provided by both the ACF and ATC.

In turn, the proceedings were followed by two short ceremonies, with Lieut. Fitzgerald presenting the Wickford Branch of the Legion with a large wall plaque bearing the insignia of the Army Cadet Force, and then the Chairman of Basildon District Council presented S/Sgt. K. Eagleton with his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

NORFOLK ARMY CADET FORCE

Annual Camp, 1978

Norfolk Army Cadet Force, under the command of the County Commandant, Colonel P. W. Raywood, TD, carried out their Annual Camp at Longmoor, near Borden, Hampshire, during the period 30th July to 6th August, 1978. Over 460 Officers, Adult Instructors and Cadets attended.

This was our first visit to Longmoor since it had been released by the Regular Army, and all ranks were duly impressed by having such a large area all to ourselves. It is an excellent training area for Cadets with all facilities handy to the camp.

At the beginning of the week the weather was very unkind and necessitated some re-arrangement of the programme. The Adult Cadre and the 4 Star Cadres were run by No. 1 Cadet Training Team under Captain Rob Jackson, Royal Anglian, and were very good value.

The magnificent Officers' Mess building enabled us to have a special guest night for our distinguished visitors, and we were very grateful to Gen. Sir Antony Read (Chairman of Army Cadet Force Association) and to Major General Jack Dye for sparing the time to come and visit us. We also had what must be a unique occasion when both Colonel Lloyd-Jones and Colonel Fladgate, the outgoing and incoming Commandants of Frimley Park Cadet Training Centre, sat at the same table. It is impossible to thank all our distinguished guests in this short note, so we trust they will accept a collective 'thank you' for attending this memorable occasion.

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SPORTS REPORT



The victorious Vikings.

1st Battalion—Army Major Unit Team Athletics Champions, 1978

On the 19th July, 1978, the 1st Battalion took part in the Army Major Unit Team Championships at Aldershot. The results were:

1st	1 R. Anglian	198½ points
2nd	1 IG	183 points
3rd	7 Sig. Regt.	159 points

In addition to winning the Major Unit Team Shield, the Battalion also won the Field Events Cup.

Keen athletes among the readers of this magazine will be aware of the implications of this victory, which must surely be recorded in the history of the Regiment. The team was not packed with talent from the three battalions of the Regiment, despite the ease with which some fine athletes could have been borrowed. It was a home-bred team with a representation from attached arms; and that is just how it should be.

It was not until April 1978, after Exercise Hardfall in Norway, that the Battalion squad first began to form. Whilst a remnant of fitness remained from cross-country skiing it was no substitute for winter training. Nevertheless, in fits and starts, punctuated by Freedom Marches

and other military commitments, training did progress.

During May and most of June there was afternoon training only. Concentrated daily training did not begin until late June. By the time the 19th July arrived, the team was beginning to shape up well, but had in no way reached its full potential. Having the Army hammer champion, Cpl. Ken Bodger, the Army and Commonwealth junior javelin champion, Pte. Charlie Clover, and one other Army runner, Sgt. Marty Haniver, was a great source of comfort. The question was, however, did we have enough depth of performance to support these gladiators? Results proved we did.

Poachers

Rugby

Rugby in the Battalion has gained popularity with more people interested than ever before and we now turn out two regular teams. The high point of the year was reaching the quarter-finals of the Army Cup last season and beating



Lt. Mike Beard and 8 Platoon, winners of the Inter-Platoon Cross Country.

the Royal Welsh Fusiliers en route! However, we were robbed by 1 Para by 7 points to 3 on a snowy Sobraon Day.

Football

The Poacher's had a most successful 1977/78 season, reaching the quarter-finals of the Army Cup, the semi-final of the Southern Command Cup and the 3rd round of the Infantry Cup. In the Medway League the Battalion were clear leaders when the Fireman's strike curtailed the season.

