

AUGUST 1983



CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

Regiment's unique day

After inspecting the parade at Colchester on May 10, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother made the following address:

"It gives me especial pleasure to be with you at Colchester today at this unique gathering of six battalions of my Regiment which are at present stationed in East Anglia.

Since its formation in 1964, The Royal Anglian Regiment has gained a reputation of which it may be justly proud, and one which does credit to the county regiments which were its forbears.

As I walked along your ranks just now, I thought with pride of the varied roles which have been un-

dertaken by the Regiment in the last 20 years, with the three Regular battalions serving often in difficult and trying conditions, in stations far and wide throughout Europe, Africa and America.

I thought, too, of the fine record of the 5th, 6th and 7th Battalions which are so worthily upholding the fame of the Territorial Army in this its 75th anniversary year. It is heart warming to see them on parade today, alongside their Regular comrades.

I should like to welcome most warmly the mayors of some of our county towns who have been able to join us to witness this splendid parade. For the strength of the Regiment lies in its firm roots in our counties, and in the loyal traditions which it has inherited.

I am delighted, too, to see so many families, some of whom have travelled long distances to be here. You all, in your different ways, play a vital part in the life of the Regiment and your loyalty and support is always a source of strength and encouragement.

Finally, I offer my warmest congratulations to all who are on parade for your excellent turnout and bearing, and also to those behind the scenes who are working so hard to make this day a memorable and enjoyable occasion.

I wish each one of you, together with your families, success and happiness in your postings, wherever they may be.

May our Regiment go forward from strength to strength in the service of our country in the years ahead".

On parade for the Colonel-in-Chief

Four thousand members of the Royal Anglian Regiment gave a great welcome to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother when she visited the six battalions of the Regiment of which she is Colonel-in-Chief, at Colchester on Tuesday May 10.

It was a unique occasion, it being the first time that all six battalions had paraded before their Colonel-in-Chief at the same time.

The Queen Mother arrived on the square accompanied by the Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Timothy Creasey and was presented with a bouquet by Jayne Warby, daughter of LCpl and Mrs. Warby.

Rain did not deter the Colonel-in-Chief from carrying out an inspection of the six 60-strong guard, with the colours of their battalions, drawn up in front of the Massed Bands and Drums of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions and the Corps of Drums of the 5th Battalion, but fortunately the weather improved for the remainder of the day.

During the parade, the Colonel-in-Chief presented Mentioned in Despatches awards to Capt Robin Cope, WO2 Hugh Smith, Sgt Chns Houghton, Cpl Lee Delara and Cpl Mark Heaton for service in Northern Ireland with the Poachers.

As the parade marched off after an impressive display, the Commanding Officers and their wives, together with the Mayors of Colchester, Ely, Bury St.



Edmunds, Lincoln and Northampton were presented to the Queen Mother before they left for a reception in the Poachers' officers' mess, followed by lunch in the Pompadours' officers' mess. Meanwhile, the Warrant Officers and Sergeants, with their families had lunch in the Pompadours' sergeants' mess and the regimental catering staffs provided lunch for the

families. During the afternoon, the Massed Bands of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions and the Corps of Drums of the 5th Battalion gave an immaculate display on the square, at the end of which the Colonel-in-Chief asked to meet those who had taken part. She then mingled with the very large crowd of members of the Regiment

and their families who were enjoying the music of the 5th Battalion band and the imaginative stalls and sideshows set up by the battalions. Finally, the Colonel-in-Chief joined the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Regiment and their families in the Poachers' sergeants' mess for tea, during which WO1 Whitehead presented her with a

beautiful framed picture. A memorable day was brought to a close by the Queen Mother leaving the barracks along a route lined by members of the Regiment and their families. With all six battalions serving in East Anglia at the same time, the large numbers involved meant that attendance had to be limited to those actually serving with battalions.

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Diary Dates

- Oct 22: Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Past and Present Dinner, Bassingbourn.
- Nov 11: Officers Regimental Dinner, London.

Service is recognised

Since our last issue, 15 members of the Regiment have received honours and awards, seven of them in recognition of their services with The Poachers during their recent tour in Derry.

Congratulations go to: Birthday Honours, Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE; Bng M. E. Thorne CBE; Col R. C. Tomkins OBE; Maj A. Behagg MBE; Capt T. J. Perry MBE.

Northern Ireland Lists, Lt Col T. B. Thomas OBE; Maj T. Longland MBE; Maj P. P. Rawlins MBE; WO2 K. Taylor BEM; CSgt T. H. Wesley BEM; Capt R. G. A. Cope MID; Capt I. R. M. Hall MID; WO2 H. D. Smith MID.

Our congratulations go to: Lt Col John Hart, late CO of the Vikings, on his selection for promotion to Colonel in 1984 and to Lt David Napier of the Poachers and Cpl Steve Pallant of the Pompadours on achieving distinguished gradings on mortar and skill at arms courses respectively, also to Sgt Hugh Clapperton, ACC, of the Poachers on being runner up in the army chef of the year competition.

A warm welcome to 2Lts Duncan Venn, Edward Thorne, Andrew Fell and Simon Etherington who have been commissioned into the Regiment.

We wish Col Terence Holloway and Maj George Bradshaw well on their retirement.

Lt Col Monty Case, whose serious injury in a swimming accident in Australia was reported in our last issue, is now in Ely RAF hospital where he has been visited by many of his friends.

Maj Dick Shervington, following long service with the TA in Essex and Cambridgeshire, has been appointed chairman of Cambridgeshire TAVRA.

Congratulations to Capt Kerstin Tansley, Lt Peter Morling and Lt Adrian Miles of the Pompadours on their marriages and a welcome to their wives on joining the Regiment.

Maj John Hutchings writes from Dubai that he saw Col Bill Dodd and his wife Sheila in Cyprus as well as Colin

Baker who is now Chief Education Officer in Cyprus.

In Dubai he sees Robin Wright late of the Tigers and Richard Dinnin.

Lt Col Richard Abbott is in Nigeria as a DS at the Nigerian Staff College where he describes life as being different but interesting. Maj Dennis Anstee visited RHQ on June 1 and returns to Jeddah after his leave.

On May 18 the CGS and Lady Stanier called on The Keep with Lt Gen Sir Richard and Lady Goodwin. After visiting the Museum with Lt Col Alec Turnbull they joined the staff for sherry in the Mess.

It was nice to see Ex-CSM Swain, late of the Poachers, who called in for a chat while on his rounds in the area representing an industrial detergent manufacturer based in Bradford.



Maj Gen Sir David Thorne



Brig M. E. Thorne



The Queen Mother accepts a framed print from WO1 (RSM) D. Whitehead of the Poachers. The print was presented on behalf of the Poachers Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess during her visit to Colchester on May 10.

In what must be a unique double award, twins were recognised in the Birthday Honours List by the awards to Maj Gen Sir David Thorne and to Brig Mike Thorne. Maj Gen Sir David Thorne, who takes command of 1 Armd Div later this year, was made a KBE for his services in connection with the Falklands, while Brig Mike Thorne, who is Divisional Brigadier The Queen's Division, was made a CBE for his work in MOD. Another member of the family, 2Lt Edward Thorne, son of the Maj Gen, has recently been commissioned into the Regiment and is now serving with The Vikings.

We were very sorry to hear that Maj Rodney Greener had to return to England from Spain in May where he was admitted to the Churchill Hospital and died on June 6. Our sympathy goes to his wife Ann, who has returned to live in Javea.

Congratulations to Maj Michael Goldschmidt, Martin Romilly, John Sutherland and Trevor Velch on their selection for promotion to Lt Col in 1984 and to Capt David Baylis, Kevin Hodgson and Nigel Richardson on their selection for Division III of the Staff College in October '84.

Some movements within the 5th Bn: Maj Colin Albany has relinquished his post as Bn 2IC and has taken a full-time position as PSAO with 4 Coy in Hertford. His previous position has been filled by Maj Ian Arnold, previously O.C. 3 (Essex) Coy. Command of 3 Coy has been taken by Capt, now Maj Mick Brighton.

'Thank you' to massed bands

Mr Chettle, of Wivenhoe, has written to congratulate our Massed Bands:

"Last week, I had the great privilege and pleasure of watching the display by the massed bands and drums of the Royal Anglian Regiment at the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Show.

Perhaps you could find some way of passing on my congratulations to the people concerned.

Musically, the bands produced what can only be described as a most glorious sound, and the drill and countermarching was, as far as I could see, as near to immaculate as is humanly possible. This standard of performance is not easy to attain, particularly in the open air, and on a grass arena, as I know from experience.

I watched, enthralled, amidst a group of "mature" gentlemen such as myself, with some experience of the Service, - compliments were upon everyone's lips, and I felt that your men acquitted themselves most admirably, and made us all very proud of "our lads".

One small point - next time, could we have a little less Sousa and more Kenneth Alford?

Again my thanks and congratulations, Sir".

Placings at Bisley

Congratulations to all those who did so well at Bisley: including the Poachers for coming 13th and just pipping the Vikings at 15th, and the Pompadours at 32nd.

