



# "The Britannia and Castle"

**IOURNAL OF THE 1st EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT** (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk)

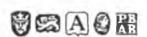


All Editorial Contributions to be forwarded to The Editor, The Britannia and Castle Journal, Britannia Barracks, Norwich,

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The Great War — 42 Battalions — Mons — Le Cateau — Retreat from Mons — Marne, 1914 — Aisne, 1914 — La Bassee, 1914 — Givenchy, 1914 — Ypres, 1914, '15, '17, '18 — Neuve Chapelle — Gravenstafel — St. Julien — Frezenberg — Bellewaarde — Aubers — Hooge, 1915 — Loos — Somme, 1916, '18 — Albert, 1916, '18 — Bazentin — Delville Wood — Pozieres — Guillemont — Flers Courcelette — Morval — Thiepval — Le Transloy — Ancre Heights — Ancre, 1916, '18 — Arras, 1917, '18 — Vimy, 1917 — Scarpe, 1917, '18 — Arleux — Oppy — Pilckem — Langemarck, 1917 — Menin Road — Polygon Wood — Broodseinde — Poelcappelle — Passchendaele — Cambrai, 1917, '18 — St. Quentin — Bapaume, 1918 — Lys — Estaires — Messines, 1918 — Hazebrouck — Bailleul — Kemmel — Bethune — Scherpenberg — Amiens — Hindenburg Line — Epehy — Canal du Nord — St. Quentin Canal — Beaurevoir — Courtrai — Selle — Valenciennes — Sambre — France and Flanders, 1914-18 — Italy, 1917-18 — Struma — Doiran, 1918 — Macedonia, 1915-18 — Suvla — Landing at Suvia — Scimitar Hill — Gallipoli, 1915 — Egypt, 1915-17 — Gaza — El Mughar — Nebi Samwil — Jerusalem — Jaffa — Tel'Asur — Megiddo — Sharon — Palestine, 1917-18 — Shaiba — Kut al Amara, 1915, '17 — Ctesiphon — Defence of Kut al Amara — Mesopotamia, 1914-18.

The Second World War — Defence of Escaut — St. Omer - La Bassee — Dunkirk, 1940 — St. Valery-en-Caux — Normandy Landing — Odon — Caen — Le Perier Ridge — Brieux Bridgehead — Falaise — Venraij — Rhineland — Hochwald — Lingen — Brinkum — N.W. Europe, 1940, '44-'45 — Johore — Muar — Batu Pahat — Singapore Island — Malaya, 1942 — North Arakan — Imphal — Kohlma — Aradura — Mandalay — Burma, 1943-45.

Korea, 1951-52.

Agents: - Messrs. Glyn, Mills and Co. (Holt's Branch), Kirkland House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Regimental Headquarters: - Britannia Barracks, Norwich.

Regimental Journal: -- "The Britannia and Castle," Britannia Barracks, Norwich.

Regimental Association:— The 1st East Anglian Regiment Past and Present Association, Britannia Barracks, Norwich.

Uniform — Blue Piping — Yellow Facing Colour — Yellow

Regular Battalion: 1st - Aden. B.F.P.O.69.

### Territorial Battalions:

4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment — Norwich The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment — Ipswich

### ALLIED REGIMENTS:

The Royal Tasmania Regiment.
The Auckland Regiment (Countess of Ranfurly's Own)

Colonel-in-Chief:—H.R.H. The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, C.I., G.C.V.O., Col.-in-Chief 15th/19th H., R.H.F., Q.A.R.A.N.C., Princess Louise Fusiliers (Machine Gun), Women's Royal Australian Army Corps and Royal Canadian Infantry Corps (Militla).

Colonel: -Goodwin, Lieutenant General Sir Richard, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., 11th September, 1962



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(Compiled from official records and information available on 22nd May, 1964)