Athletics

Battalion athletics suffered this year with so much movement going on in the summer. Cpl Wally Taylor has however had another successful year, winning the Army 200 metres, 400 metres and 400 metres hurdles, at Aldershot. He has also been awarded the Cotterril Cup for best overall track athlete in the Army in 1978. At the UK National Closed Championships in Edinburgh he came fifth in the 400 metres.

Pompadours

Football

After eighteen months without defeat in Cyprus and a six-month break during our preparation and move to Ulster, the team has entered the arena again with a flourish of success. We entered the Northern Ireland six-a-side competition, demolishing all opposition. The team did not concede a goal until the final, which was won 2-1.

We have won the first round of the Army Cup and have won four out of five league matches. At present the team is faced with an injury crisis, with two players in plaster and five others off the road with other injuries.

Rugby

Rugby has started unusually well for us this year. The team selection days amassed a pool of fifty players, which is a great asset during heavy operational commitments. The team has played six matches and won the last four. We are entered in the Army Cup and play our first round match shortly.

Swimming

Our short sharp burst at swimming produced two successes. We entered the Army finals at Caterick in July with a team trained by Capt. Tim Otter and captained by Capt. Dick Gould. The team entered several events and won the 6 x 50m Freestyle and 4 x 50m Breaststroke—an excellent effort.

Athletics

The Pompadours athletic season has been almost a one-man event—but a very successful one. Pte. Martin James, 21 years old, has had an incredible season, winning the Army Junior Individual Championship at Aldershot in a time of 16.01 minutes, as well as the two events mentioned in the Battalion notes.

Hockey

The hockey season has started well. We are entered for the Army Cup, Infantry Cup and Northern Ireland League. We have a pool of thirty players and have won two of our first three games.

**A handful of heavies—
the rugby squad.**



Judo

Since having a black belt Judo APTC Instructor posted to the Battalion, this sport has taken off. The Battalion is investing in a judo mat, without which training is limited, due to the risk of breaking a bone on the mats used at present.

The team was entered in the Northern Ire-

land South East Region Open Judo Championship in June. About a dozen of our members entered and at the end of the day came away with three prizes. L/Cpl. 'Andy' Andrews won a gold, Lt. John Weigold a silver, and Cpl. Mart Pascovitch a bronze.

The team captain and trainer is S/Sgt. Harrison, APTC, who hopes to enter the team for the Army Championships next year.

**The terrible three—Lt.
Weigold, L/Cpl. Andrews,
Cpl. Pascovitch.**



Depot

The Depot has had a successful year, winning many of the Eastern District Competitions. We have won the Eastern District Minor Units Cross Country, Squash, Football, Orienteering, Swimming, Cricket, Athletics and Tennis. At Army level we have runners-up in the Minor Units Cross Country, reached the semi-final of the Major Units Squash (UK) Cup, we came fourth in the Swimming, and reached the semi-final in the Cricket. Pride of place must go to the Football team under Lieutenant Ian Hall, who won the Army Minor Units Cup and later also won the Cadastrian League, which is a highly contested local civilian club league.

The Regiment has been well represented in the various sports. Lt. Ian Hall, Sgt. Alan Dent and Cpl. Bill Murton played for the Football team. Major Nigel Lewis, Capt. Simon Hopkins (captain) and Sgt. Neil Richardson are members of the Squash team. The Cricketers have been captained by Major Guy Hipkin, with Sgt. David Harding a regular team member. Capt. Nigel Richardson looked after the Tennis, with Major Guy Hipkin as regular team member, and finally Lt. Mike Godkin and Sgt. Dennis Powley were members of the Swimming team.



Oh—well done, sir. Depot winners.

Golf—Argyll and Sutherland Bowl

The Regimental golf team, Lt.-Gen. Creasey, Brigadier Akehurst, Col. Noble (retd.) and Lt.-Col. Arthur (retd.) played splendidly to be defeated by only seven holes by a very strong team from The Greenjackets, who had three of their number under six handicap. The Greenjackets were the eventual winners at Royal Birkdale.