In The Army Hundred were ten members of the Regiment, with Maj Tony Domeison placed second, Pte Dickenson of the Vikings 8th and LCpl Scarboro of the Poachers 12th.

The Parachute Cup was won by the Vikings while the Divisional Team took fourth place in the Methuen.

'Vikings' for sale



This figure of a 'Viking' reproduced in cold cast bronze, is an exact replica of the silver piece commissioned by the officers of the 1st Battalion to commemorate their AMF(L) Tour. A number of 10" replicas have been made for sale by the battalion to members of the Regiment past and present at £40. Orders to: The PRI, 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment, Oakington Barracks, Cambridgeshire CB4 5EJ. (Cheques made payable to Central Bank 1 R ANGLIAN)

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News from the Vikings

Fun run in Belize benefits London hospital

Since the last issue of Castle, the pace of life in the battalion has, if anything, increased. Before our handover to 2 Para, the many projects which we had been promising ourselves we would complete before we left Belize all seemed to happen at once.

The first of these was the McAnally Fun Run. The instigator was Col Brendon McAnally, who having recovered from a mild heart attack, wanted to prove that he was as fit as ever.

He decided to do this by running from Salamanca, where he was based, to Rideau, a distance of about 20 miles. At the same time he hoped, through sponsorship, to raise money for St Thomas' Hospital, London, where he had been treated.

Of course, it was too much to hope that he would keep it to himself and the idea quickly caught on. The result was that 66 members of Battle Group South ran from Salamanca to Rideau on Sat March 19. The first man home was Capt John McManners of 9 Para Sqn RE, closely followed by Pte Marshall of B Coy.

A similar run was organised in Battle Group North for those who could not make the trip down to Salamanca. This course, of 21½ miles, ran from the gates of the British High Commission in Belmopan to Holdfast Camp. A combined sum of £604.03 was raised

through sponsorship and this was eventually handed over to St Thomas' Hospital on June 14.

Meanwhile, more adventurous training was taking place. A patrol from A Coy, based at Holdfast Camp, established what is believed to be the first foot route over the main divide of the Maya Mountains which form the backbone of Belize and the main divide is their highest level. The patrol, led by Sgt Mick Morton, had to contend with the most difficult terrain possible in a country renowned for hard going.

Dense, jungle covered, almost vertical slopes were common obstacles but the biggest problem was the shortage of water. Nevertheless, the patrol succeeded in crossing the main divide in both directions and leaving a route which we hope will be kept open in future. A Coy were also busy, abseiling

down Thousand Foot Falls. This huge waterfall is one of Belize's main natural attractions. It lies on the edge of the Mountain Pine Ridge and the river falls sheer for about 600ft then runs out over large jagged boulders for another 400 ft before settling down to a quieter life as the aptly named Roaring Creek.

A small party from A Coy at Holdfast camp had an interesting day abseiling from the top of the falls. The weather was much more like Snowdonia than Belize. Low cloud, driving rain and an approach march which for the last half mile consisted of wading down the river itself made progress quite difficult.

Nevertheless, the expedition was successful and we hope that the tourists walking from the observation platform did not have too much of a shock. Continued on Page 4



Cpl Brendan McAnally and other fun runners with a cheque for £604.03.



Sgt. Morton and his patrol after their successful crossing of the main divide.

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News from the Vikings



Above, L Cpl Osborne at the top of Thousand Foot Falls while below, 2 Lt Duncan Gregory has a puzzling moment on his way up.



The accommodation hangar at RAF Upper Heyford.

Life 'non-stop' for everyone

Continued from Page 3

The handover itself went very smoothly. Almost the last event before the whole battalion left Belize was the presentation of an Arctic Warrior Statuette to HMS Yarmouth. The battalion has previously had a formal affiliation with HMS Norfolk. However, since she is now (under another name) part of the Chilean navy, we hope to establish a formal affiliation with HMS Yarmouth and the exchange of courtesies in Belize on 7 April marks the beginning of that process.

After a short period of block leave, the battalion returned to duty at Oakington Barracks on

April 25. Since then, life has been non-stop for everyone. The battalion ran a variety of cadres and CCoy immediately went into full time preparation for the parade before our Colonel-in-Chief on May 10. Sp Coy once again had to regain its specialist skills and the A Tk Pl is particularly looking forward to getting Milan - goodbye Combat, at last.

The battalion received an unexpected call to RAF Upper Heyford in May. Thousands of CND supporters were expected to try to blockade the base and even invade it in an attempt to render it non-operational. The battalion was de-

ployed within the perimeter, along with RAF Police, a squadron of the RAF Regiment and MoD Police, to prevent any demonstrators who did gain access to the base from affecting any of the vital installations.

In the event, far fewer CND supporters materialised than had been expected and the battalion had a very quiet week. Living conditions were, of necessity, somewhat basic but our American hosts looked after us as well as they could and gave us an excellent send-off party.

The battalion has recently been concentrating on its

Home Defence role. Company and battalion exercises have been held and we now feel able to acquit ourselves well in what is a much more complicated business than first meets the eye.

Preparations are about to begin for our Freedom Marches through Lowestoft and King's Lynn. The first performances of our arena display team was at the Royal Norfolk Show and our KAPE team has already begun its round of appearances. All in all, the pace is fast and everyone in the battalion is fully committed. We look forward to a busy and exciting summer.

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Maj Michael Goldschmidt and Comd Terence Taylor RN exchanging Arctic Warrior and plaque on board HMS Yarmouth on April 7.



News from The Poachers

Honours reflect high standards

'Old' men lead the way to shooting success

The first six months of our tour have been crammed with activity, not least in the field of full bore shooting.

First "blood" of the year went to D (HW) Coy, when it was announced that they had won the SUIT section of the Northern Ireland Pipe Range Competition. Not wishing to rest on their laurels they then followed this early success with a win in the Inter Coy SMG team match at EDSAAM.

Somewhat humiliated by the "old" men of the battalion, A and B Coys then had some notable successes in the Tickle Trophy. B Coy won match 71, the Inter Coy SMG match, while A Coy came second in both match 88, the 20 metre SMG match, and second in match 72, the series A Inter Coy Rifle Match.

This effort proved fruitful at EDSAAM when all companies gained positions in the top ten and the battalion team finally beat 1 R Anglian competitively in order to qualify in first place for RASAM and LCpl Scarborn become Champion at Arms and Pte Tee the Champion Young Soldier.

All are to be congratulated on their hard work and successes. We also beat 1 Staffords who were third of the "white" battalions at Bisley in 1982.

The Poachers seem to be hitting the high spots on honours and awards and our warmest congratulations go to Maj's Tom Longland, Peregrine Rawlins and Alan Behagg on their MBEs, to CSMs Ken Taylor and Tom Wesley on their BEMs and to Capt's Robin Cope and Ian Hall and CSM Hugh Smith on their MIDs. This is a tremendous haul of medals and awards and one which reflects the high standards the battalion achieved in Northern Ireland.

Other personal successes in the last four months include passes at Staff level in the PQS2 exam for Capt Kevin Hodgson, Distinguished Passes for Lt David Napier (Mortar Pl Comds) and Sgt Kevin Tilley (Pl Sgts Brecon).

After a great deal of planning and anticipation the battalion are now well into their conversion training programme from IS to general war roles.

Quite apart from the usual progression of individual, specialist, platoon and company training, the last five months have been filled with one or two other little items thrown in for good measure.

In March we provided a company to line the route for the State visit of the President of Zambia, in April we carried out our GDP recce in BAOR, in May we organised the Queen Mother's visit (with a little help from our friends!) and in June we provided a company to be enemy to both 2 Brigade and the 3rd Battalion for their respective test exercises not to mention our affiliation with the frigate HMS Hermione - the last ship out of Chatham Dockyard.

There has also been a good measure of shooting with the battalion rifle meeting on March 24 and 25 which D

(Heavy Weapons) Coy won much to the embarrassment of the rifle companies.

In May we competed in the Eastern District Meeting where the Poachers came out top in a close fought battle with the 1st Battalion and 1 Staffords. With some good results from the non-Central Tickle Competition (2 firsts) we are keeping our fingers crossed for Capt David Greenfield and his team at Bisley.

During the period we welcomed a number of distinguished visitors to the battalion, some several times over, including Gen Sir Frank Kitson, Gen Sir Timothy Creasey, Maj Gen John Akehurst, Maj Gen Dick Gerrard-Wright, Maj Gen John MacMillan, Maj Gen Barry Lane, Maj Gen Tony Palmer, Brig Richard Peck and Brig Mike Thorne and this was not including the many others who came for the Queen Mother's visit.

The press and radio from our three counties visited us and lastly, but by no means least, some potential officers found out what life is like with the Poachers during their short stay in April.

Finally the highlight of the summer has, of course, been the visit of the Queen Mother. So much has been said about the visit any more would be superfluous but we all hope that she enjoyed coming as much as we enjoyed having her.

Since our return from Ireland it has been very nice to see so many old friends returning to the battalion both serving and retired. We hope that as many as possible will be able to find time to come and visit us on the occasion of the visit of the Deputy Colonel-in-Chief on October 4 when we shall be Trooping the Colour for the first time for 10 years.



March 22 was a special day in the lives of five Officers and more than 100 Poachers who were part of the route lining group in London for President Kaunda's visit. Reveille was at 0450, they went for a run at 0530, had breakfast at 0550 and moved up to London at 0630 hrs and returned to Hyderabad Barracks at 1630!

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D (HW) Coy - Champion company

News from The Poachers



Left: Sgt Downland with Sgt D. Coffey of the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment during his visit to the battalion on June 4-10. The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment of Canada was affiliated to the Northamptonshire Regiment and we were all delighted to see Sgt Coffey.



Right: Lt Col Leo Lynch presents a portrait of Capt Thomas Hewitt (1871) to the CO at a dinner during the visit of the 10th Foot from Boston, Mass. to the Poachers in June.



All in tatters during a sniper cadre at Wathgill

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News from The Pompadours

Pause for breath after hectic months

The Pompadours have been, to say the least, very busy in the last four months and it is only now that we have been able to draw breath and, as the Commanding Officer put it, "allow the admin tail to catch up with events."

Early March was spent preparing for our return to America, this time the north, and by March 9 we were established in the large US Army base of Fort Lewis, near Seattle in Washington State.

The training facilities varied from conventional rifle ranges to the bleak wilderness of the Yakima field firing centre to the snow covered slopes of the Huckleberry Creek Winter Warfare School.

With little time to overcome jet lag on our return from the USA in mid April we launched into ISAAC and COIN training in preparation for our spell of duty as the Spearhead Battalion. In early May we were also responsible for the administration and provision of range staff for the Eastern District Skill at Arms Meeting.

The battalion was heavily involved in the preparation for the visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, the Queen Mother who took lunch after the parade with the officers of the Regiment in the Pompadours Officers' Mess.

Our tour of duty during Spearhead was routine in that there was no requirement for the battalion to leave UK but during the period we were involved in several exercises, a Bde CPX, Exercise Fastball when the Brigade Commander tested our call-out arrangements and exercised us for three days on Stanford Training Area and two companies provided the enemy to 1 Bde on Salisbury Plain Training Area.

In May, our mechanised conversion courses started in preparation for our move to Minden in January next year. During the Spearhead period alone 277 members of the battalion attended 19 different conversion courses with many more yet to come.



A montage of the battalion's American activities.

On May 23 Gen Sir Frank Kitson visited the battalion. This coincided with the day that Maj Peter Williamson, now a project officer at MoD for the APCs of the future, together with representatives of the manufacturers GKN Sankey, brought MCV 80, the tracked vehicle and AT 105, the wheeled version, to Meeanee Barracks to give soldiers a chance to see the equipment of the late 1980s.

American exercise

The battalion was fortunate to be only the second battalion this year to exercise at Fort Lewis in Washington State on the Pacific coast of America.

The exercise which lasted six weeks took place in March and April, a time of the year when that part of America is often experiencing bitter cold and snowy conditions particularly at Yakima, the firing centre about 100 miles from Fort Lewis. Instead the battalion arrived at McCord Air Force Base in unseasonably mild, sometimes sunny but mainly wet weather which lasted throughout our stay.

The training programme began immediately after the arrival of the last flight with companies making use of the vast Fort Lewis training area and ranges which included such novelties as the Tyre House, a mock up German roofless house lined internally with motor vehicle tyres which safely absorbed both grenade fragments and low and high velocity rounds and gave platoons most realistic training in house clearing.

Each of the rifle companies were given the opportunity to fortify the wooden mock up German village known as Regensburg and to defend it against attack by companies of the 1/23rd Infantry Battalion. In all three cases the exercise was carried out with both attackers and defenders using MILES equipment (Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System). Companies also had the opportunity to abseil down the 60 ft high wooden tower before doing it "for real" from a Black Hawk helicopter at 100ft.

The Milan Platoon was able to compare its weapons with a US infantry platoon equipped with TOW anti-tank missiles

and the Reconnaissance Platoon spent several days with an infantry battalion which was carrying out trials of going into battle mounted on dune buggies.

The Band and Corps of Drums Beat Retreat impressively in front of a large crowd at the Cowan Football Stadium in Fort Lewis and this was followed by the entertainment of several hundred American guests by the officers at a cocktail party.

Before moving to Yakima, more than 100 miles away, the rifle platoons, mortar and Milan platoons took part in the inter platoon competition which consisted of leadership command tasks very similar to the command tasks set at RCB Westbury, an inspection by the RSM, a forced march of 20 kilometres with stands en route for NBC and first aid tests and finally shooting tests for small arms and anti tank weapons.

The competition was comprehensively won by the Milan Platoon. Trophies for the winners were presented by the GOC Eastern District, Maj Gen MacMillan who visited the exercise for a week.

Continued on Page 8



The CO takes his turn to abseil 60ft down the wooden tower beside Lewis Lake.

News from The Pompadours

Honourable draw at Yakima

Continued from Page 7

On March 21 the battalion flew to Yakima Firing Centre by US National Guard C130 and there encountered, on the other side of the mountain range, a bleak and desolate and very windy training area. The Yakima training package consisted of three separate live firing exercises involving the co-ordination of fighter ground attack, artillery mortars and GPMG (SF) fire, a company attack, defence and night ambush exercises.

Sun and wind-burned, the battalion returned again by air to Fort Lewis for a three day FTX

against the 2nd/75th Ranger Battalion with the battalion defending the little Remegen Bridge over the Nisqually river and a mock up communications centre against recon and attack by the shaven headed tobacco chewing Rangers. Although it rained solidly throughout the exercise it was full of incident. The 2IC and his umpire teams were able to declare the conflict an honourable draw.

On April 5 the battalion paraded on the enormous Watkins Field before American Servicemen and their families from I Corps and the units of

the 9th Inf Div. The salute was taken by General Herring.

The R and R phase lasted six days and most took the opportunity to have a good look at Seattle and all its tourist attractions and the Cascade Mountains, where some were able to ski. A few travelled further afield to California and Vancouver. The weather was kind and all returned to Fort Lewis with suntans.

The battalion flew back to the UK from McCord airbase from April 16-21 after a very busy and very interesting exercise.



B Coy wait their turn to emplane for the short flight by National Guard C130s aircraft from the Yakima Firing Centre to Fort Lewis.



Members of B Coy abseil 100ft from a Black Hawk helicopter with the 14,000 ft dormant volcano Mount Rainier 60 miles away in the background.



Capt John Weigold briefs a section in preparation for a session of grenade throwing and live firing in the Tyre House Range, one of the realistic facilities available to the battalion during the Exercise.

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News from The Pompadours



A C Coy section led by Cpl Keeble negotiate the wall and water obstacle during the Leadership Command Task phase of the inter-platoon competition.



2Lt James Walker leads 7 PI on the march phase of the inter-platoon competition. 7 PI put up the fastest time over a distance of 12 miles.



The Rev Brian Bennett conducts a field service for B Coy at Yakima.



The Adjutant, watched by Maj Underwood and the doctor, examines with considerable apprehension a US Army respirator demonstrated to him by an American officer at Yakima.



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News from The Pompadours



Sgt Rouse takes a break at 7,500 ft before the bad weather moves in.

Bad weather halts attempt on Mt. Rainier

Having successfully climbed Mount Victoria in Belize and Mount Popocatepetl in Mexico the experienced Pompadour climbing team decided to tackle the dormant volcano, Mt Rainier (14,000 ft) which dominates much of Washington State and which, even from Fort Lewis almost 60 miles away when its head is not obscured by clouds, displays near vertical cliffs and ice falls in awesome detail.

A team of nine Pompadours, well equipped through the efforts of CSgt Luckman, the admin man, and ably led by that veteran of many peaks in both hemispheres Lt Dick Clements, reached Camp 1 at the start of the battalion R and R period.

After the first night, in atrocious conditions the team made the long slog to Camp Muir at 10,000 ft, already feeling the effects of altitude. From there a team of three, Lt Dick Clements, Lt Phil Jones and Sgt Rouse pushed on up the increasingly steep slopes. The weather however, was not friendly and soon the party was being battered by gale

force winds and the wind chill factor was taking its toll on strength.

At about dawn the weather settled down as the party reached the endless ice slopes, crevasses and cliffs. A team of Americans following closely at this stage gave up and returned to Camp Muir.

It was while the team were tackling a seemingly impossible ice cliff that the weather closed in again and with Sgt Rouse suffering badly from the cold, Lt Clements wisely decided to return to Camp Muir also. This turned out to be a vital decision as the weather turned from being unpleasant to potentially lethal.

The wind rose to 60 - 70 mph causing a "white-out" and it was with relief that Camp Muir was sighted through the blizzard. The complete party then moved as quickly as possible through dreadful conditions until clearing the blizzard at 6,500 ft.

Though unsuccessful in reaching the summit, the Pompadour mountaineering team gained much valuable experience in some of the worst weather conditions it is possible to experience on a mountain. The only casualty, Sgt Rouse, is still regrettably in QEMH, Froelich recovering from frostbite of the toes of both feet.