OBITUARY



BRIGADIER DENIS ROSSITER, MBE

The news of Brigadier Denis Rossiter's death came as a great shock to his many friends in the 16th Foot. He was taken ill at his home at Wilberfoss, near York, last Christmas, and, after undergoing a very serious operation in February from which he never regained consciousness, he died in hospital in Leeds on 9th March.

Born on 29th November, 1906, he was commissioned in 1926 and joined the 2nd Battalion at Dover. He quickly entered into all the sporting activities of the Regiment, particularly distinguishing himself on the rugger field and at golf. After serving for three years at home, he was seconded for service with the King's African Rifles in Tanganyika. In 1935 he was posted back to the Regiment and joined the 1st Battalion then serving in Palestine. It was during his service there that he was awarded the MBE. In 1937 he was posted back to England and was appointed Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion, at that time commanded by Lt.-Col. J. S. Davenport, MC.

On the outbreak of war, Denis went to France with the Battalion but early in 1940 returned to England to attend the Staff College Course. He was subsequently posted to Abyssinia where he took part in the East African campaign. After holding the appointment of G.S.O.II (Operations), he was appointed to command the 7th Battalion King's African Rifles, and it was while holding this appointment he was mentioned in Despatches. Subsequently in 1943 Denis was appointed a temporary Brigadier and was responsible for

setting up the Directorate of Welfare for British and East African Troops.

In 1946 he was specially employed at the War Office in the Department for Re-settlement. Two years later he commanded the Hertfordshire Regiment (TA) and later the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment who were in Greece, and subsequently at Bury St. Edmunds and later at Warminster.

In 1952 Denis was appointed A.A.G. (Colonel) G.H.Q. F.A.R.E.L.F., and after a severe illness he was appointed Officer i/c Records at York until he retired in 1957. Subsequently he took up a Retired Officer's (R.O.I.) appointment as Command Youth Liaison Officer for H.Q. Northern Command until 1969.

During his years of retirement Denis was tireless in working in an honorary capacity for The Officers' Association. He was particularly concerned that officers and other ranks, on their retirement from the Armed Services, should be given the chance of finding employment in the Civil Service. Among other interests he took an active part in local Government.

Very many tributes to his memory have been received by his widow, Vernal, whom he married in 1934, and her two daughters, Susan and Sarah. He will always be remembered for his high sense of duty, his tireless energy, his great kindness, his sportsmanship and for his particular form of dry sense of humour and for his fellowship.

G.L.S.

LT.-COL. D. R. DALGLISH, M.C.

It was a great honour and privilege to have been asked to write about 'Duggie' Dalglish after his sad and sudden death on 6th July, 1978.

He died peacefully in his sleep, having been with a friend until midnight, when it was reported that he was happy and well.

When one thinks of Duggie one's mind floods back over the years with memories of him. I first met him in 1937 playing rugby when he was, I think, captain of Sandhurst. He was at the time playing county rugby and it is the writer's opinion that he would have played for Scotland if the war had not intervened. He went to Palestine in 1938 with the 2nd Bn The Leicestershire Regiment, where I can see him chasing Arab gangs, for which he was awarded the Military Cross. I can see him making a hundred at Gezira in the company of Wally Hammond, Tuppy Owen Smith, Bob Crisp,



Sonny Malonely and other Test cricketers, and more than holding his own. In Tobruk I can see him coming back off patrol wounded in the leg, and I can see him walking into Burma with the Chindits. All this with the 2nd Battalion, as he was essentially a regimental officer. He was also a high-class athlete and a very good tactician, trusted by all.