Lt Richard Clements leads Sgts Lindsey and Smith up the mountain. The smaller Cascade Range is in the background.



Lt Richard Clements, near the top of Cathedral Rocks, shortly before he called a halt to the expedition because of the appalling weather conditions.



Gen Sir Frank Kitson C in C UKLF and the GOC Eastern District Maj Gen MacMillan discuss the pros and cons of MC V 80 with Maj Peter Williamson the Commanding Officer, Maj Peter Dixon and a representative of GKN Sankey Ltd, the manufacturers.



Cpl White and his section having a close look at the new APC AT 105.



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'A unique occasion'



Down came the rain – but it failed to dampen anyone's spirits.



Capt Robin Cope and Sgt Chris Houghton receive their Northern Ireland Awards from the Queen Mother.



WO2 Hugh Smith and Cpls Lee Delara and Mark Heaton receiving their Northern Ireland Awards.



The Queen Mother stops to talk to a 5th Battalion drummer in the crowd.



It was a big moment for Private Dennis Jones of the Vikings when The Queen Mother stopped for a chat.



VO2 Bob Gratze and his wife, Jean, meet the Queen Mother. WO2 Gratze was CSM of 3 Coy, 5th Battalion until the end of May.



● Above, the Colonel-in-Chief, Colonel of the Regiment, Deputy Colonels, Commanding Officers, Adjutants, RSM's and the Colour of her six Battalions.



C/Sgt Dick King, of 4 Coy 5th Battalion and his wife, chat to the Colonel-in-Chief.

● Below, the 5th Battalion march past.



The Queen Mother made the day for the Tompkins family when she stopped for a chat. It was certainly a day to remember for Cpl Laughton Tompkins, his wife, Sally, and children Damien (4) and Daryl (3). Cpl Tompkins joined the 2nd Battalion in 1973 and has served in Munster and Berlin, W. Germany.



●Above, Parade Commander Lt Col Julian Browne and the 1st Battalion Colour Party.

●Right, Cpl Roy Chapman, of the Vikings, chats to the Colonel-in-Chief and the Colonel of the Regiment.



The Queen Mother spared a moment during her visit for Peter Edward Taylor Jr. and his mum. Dad is Pte Peter Edward Taylor, of the 1st Battalion, from Colne, in Lancashire.



The Colonel-in-Chief goes walkabout with Lt Col and Mrs Hugh Lambert.



Lt Col David James introduces families of the 6th Battalion. The wife of Cpl Chivers, a Regimental Signaller, meets the Queen Mother. On the right are Cpl and Mrs. Oleszczuk, from Mildenhall, both corporals in the Battalion.



WOI (Bandmaster) G.E. Joseph and the massed bands and drums.



The 3rd Battalion Colour Party gives the Royal Salute.



Gen Sir Timothy Creasey, Colonel of the Regiment, with the Colonel-in-Chief.



The Queen Mother inspects the Vikings.



The Pompadours march past.

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The Poachers' Colour Party.



News from the 5th Battalion

On parade for Royal occasions

Milan's live shoot

The battalion was naturally proud of its newly-formed Milan Platoon when it undertook its first live-firing weekend recently. From 12 missiles, the platoon scored eight good "mobility kills" – and three of the others were in flight failures. Only one miss!

The live shoot was the high point of a difficult BHET weekend, held on Salisbury Plain under the eagle eyes of Sgts Sean McAnally and Alan Batchelor. The platoon, which is formed from members of our 4 Coy, based in Hertford, had to contend with more than the normal BHET. They also had a BBC film crew and their OC, Maj Nick Kelsey, dogging their footsteps with film cameras.

The film crews produced some harassment and some amusement. The exercise included a river crossing, helicopter lift, litted match and NBC phase before the live shoot. At one stage, the BBC film crew insisted that one section went through the river a second time, "so that they could get a shot from the rear".

For the exercise, which was run as a competition, the platoon was divided into three sections under LCpl Hanafan, LCpl Darren and Pte Bolton.

The competition was won by Pte Bolton's section, which duly collected the McAnally Trophy, presented by Lt Col Paul Long.

The week after the Queen Mother visited Colchester, the battalion was again on parade for a Royal visit – this time for the Queen when she visited the Second Infantry Division to celebrate its return to the UK for the first time in 40 years.

The battalion, as part of 49 Bde, was proud to parade its colours, although having two such important events so close together made it difficult for TA soldiers in civilian jobs to get time off.

Each unit on parade produced a Colour Party and a guard of 24. Our guard was commanded by Capt Tim Warr, from 2 (Northamptonshire) Coy, which also provided a high proportion of the guard, supported by the other companies.

The Queen's Colour was carried by Lt John Burgess and the Regimental Colour by Lt Tony McArdle, both from 1 (Suffolk) Coy.

Parades may have been the thing for the TA recently, but other training has not been forgotten. One exercise with a difference was organised by Maj Terry Robinson, OC 1 (Suffolk) Coy, who decided that RAF Bentwaters would offer a change from our normal stamping grounds.

With close co-operation from the USAF security police, No 1 (Suffolk) Coy defended the airbase against infiltration and attack from No 3 (Essex) Coy, commanded by Capt (now Maj) Mick Brighton. The exercise, "Operation Jade 1"

practised many skills from company down to individual level but, equally importantly, involved co-operation between and experience of tactics of international allies and many valuable lessons were learned.

Despite taking place over the May Day bank holiday, the 36-hour exercise was well attended and our troops were rewarded with some traditional USAF hospitality – a barbecue with burgers and beer.

Our celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the TA were initiated on April 2 by No 4 (Hertfordshire) Coy with a luncheon for civic and military guests, followed by a Freedom Parade through Hertford. The Mayor of Hertford, Mr. Roger Martin, took the salute. A very

successful day ended with a cocktail party, Beating Retreat and all-ranks discotheque in the Castle.

No 1 (Suffolk) Coy exercised their freedom rights in Ipswich on April 10. This event was preceded by a church service at St Mary-le-Tower. In pouring rain the company then set off on their march through Ipswich, with the salute being taken by Mayor of Ipswich, Beryl James. This was followed by a luncheon party for civic and military guests and a Beating Retreat when luckily, the rain had stopped.

No 3 (Essex) Coy have, so far, been somewhat less formal. On April 2 they held a sponsored abseil when members descended the 70ft Coptfold Road car park in Brentwood or the 120ft British Telecom building in Colchester. Apparently they could not find anything high enough in Chelmsford! The company's then 2IC Mick Brighton went down the Colchester building in a Buzby outfit, but we think it stopped him talking for a while at least. Most members of the company made between four and six drops.



Going down – Pte Hills-Warley of No. 3 (Essex) Coy.

The battalion continued with 11C Coy exercising its freedom rights in Peterborough on July 9 and taking part in the pageant during the Royal Tournament. 3 Coy are to exercise their freedom rights in Chelmsford on August 19.

Despite all this, the battalion is maintaining its normal high commitment to training.

For the sixth time in seven years 4 Coy walked away with the TA match at EDSAAM. The team won the GPMG match with 229 points, coming first in unit championships in the process.

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On parade for the Queen at York.



5th Battalion Milan Section

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News from the 6th Battalion

Home defence highlight at camp

For the first time since its formation the 6th Battalion held its annual camp at the Cinque Ports Training Area, staying at Napier Barracks.

This gave the battalion an opportunity to use the excellent range facilities of both Lydd and Hythe range complexes.

The highlight for the battalion was the extensive use made of the urban close quarter battle range. This was adapted into a home defence setting and the majority of the companies were exercised through the range on at least two occasions.

A recruits' cadre was also run for 54 recruits.

Over the middle weekend, 150 members of the battalion visited the First World War battlefields around Viny Ridge, near Arras.

Over the weekend we welcomed 64 members of the Home Service Force who came to Folkestone for one of their compulsory training weekends. They also enjoyed the good facilities that the ranges had to offer.

The second week of camp started off in workmanlike style with the battalion taking part in the Tickle Fitness Competition - a 95 per cent pass being achieved. The remainder of the week was taken up with a battalion Home Defence Exercise in and around the dry training areas of the South Downs. Camp finished in traditional fashion with the march and shoot competition and visitors' day.

It was a very successful camp. More than 300 members of 6 Royal Anglian went to Folkestone, and good weather and fortune ensured enjoyment for everyone.



During the first week of camp we were pleased to welcome Districtal Brigadier, Brig M.E. Thorne, and Pebble. The Brigadier visited each company and he is seen here being welcomed by the CO Lt Col DIV James.

To celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the Territorial Army, the Battalion exercised their right of freedom for the first time by marching through Bury St Edmunds. Each Company provided a guard of 60 and, with the small WRAC detachment, marched from the TA Centre, through the town and into the Abbey Gardens, where the salute was taken by the Colonel of the Regiment and the Mayor, Mr. Harry Marsh. The Colour Party was provided by B (Bedfordshire) Coy and shows Lt Lopes, Sgt Willars, CSM Whatley, RSM Eke, 2Lt Stewardson and Sgt Scott. Bands of the Depot, Queen's Division and the 5th Battalion led the march in fine style.



Helping the men at annual camp were 18 of our WRAC girls. As well as doing the clerical jobs and some cooking, the girls helped out on Signals cadres. Shown in the picture are Officer Cadet Caulder, Pte Newman, and Cpl Raymond-Cox. All are from HQ (Suffolk) Coy based at Bury St. Edmunds.



During the Second World War the Drums of the Cambridgeshire Regiment were buried in Malaya prior to the surrender in Singapore. After the war they were discovered and returned to the Regiment. On the evening of May 21, under the expert direction of Capt Bob Godfrey, our PSAO at East Dereham, the burying of the drums was re-enacted as part of a military pageant. The son-et-lumiere was held in the Abbey Gardens, and despite the rain, guests for the 75th Anniversary were treated to a pageant that traced the history of the TA from its militia roots.



● Above: In May C (Essex) Coy played host at Braintree to Gen Edward E. Cavazos Commander of the United States Army. He was met by a guard of honour and saw drill night training. In the picture the General is seen talking to Pte Baines.



● Left: Hills are not a common feature of East Anglia, so for these B (Bedfordshire) Coy soldiers, camp was especially interesting. Cpl Elsey, Pte Mulligan, Pte Baines and Pte Smith have been with the battalion for three years.

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News from the 7th Battalion

Parades are order of the day

Fortunes ebb and flow at SAAM

Much keen competition was seen on April 23/24 when the 7th Battalion held its highly successful annual Skill-at-Arms meeting on the Colchester Range complex. Fortunes ebbed and flowed throughout, and "Stats" became the focal point of much jockeying and friendly rivalry.

B (Lincoln) Company ended the weekend as Champions with HQ Company (Leicester) moving well up the charts from previous years to finish a close second. Contributing considerably to Lincoln's success was 6 Pl who won the inter-platoon competition in which 10 Pl from Northampton, who won the section match, were placed second and the Sigs Pl a creditable third. Lt Jerry Hyde (LDY Company, Loughborough) was well on form, winning both the best SLR and best SMG shots. Other individual winners included Cpl Large and Pte Davidson from Lincoln (the GPMG Pairs) and Cpl Garner of Grimsby (the pistol).

Spring and early summer have been busy months for the part-time professionals in the 7th Battalion. Whilst two Royal parades and two major events for the TA's 75th anniversary have naturally tended to dominate life, much else has been happening.

In early March the battalion took over the training camp at Beckingham, near Newark as the base for both recruit and potential NCO cadres. Almost 70 recruits and 20 potential NCO's worked hard and produced some excellent results. Later that month the Mortars were out in force live firing at Otterburn and initiating the new Mortar Officer, Capt Geoff Christie, into their dark occult. During the last

weekend of the month a highly successful weekend's Skill-at-Arms training took place at Wathgill, North Yorkshire. Good standards were achieved on a variety of ranges.

A fond relationship was developed with 3 Yorks at a combined supper party. Maj Terence Drought, our RMO, earned his spurs through many hours of life-saving surgery, patching up the casualties of the after dinner "games".

Whilst much of April was taken up with the battalion Skill-at-Arms meeting and the 75th anniversary celebrations in Lincoln, other activities varied from mountaineering to marathon running and from small bore to road safety.

WO2 Mel Spauls and WO2 Dave Paine, both from Lincoln, celebrated creditable personal success in the London Marathon - times of 3 hrs 16 mins and 28 mins respectively - and raised more than £600 for arthritis and rheumatism research. Twelve members of the battalion completed the Lincoln half-marathon on April 10. Times varied from 1hr 28 to 2hrs 20. Representatives of B, D and HQ companies all supported a training college for the disabled. Pte Tim Race, a member of B (Lincoln) Coy took part in an expedition to Katmandu - climb-

ing Kalla Pattar (18,600 ft) and Island Peak (21,000 ft).

Capt Bob Wyllie's expedition, Arctic Fox II - renamed the Stonefield Iceland Expedition to fool the unsuspecting - is now in its final preparation before leaving for Iceland. They have managed to secure the loan of a £25,000 Stonefield six-wheel drive truck - fans of "The Martian Chronicles" take note. This year Iceland - next year the Moon?

During May, parades were very much the order of the day. The Colonel-in-Chief on the 10th, Her Majesty The Queen on the 16th and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Lincolnshire on the 21st. Household Division watch out, we're on our way! The Ensigns, 2Lts Charles Szabo and David Cox (both from A Coy) are understood to have made mortgage arrangements to lay down more champagne for next time.

Concurrent with the 75th anniversary parade, the Lincoln Coy sponsored the Tenth of Foot Officers' weekend with CSgt "Kermit" Freeman much on evidence both in front and behind the scenes. They also organised a families' day as part of the celebrations.

The battalion, conscious of the important role of the ACF and CCF, has pioneered a familiarisation visit to the Leicester TA Centre. More than 100 cadets, with their officers and adult instructors, were introduced to army and TA life.

In early June the battalion officers' mess was honoured by the presence of Maj Gen John Akehurst at their first summer ball. The Poachers dance band was much appreciated by all at the Chilwell Mess. The following Saturday, June 11 the Warrant Officers and Sergeants held their ball - again a hugely enjoyable event.

The weekend June 18/19 turned out to be busy. A major

battalion exercise was held at Stanford PTA and at the same time HQ Coy were much involved with the Royal Tigers weekend attended by Princess Alice. Both were a great success. The CO is busy explaining to the RPs all about car parking, having been firmly trapped in a car park when he should have been greeting the Princess!

At the end of June, Lt Col Hugh Lambert kindly took eight of the more senior battalion officers on five days holiday to Germany - hotel and all expenses paid. But he then suggested a little gentle work looking around the various sights - it was all well worth it. At the time of writing WO1 Nobby Dawe is finalising his

handover as RSM to WO1 Graham Taylor. Whilst everyone is very sad to see WO1 Dawe depart, the grief is tempered by the knowledge that he returns next month as Capt Dawe, PSAO to LDY Company. We wish him every success and happiness in his new role. We welcome WO1 Taylor and also wish him success and happiness as RSM.

No sooner will WO1 Taylor have settled in than he will have to start getting used to a new Adjutant, as Capt Tim Page starts to hand over to Capt Alastair Walpole. Capt Page goes off to Pompadours as Ops/Cricket Officer, whilst Capt Walpole comes from the Vikings. Good luck to them both.



Lt Jerry Hyde (OC Surveillance Platoon) with his trophies.



At the Colonel-in-Chief's visit on May 10, left to right, Lt Col H.W. Lambert, Colonel-in-Chief, Cpl Meadows, Miss Meadows, LCPi Parker, Mrs. Parker.



Signals Pl. Left to right, back row, LCpls Picket, Brown, Pte William, Capt Newmarch, Capt Williams, LCPi Bird, Pte Patrick, WO2 Gould. Front row, LCPi Wells, Cpl Ogden, Pte Heathcote, OCdt Howard, Pte Goddard, LCPi George.

Battalion takes part in Royal occasions

Less than a week after the Colonel-in-Chief's visit to Colchester, the 7th Battalion took part in a second Royal parade. Maj Alan Hemmings commanded the battalion's guard, drawn from A (Scunthorpe) and B (Lincoln) companies for

the inaugural celebrations of the 2nd Infantry Division before the Queen at Imphal Barracks, York. The occasion marked both the return of the division to the UK and York's celebration of the 75th anniversary of the TA.



BN Recruit cadre - Beckingham, March 5-19

News from the 7th Battalion

Old Soldiers attend 75th celebrations

In celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the birth of the Territorial Force, events are being held nationwide – run on a county basis. The 7th Battalion has played a substantial role in organising and hosting those for Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. Throughout the celebrations a wonderful feature has been the presence of a number of marvellous old soldiers who served in 1908 and shortly thereafter. Events in Lincolnshire and Leicestershire have taken place in recent weeks and Northamptonshire's day will have taken place by the time this article is published.

April 16 saw the battalion, to-

gether with representatives from other Leicestershire units, hosting almost 1,000 people for a memorable evening at its headquarters in Ulverscroft Road, Leicester. The battalion was privileged to welcome the Colonel of the Regiment, the Lord Lieutenant for Leicestershire, the Lieutenant for Rutland, the Lord Mayor of Leicester, the chairman of the county council and numerous other military and civic dignitaries. By kind permission of Lt Col Browne, the band of the 2nd battalion opened the festivities by Beating Retreat. Guests were later entertained at three separate parties and saw a large and fascinating display of

TA memorabilia 1908–1983 produced by Maj Edmund Marshall. Many members of the battalion had toiled long and hard in preparing for the evening – all orchestrated by the RSM – WO1 Nobby Dawe.