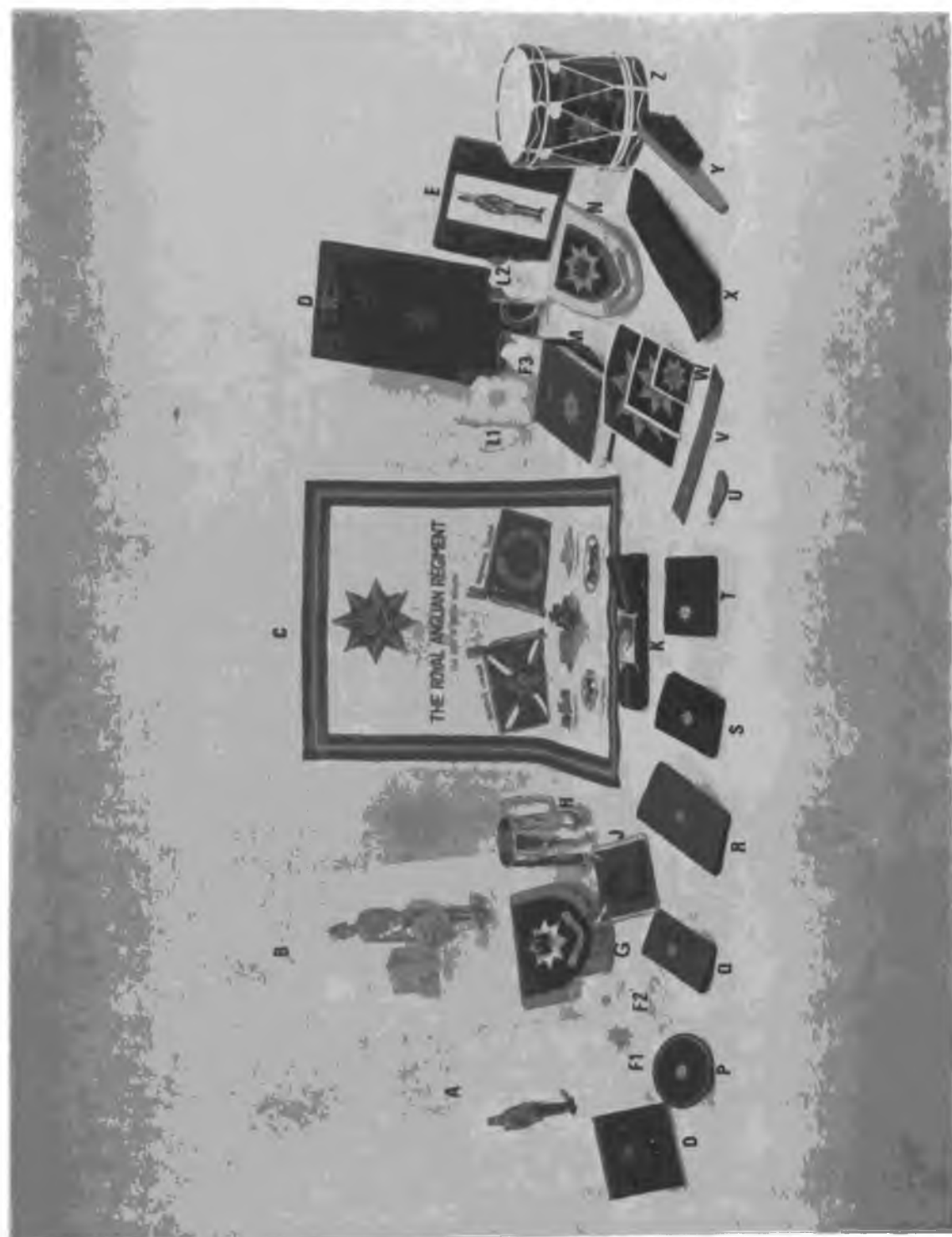
After Staff College, soon after the war, he was in Berlin for the airlift, then a tour in Canada at Camp Border, and a tour with the 1st Bn Royal Leicestershire Regiment in Cyprus, and then commanding the Northern Frontier Regiment, Muscat, where he was in his element.