Lincolnshire's day came on May 21. Many guests and large numbers of the general public attended a service of celebration in Lincoln Cathedral following which A (Scunthorpe) and B (Lincoln) Companies led other Lincolnshire contingents in a march past. The salute was taken by the Lord Lieutenant for Lincolnshire who was accompanied by Maj Gen Dick Gerrard-Wright (in his dual capacity as both a man of Lincolnshire and Director Territorial Army and Cadets), the Mayor of Lincoln and the chairman of Lincolnshire County Council. Once again the 2nd Battalion kindly made their band available. Lincoln Castle provided an idyllic setting for a band concert whilst refreshments were served.



B (Lincoln) Coy, led by CSgt "Kermit" Freeman, at the Lincoln march past



Pte Surman (LDY Coy) shows how it was to Mr Percy Yates and Mr Charles Daines – both veteran TA R Leicesters – or perhaps they know more about it than Pte Surman?



Members of A (Scunthorpe) Coy with guests and friends at the Lincolnshire 75th anniversary. Left to right, back row, Ptes Wilkinson, Salmon, Wilkes, Wilson, Hamnet, Ducker, Fenwick, LCpl Jackson, Ptes Kennedy, Locking, LCpl Bailson, Sgt Cara. Veterans, left to right, Mr Aice, Capt Bray, Mr Preston, Mr Rooney, Mr Simpson, Lt Col Disney.

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Maxim gun emplacement as part of Memorabilia 1908 – 1983 display. Left to right, Ptes Reed, Hincks, Surman, Hamlett, Della-Porta

News from the branches

Regimental Dinners - Traditional Regimental Dinners began with the 4th Battalion Officers' Club dinner at the TA Mess, Norwich on April 22, followed by the 4th Battalion Old Comrades dinner on the following evening at the Lamb Inn, Norwich: both were well attended and organised by Maj Fred Ayers.

The 2nd Battalion Kohima Dinner Club held its 36th annual dinner on May 6 at the Officers Mess, Inns of Court and City Yeomanry, London. Col Henry Conder presided and some 14 members attended.

The London Branch of the Royal Norfolk Regiment Association held a most successful dinner dance at the Geoffrey Chaucer Inn, Westminster on Saturday May 14.

The Royal Norfolk Officers Club held their dinner, presided over by Brig Peter Barclay, on June 3 followed by a luncheon attended by officers and their wives on June 4 at the Norfolk Club. Despite the ravages of time, both functions were well patronised. At the luncheon, Mrs Fairbank, daughter of the late Maj Gen Eric Hayes, a former Colonel of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, presented the Regimental Museum with a handsome piece of silver in the form of the God of Longevity which had been presented to Maj Gen Hayes by the Mayor of Chungking during the former's service in China during the 1939-45 war.

Cricket - A 1st Battalion XI played Edward Evans-Lombe's team at the latter's delightful cricket ground in Marlingford Village, Norfolk on Sunday June 5. The 1st Battalion managed to achieve victory by four runs when the youngest Thorne present, Edward, only just failed to hit a six off the last ball of the last over.

At the end of the game, the Band of the 1st Battalion Beat Retreat to the delight of the



NORFOLK



Mr. P. S. Basey and Mr. H. Laurensen cleaning the Royal Norfolk Memorial at Kervenheim, Holland.

spectators who included a large contingent of the local Branch of the British Legion occupying a capacious beer tent on the edge of the cricket field. We are all grateful to Edward Evans Lombe and his wife for their hospitality.

Honoured - The 1st Battalion received the Freedom of the Borough of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk on behalf of The Royal Anglian Regiment on July 15, '83. The ceremony took place on the Tuesday Market Place.

Annual Reunion - The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Annual Reunion Dinner is to be held at the TA Centre, Aylsham Road, Norwich on September 24 at 6.45 pm. Any former member of the Regiment who wishes to attend the dinner should contact the Area Regimental Secretary at Britannia Bar-

racks, Norwich. (Price of dinner, £4.50 per head). The following day the annual Association Service is to be held in The Royal Norfolk Regiment Chapel at Norwich Cathedral, beginning at 10 am.

Congratulatory - All former members of the Royal Norfolk Regiment were delighted to read of the Knighthood recently bestowed on Maj Gen Sir David Thorne and the award of the CBE to his brother Brig Michael Thorne.

Pilgrimage - A party of Royal Norfolk veterans visited Holland recently and together with their Dutch friends, visited the 1st Battalion memorial in the civilian cemetery at Kervenheim where they set about cleaning the memorial as shown in the photograph with Messrs. P.S. Basey and H. Laurensen, formerly of the 1st Battalion, hard at work.



BEDFORDSHIRE & HERTFORDSHIRE

A well attended and successful event which took place at Sele School in Hertford on May 7. Guests were the Deputy Colonel Maj Gen J A Ward-Booth and his wife, Lt Col A Thompson and his wife and Maj 'Donald' Girdwood. The Chairman, Brig D R C Carter, reviewed the past year and was pleased to report on a year of Branch activity and increased membership. Mr S R Mansfield and members of the Hertford Branch Committee were responsible for the arrangements.

That's Life - Ex-Pioneer Sgt "Chippy" Challenger, a popular character in the 1st Battalion for many years, is in his early eighties and as he finds walking difficult, takes a bus trip out of Bedford nearly every day to get a change of scenery and what he terms "a breath of fresh air".

While awaiting a suitable bus on May 4 his roving eye alighted on a pretty "bus conductor" he had not seen before and he decided to "chat her up".

The young lady turned out to

be a member of the BBC's "That's Life" programme who must have thought that the picturesque character, with his shining pate and flowing white beard, was manna from Heaven. She immediately clasped the astounded "Chippy" to her and took him willy nilly into a boisterous dance, an experience which he says he thoroughly enjoyed, and which was also doubtless enjoyed by viewers who saw the programme on the following Sunday evening.

When asked if exercise had not caused pain to his gammy leg he said it certainly had and continued to do so for several days, but added that it was a small price to pay for a most enjoyable experience.

His numerous friends in The Regiment will be pleased to

hear that Mr Challenger has a very comfortable single person's flatlet in Bedford and is well looked after by home helps.

Regimental Memorial - Those using Kempston Road, Bedford, will not fail to notice that the Regimental Memorial has been cleaned and the stonework is now dazzling white.

The next stage of the renovation is to re-cut and infill the lettering.

This work has been made possible by a grant received from the trustee of the Royal Anglian Regimental Fund, to whom grateful thanks are expressed.

Remembrance - This year the ceremony will be based on the new TA Centre nearing completion in Kempston Barracks on Sunday Nov 20.

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News from the branches

Suffolk OCA - Nearly a quarter of a century after amalgamation, support for the Regiment and attendances at functions is increasing, perhaps illogically. Although the spirit and aims remain constant, one notices an almost imperceptible change in the place-names overheard when eavesdropping: China, India and Malta are competing with Greece, Cyprus and Malaya - welcome evidence that the future of our Association seems assured for many years to come.

The fourth Area Reunion, held



SUFFOLK

on May 21, at the Drill Hall, Leiston, was thought by many to have been the best yet. Although nominally under the auspices of the OCA Committee, the evening was organised and arranged by the indefatigable "Smudger" Smith, BEM, to whom we offer grateful thanks.

Another successful evening had earlier been enjoyed by almost a hundred members and guests of the Bury Branch on the occasion of their annual dinner at Blenheim Camp on May 7. Lt Gen Sir Richard Goodwin presided and his evocative speech, well suited to the occasion, brought memories flooding back.

Members of the Bury Branch were guests of their Fenland friends at the Cambridgeshire Regiment Memorial Service at Ely Cathedral on June 12. Always a most moving commemoration, the event was again enhanced by glorious weather appropriate for the after-service March Past, tea and the sometimes taken-for-granted excellence of the Band of the 1st Battalion in their Beating of the Retreat.

Minden Day - Members have been busy preparing for the Minden Reunion at Gibraltar Barracks on July 31. Ex Suffolks will need no encouragement of this kind as celebrations would have taken, but past and present Comrades of the Royal Anglian Regiment might not be so well-informed.

This was a day out for the whole family and a welcome awaited all Royal Anglians.

The Suffolk Military Band took part in the Drumhead Church Service. After lunch, marching displays by Majorettes and by the ACF Band were planned and, the sounding of Retreat.

Regimental Tent - A joint Royal Anglian-Suffolk Regiment tent was organised and manned by volunteers of the 6th Battalion at the Suffolk Showground, Bucklesham in June. On the first day of the Show Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, visited the tent where she was met by Col Peter Dean, Chairman of the OCA, and introduced to several Old Comrades. At the end of her visit, the Princess signed the visitors book.

"Monty" Case - "Monty" Case, whose serious swimming accident we reported in the last issue of the "Castle", arrived home in April and spent some weeks at Stoke Mandeville Hospital where he made some progress and learnt to use a typewriter with what he describes as his one finger "thumper". Monty is now a patient at RAF Ely (Ward 9) and he would be pleased to see visitors.

Anniversary Activity - March and April were very quiet, but May saw us preparing for the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Territorial Army. A service was held in Lincoln Cathedral followed by a March Past and lunch in the castle grounds. Well over a thousand people attended the parade, including a large number of ex-Poachers. Our oldest Terrier was Mr. King of Surfleet, who joined the Lincoln TA in 1909. He is now 94 and was made the guest of honour for the day.

Officers' Reunion - This took place over the same weekend. At a dinner on May 21, 38 past and present members of the Regiment sat down and among them Maj Gens Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, Dick Gerrard-Wright, John Akehurst and our TA Honorary Colonel, Maj Gen David Toler. Needless to say, Brig Oulton was also present.

The following day we held our Regimental cocktail party which gave our wives a chance to meet and talk. This was followed by a curry lunch attended by over 70 people.

U.S. Visitors - Nine members of our American branch spent a friendly and sporty afternoon visiting the depot, before visiting the 2nd



LINCOLNSHIRE



Mr. King (right) taking the salute during the march past on May 21.

Battalion in Colchester. Needless to say, they were in fine form.

On display - The 1th Battalion TA Colours are now on display in the TA Centre, Southbrton Barracks. The Colours

were presented at Windsor in 1909 and have worn extremely well. Some minor damage has been put right by the Royal School of Needlework and they have been framed to preserve them.



The Lincoln Depot about 1908

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plus R. Anglian Drummer - single	£ 0.40p
Large print of R. Anglian Drummer	£ 0.30p
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Crater to The Queen - History of The Regiment	
Hardback	£ 3.00p
Paperback	£ 1.80p
Diaries - Desk - complete	£ 2.90p
Desk - insert 1984	£ 3.15p
Desk - scribble pads refill	£ 0.20p
Planner - Cass	£ 6.40p
Planner - Laser (sold separately) 1984	£ 9.32p
Dinner Mats - Prints of Former Regts Soldiers Drummer, Cherry or blue border, set of 8	£24.80p
Flags - Regimental R. Anglian	£14.70p
Glasses - Sherry (set of 6)	£ 4.58p
Glasses - Wine (set of 6)	£ 5.08p
Glasses - Beer mugs 1 pint	£0.92p
Glasses - Beer mugs 1/2 pint	
Heavy Glass, Engraved Badge	£ 4.48p
Head squares (Ladies) with R. Anglian badge in corner	£ 2.20p
Hip Flask (leather cased) R. Anglian badge in gold	£ 6.25p
Holdall - canvas, waterproof lining, R. Anglian badge in corner	£ 5.75p
Ice Bucket Drums - R. Anglian	£10.00p
Key Fobs Leather, Red, Blue, Green, Black & Luxol	£ 0.40p
Pewter Tankards - 1 Pint	£ 6.82p
Pewter Figures (Combat Dress) with SMG or SLR	£12.90p
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Sports Bag (Navy) badged R. Anglian	£ 7.00p
Shields - standard	£ 5.95p
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4"	£ 0.25p
2"	£ 0.20p
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Ties - R. Anglian	£ 3.10p
Wallets - Brown calf leather	£ 4.75p

*All prices subject to manufacturers' increases.

NOTES:

- All prices include VAT.
- Postage extra for orders from overseas; rates on application to RHQ.
- Orders together with remittance to cover, to RHQ, The Royal Anglian Regiment, The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. IP33 3RN
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News from the branches

"Castle" is a record of regimental history in the making and of the continuation of a great tradition.

This report is of a part of that tradition, telling of an historic battle honour won in 1815 at Quatre Bras by the 44th Foot, the Essex Regiment, in the dramatic prelude to the Battle of Waterloo the following day...

Picton's Division marched at daylight on June 16 and at about half past two came within range of the enemy's artillery at some farmhouses and a hamlet known as Les Quatre Bras in front of Genappe, where the main road from Charleroi to Brussels is crossed by another from Nivelles to Namur. This served as the British communication with the Prussians on the left.

As the British regiments arrived on the scene they were immediately placed in position, where they repulsed repeated charges by the

French cavalry but only at considerable loss.

Meanwhile Pack's brigade succeeded, but only after a grim conflict, in repulsing the enemy on the left of the high road. The third of Pack's regiments - the 44th - was suddenly assailed by lancers from the rear while engaged at the front and having no time to form a square, performed the astonishing feat of receiving the cavalry in line and defeating it by a single, well-directed discharge from the rear rank which had faced about to do so.

Lt Col Hammerton, seeing that the lancers were advancing rapidly on his rear and realising that any attempt to form a square would involve imminent danger, instantly decided to receive them in line. This is thought to be the first instance of such a defence against French cavalry and their complete rout by a regiment of British infantry in line.

Hammerton's words of



ESSEX

The Fifth Division consisted of a brigade commanded by Maj Gen Sir James Kempt and included the 28th, 32nd, 79th and 95th Regiments, a brigade commanded by Maj Gen Sir Denis Pack, including the 1st (third battalion), 42nd, 44th (second battalion) and 92nd Regiments, plus a brigade of Hanoverians, all under the command of Lt Gen Sir Thomas Picton.

command were: "Rear rank, right about face ... make ready... (a short pause to allow for the nearer approach of the cavalry) ...present...fire!"

The effect of this volley was astonishing. Aware of their perilous position, the men doubtless took most deliberate aim at their opponents, who were thrown into great confusion. Some daring few made a dash at the centre of the battalion hoping, in their apparently exposed position, to capture the colours, but the attempt, though gallantly

made, was as gallantly defeated.

Never, perhaps, did British infantry display its characteristic coolness and steadiness more eminently than on this trying occasion. To have stood in a thin, two-deep line, awaiting and prepared to receive the onset of hostile cavalry, would have been looked upon at least as a most hazardous experiment.

With their rear so suddenly menaced and flanks unsupported, to have instantly faced only one rank about, to

have stood as if rooted to the ground and to have repulsed its assailants with so steady and well-directed a fire that numbers of them were destroyed was a feat of arms which the oldest or best-disciplined corps in the world might have in vain hoped to accomplish. Yet it was most successfully and completely achieved by the gallant second battalion of the 44th British Regiment, under its brave commander, Lt Col Hammerton.

In this attack there occurred one of those incidents which in daring, equal any of the feats of ancient chivalry.

A French lancer gallantly charged at the colours and severely wounded Ensign Christie, who was promoted from Sergeant-Major of the 44th on November 26 1812. His gallantry at Quatre Bras gained him his lieutenancy in the regiment on 26 October 1815.

He carried one of the colours by a thrust of his lance which, entering Christie's left eye, penetrated to the lower jaw. The Frenchman then endeavoured to seize the standard, but the brave Christie, notwithstanding the agony of his wound and with a presence of mind almost unequalled flung himself upon it - not to save himself, but to preserve the honour of his regiment.

The colours and part of the colour torn off by the French lancer are in the Regimental Chapel at Warley.

A diorama has recently been opened by the Vice Lieutenant of Essex Alan Arthur in the Chelmsford and Essex Regimental Museum in Oaklands Park, Moulsham Street. It was made by the Essex branch of the British Military Model Makers and is of an excellent standard. The branch's next project is to create a model of the band of the 2nd Battalion of the Essex Regiment, the Pompadours, as at 1921.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

The annual reunion was held on Saturday and Sunday June 25 and 26. The dinner was held in Gibraltar Barracks on the Saturday when the President, Maj Gen J B Akehurst welcomed 153 Comrades and their ladies. Messages wishing the Comrades an enjoyable reunion had been received from the Queen and Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief. After the toasts to "The Queen" and "Our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief" the President proposed the toast of "The Regiment" and updated those present on the activities of the six Royal Anglian Battalions, making particular men-

tion of our "successors" - the 2nd (Lincolnshire, Leicester shire and Northamptonshire Battalion who on July 27th, the 174th anniversary of the Battle of Talavera, are holding an Open Day at Colchester at which all Comrades will be welcome.

Some 80 Comrades formed up in Gibraltar Barracks on the Sunday and headed by the band and drums of the 5th Battalion marched to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre for their reunion Service. The Preacher was the Right Rev Michael Mann, Dean of Windsor and Chaplain to the Queen.

In an inspiring, apposite and informative address, the Dean,

who has made a study of Regimental history, preached to an attentive congregation who listened without the coughs and clearing of throats often associated with sermons. Many an old soldier present left the Church with a clearer concept of our history.

Corby - Now some 80 strong the Branch is pleased to report an increasing number of former Royal Anglians joining.

On May 22 the Branch was presented with a Standard which was formally presented and dedicated at a Drumhead service at the TA Centre, Corby. The presentation was made by Maj Gen J B Akehurst, our Deputy Colonel and a former Adjutant of the old 5th Northamptonshire Regiment (TA), who had a word for every member on parade.

The standard was dedicated by the Rev P C Cox, who before his retirement was an Assistant Deputy Chaplain General and who, taking a keen interest in the Branch, has been adopted as its unofficial Padre. On the standard, which has a royal blue ground fringed with gold, is emblazoned the colours and badges of the Northamptonshire and Royal Anglian Regiments, the badges being joined by a silver chain, symbolic of unity. There

are also heraldic scrolls bearing the words The Northamptonshire Regiment and the Royal Anglian Regiment Association. On the pike below the standard, is an easily detachable pennant bearing the words Corby Branch.