Duggie was a marvellous mixer with all walks of life and, because of this, had an enormous circle of friends. When he finally retired from the Army in 1973 he went into local government and became a District Councillor, where he was exceedingly successful and popular. He was essentially an outdoor man, loved the countryside and was very knowledgeable on the flora and fauna of everywhere he went. He was an excellent shot.

I last saw him four days before he died, when he was in good form. He came from a large and devoted family, and to them and Robin we all extend, I know, our deepest sympathy in their great loss.

K.P.P.G.

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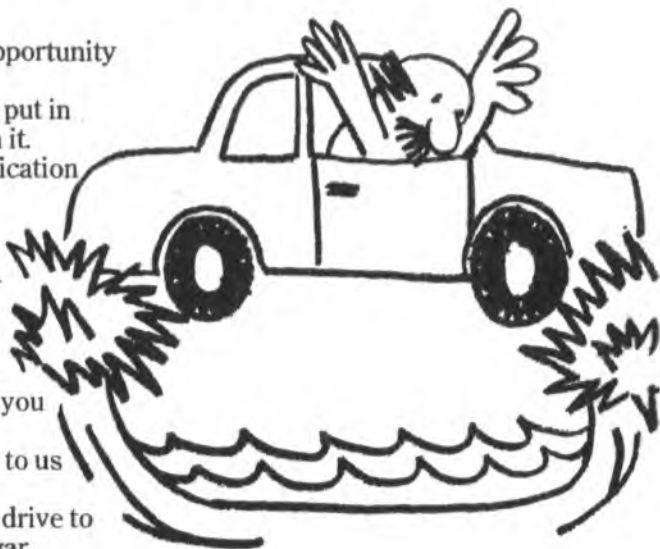
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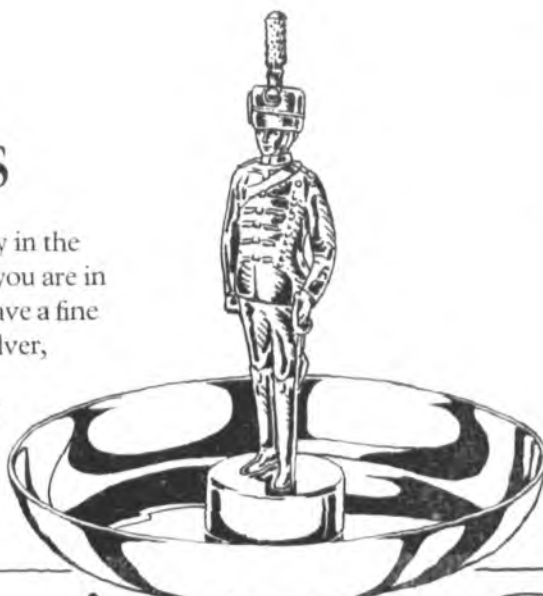


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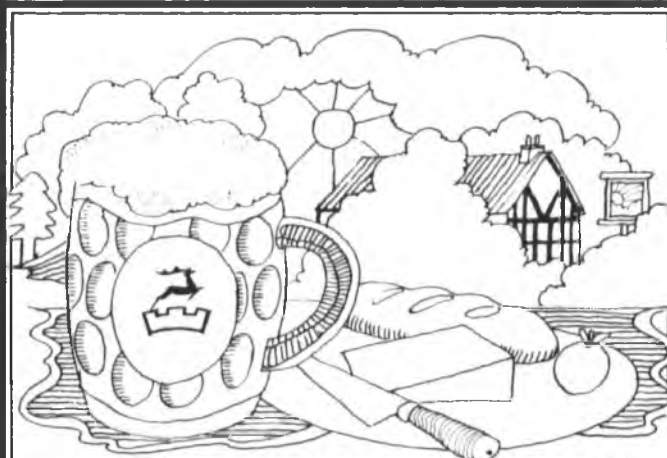
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