Peterborough - On April 22 the Branch held its regular meeting at the "Territorial" public house, Huntingdon. The setting was appropriate as this was formerly the site of the Huntingdon TA Headquarters and the brewery company have named two of the principal rooms "Talavera" and "Gibraltar" to commemorate the regiment.

But this was no ordinary meeting. It had been organised to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the Territorial forces and some 150 Comrades and their ladies were present.

Present also was a sprightly 92-year-old veteran - Alderman Clements of Peterborough who had joined the Cambridgeshire Territorial Force in Jan 1899, missing the actual founding date by a mere eight months.

Present too were members of the 5th Battalion, celebrating and exchanging reminiscences and banter with those Comrades of earlier years.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Support - The Cambridgeshire Regiment OCA Branches at Cambridge, Ely, March, Wisbech and Peterborough report good support for their local meetings and activities.

Reunion - The annual Parade, Reunion and Act of Remembrance was held at Ely Cathedral on Sunday June 12. After an impressive Service in the Cathedral, contingents of the Cambridgeshire Old Comrades, and The Suffolk Regiment OCA marched past

the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Sir Peter Proby, who took the salute, supported by Lt Col Victor Mapey and the Mayor of Ely. After tea at the Maltings, the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion Beat Retreat. It was a memorable and well supported event. Band's visit - The Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion visited Wisbech on July 29, marching through the town to the North Brink where they gave a concert followed by a Beating of Retreat.

GREENE KING
BREWERS OF FINE LOCAL ALES IN THE TRADITIONAL WAY SINCE AD 1799

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Cpl Minns receives the medal from Brig R. E. Jenkins, chairman, Army Boxing.



Pte Hagon (lightweight) lands a straight right!

Poachers team outboxes opposition

Having narrowly lost 5-4 to 3 RRF in the Northern Ireland stage semi-final of the novice championships the Poacher's boxing squad concentrated on the intermediate team championships.

We were lucky to get a bye into the UKLF semi-finals where we were to come up against 1 DWR, a well-known and successful boxing battalion. In preparation for this fight the 20-strong squad returned early from Londonderry and went into serious training under Sgt Dowland at Colchester.

The fight took place in Catterick during the battalion

block leave and with very little support the team won a fine victory by 6 bouts to 3. Pte Albans, Pte Clark, LCpl Woodcock and LCpl Andrews all stopped their opponents. Special mention should be made of LCpl Woodcock who lost nearly 20lbs in seven days and knocked his opponent out in the first round and Cpl Minns, for his very courageous performance in narrowly outpointing an ex-Army semi-finalist. This win put us through to the UK final, in Colchester on May 15. The contest was against 2 SG who had already beaten the Pompadours and was staged by us in the garrison gymnasium. It was a splendid evening and

with tremendous support from the entire battalion we again won by 6 bouts to 3 to become the UKLF Intermediate Team Boxing Champions 1982/83. The whole team boxed extremely well, many being outreached by their opponents. LCpl Cousins did particularly well against a very awkward opponent managing to beat him on points and LCpl Cooper took less than two minutes to stop his man. On April 15 we met the BAOR champions 2 RRF in the Army Final in Colchester. It was a nail-biting evening and the outcome was not resolved until the last round of the last bout. The result could not have been closer, but went to 2

RRF by a majority decision. Pte Albans again starved himself to make bantamweight and got the battalion off to an excellent start by winning the opening bout. Pte Scrimshaw, who had been improving all year, boxed an excellent bout to easily outpoint his opponent and the other winners were Pte Clark and LCpl Woodcock. It was a slightly disappointing end to a most successful season but we have high hopes of doing well again next year. There is plenty of potential and the members of the squad who put in so much time and effort but did not make the team will then have their chance.



Overall winners of the Poachers swimming championship, D (HW) Coy



In the EDIST competition, the Poachers were second in the 560 kilo and third in the 640 kilo contest (pictured).

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Sport on camera



Sgt. Haniver wins his heat of the 400m at the EDIST championships.

Vikings C Coy shines at athletics

The Vikings athletics meeting was held at St Ives on May 17. The competition was intense but the victors were once again C Coy. The competition among the officers for the most novel Barbour was won by 2Lt Thorne. The battalion ath-

letics team has done very well so far this season by winning the Eastern District Championships. We now await the results of the zone final, which will determine whether the battalion goes forward to the Army Championships.



Poachers sport, the 1,500 metres and they're off!

Pompadours active in sport

In sport the Pompadours have had an active time. At the start of the period we narrowly lost the Army Intermediate Boxing Final to 2 RRF 5 bouts to 4 with the last bout going on a majority decision.

We have had a successful run in the tug-o-war and have currently qualified for the Army finals in Aldershot.

We qualified in athletics for the zone finals but were eliminated by some very strong opposition. Many congratulations to Maj Alan Behagg and his team.

We reached the district squash finals and have competed gallantly, if unsuccessfully, at cricket and swimming.



Pte Rennison swimming in the freestyle relay in the EDIST championships when the 3rd Battalion was placed second but qualified for the area finals.

The Pompadour's Cricket XI qualified for the final of the Eastern District Cup by beating the Vikings in a very close match at Oakington by two wickets. In the final we shall meet 40 Fd Regt RA who in turn had beaten the Poachers in the semi-finals.

The Pompadour's tennis team under the captaincy of Capt Seymour Blyth won its semi-final match against the Vikings to qualify for the final. Much new talent has arrived in the last 18 months including 2Lt James Walker, 2Lt Roland Ladley and Lt Alistair Wild. The team is probably the strongest to have represented the battalion for many a year and with luck should make good progress.



The CO strikes a mean ball in the semi-finals of the EDIST competition but Poachers lost to 40 Fd Regt RA.



The Vikings athletic team at the EDIST championships.



Battalion officers at the athletics meeting — spot the unreal Barbour!

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CASTLE

SPORT...
SPORT...
SPORT...
SPORT...

Mixed fortunes for cricket team

The first half of the season has produced much enjoyable cricket. After the first three matches were rained off in May, six have been played resulting in two wins, two defeats and two draws. On June 1 at Colchester, Bancrofts were bowled out for 103 thanks mainly to a good spell of bowling by Pte Smith (2nd Bn) who took 4 for 24, and we scraped home to win by two wickets. A

high-scoring match was played against Edward Evans-Lombe's XI at Marlingford on June 5. After a disastrous start we settled down to score 185 thanks mainly to Gresham's schoolboy Patrick Lewis who made 79 and Capt Badger a punishing 39. A thrilling match ended with the home side (which contained Maj Gen Sir David Thorne, Brig Thorne and 2Lt Thorne - all renegades for the day) being bowled out for 177 of which 2Lt Thorne made a courageous 46.

We met a weak Christ's College Cambridge XI on June 8 and scored 198 for 5 (Maj Goldschmidt 71, Maj Hipkin 45 and Capt Badger 34 not out). Our bowling was unable to do better than reduce the undergraduates to 106 for 6.

At Colchester the next day we threw away the match against Felsted, who have now declared at 117 for 4. Army Regulations

stumpings) bowled us out for 87 of which Maj Brett was undefeated with 24.

At Haileybury on June 12 the Regiment over generously declared at 185 for 6 (Maj Hipkin 91 not out) and the school got the runs for the loss of just two wickets with 10 overs remaining.

At Holt on June 18, Gresham's School made 215 for 7 thanks to the aforementioned Patrick Lewis scoring 77 and his younger brother 52, who were just contained by Gen Thorne who took 3 for 68 in 20 overs and had five catches dropped. In reply, the Regiment reached 180 for 6 (Maj Slater 32, Lt Col James 38) before Lewis junior took a hat-trick and we struggled to draw.

On July 3, the Regiment beat Oundle by eight wickets. The scores were 181 for 7 declared and 181 for 2.

Continued from page 10 of Castle magazine, 1981.



Seventeen Poachers competed in the London Marathon and raised more than £500 for charities. They all completed the 26 miles 385 yards course and Sgt Cook (wearing dark strip and number 4000) clocked in at 3 hours 18 minutes.

Inter-battalion road race

At 11 am on September 26 a 65-mile road race between the three regular battalions will start from Meeanee Barracks, Colchester. It is expected to finish at Oakington Barracks at about 5 pm. Each battalion will field a team of 20 runners, all of whom will run one leg of some three miles. The Colonel of the Regiment is presenting a prize of beer to the winning team.

No joy for golfers at Deal

The Regiment entered two teams in the Argyll and Sutherland Bowl competition at the Army Officers' Golfing Society meeting at Deal on May 19. Sadly, our A team was beaten in the first round by the Royal Scots and our B team in the semi-final by the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. The annual meeting of the Re-

gimental Golfing Society was held at the Royal Worlington Golf Club on June 3. Both the weather and the course were perfect and we all had a very enjoyable day. The prizes went to: Isham Salver (scratch), WO2 Clive Mallett; Pompadour Cup (medal handicap), Capt Peter Lake; Suffolk Cup (stableford singles),

Lt Col Julian Browne and the Ponsobny Cup (stableford foursomes), Lt Col John Wilson and Maj Tony Cobbold. The Inter-Battalion Cup was won by the Pompadours.

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