(	a) REGULAR ARMY	Styles, T. H	East Anglian Brigade Depot
LtGols.		Gillmore, A. H. V., M.C., p.s.c.	H.Q. Combritfor, F.A.R.E.L.F.
Brinkley, W. H., p.s.c. (Special	Ministry of Defence (APS)	Emsden, B. H. C., p.s.c.	H.Q., 148 Inf. Bde. (T.A.)
List)	Milisary of Deterior (M25)	Palmer, L. A., p.l.	653 Light Aircraft Squadron
Fraser, D. U., M.B.E., p.s.c.(a) (Emp. List (1))	Ministry of Defence Q (Mov) Plans	Deller, W. C., p.s.c., f.s.c. (US)	1st Battalion
Dewar, K. M. J.,		Fitzgerald, J. D. A.	H.Q. Land Forces, Bahrein
(Emp. List (1))	H.Q. Rheindahlen Garrison, B.A.O.R.	Pullen, H. N. D.,	Army Air Corps Centre
	H.Q. Southern Command	Fleming, F. R., p.s.c.	1st Battalion
p.s.c. (Emp. List	Callabura Blain Sub-District	Cobbold, A. G. B.	161 Inf. Bde. (T.A.)
	Salisbury Plain Sub-District	Godfrey, F. A., M.C.	1 Malaysia Rangers
p.s.c., p.t.s.c.	Inspectorate of Armaments, Woolwich, S.E.18.	Holman, R. M., p.s.c. (n)	1st Battalion
Robertson, A. J., p.s.c	4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regt. (T.A.)	Horrex, A, B., M.C.	H.Q. British Forces, Cyprus
Dye, J. B., M.C., p.s.c.	1st Battalion	Hopper, P. D. L.	Singapore Military Forces
Petit. J. M.,		Gunton, M. K. D.	H.Q. East Anglian Brigade
M.B.E., p.s.c. (Emp. List (1))	Ministry of Defence	O a marine	
Malan		Captains Wall-Toning I	Cambridge University O.T.C.
Majors	Clothing & Equipment Establishment,	MacDonald, J. P.	Cambridge University O.1.C.
Greer, A. O., M.C.	c/o R.A.E. Farnborough.	(T/Major)	Staff College, Camberley
Farrelly, T.P., T.D.	G.L.O., R.A.F. Station, Chivenor	Catchpole, A. K. (T/Major)	1st Bn. The Kenya Rifles
	H.Q. Northern Command, York	Jones, J. G., M.B.E	4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regt. (T.A.)
Dean. P. S. W., s.q. (T/Colonel)	Military Attache, Tokyo	Murphy, B. M.	Army Works Study Group, Min. of Def.
Lummis, E. T.,	C S O 1	Dean, T. D.	Staff College, Camberley
p.s.c. (T/Lt-Col.)		Beck, S. G.	$(H,Q)_{\star}(B,A,O,R)_{\star}(PR)_{\star}(att)_{\star}(to(H,Q,1))Div.$
M.B.E., p.s.c.	H.Q.1 (BR) Corps	Heath, J. R.	R.M.C.S. Shrivenham.
Williams, R. M., M.C., p.s.c.	4 Communications Coy., Cheltenham		H.Q. Southern Command
Turnbull, A. W. J., M.C., s.q	lst Battalion	Churchill, J. D., M.C. (T/Major)	1st Battalion
Creasev. T. M.,		Ford, P. C	H.Q., F.R.A., Aden
p.s.c	R.M.A. Sandhurst	Frere, J. A. K. W.	Army Apprentices Schoo!, Chepstow
	H.Q.1 (BR) Corps, B.A.O.R.	Henderson, M. L., p.s.c. (T/Major)	D.A.A.G., H.Q., East Anglian District
Power, E. W. A., p.s.c., f.s.c., (US)	Ministry of Defence A (S.D.5)	Wilson, R. G.	1st Battalion
Haycraft, I. H., p.t.s.c. (Local LtCol.)	Operational Requirements Staff,	Thorne, D. C., p.s.c. (T/Major)	R.A.F. College, Cranwell
Di-Col.)	Ministry of Defence	Raven, P. G.	Command Arabic School, Aden
Morgan, E. H., M.B.E., M.C	1st Bn. Uganda Rifles	Clarke, D. L.	1st Battalion
Fairholme, W.D.G.	M.I.O. Aden (HQ Mid East)	Thorne, M. E., p.s.c. (T/Major)	Canadian Ministry of Defence
	Singapore Military Forces	Trevethick, R. L.	S.M I.S., Malaya
Lywood, K. C. G.	1st Battalion		Army M.T. School, Bordon
Mason, F. E. I., A.M.I.W.S.	Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regt. (T.A.)	_	A.D.C. to G.O.C. 1 (BR) Corps



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# EDITORIAL

# THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

In 1962, the Army Council examined the existing organisation of Brigades of Infantry with a view to creating further flexibility to meet the changing needs of future strategy. To this end, the Council decided that a measure of re-grouping between Brigades was necessary in order to create as many four-regiment brigades as possible.

As a result, the Forester Brigade was dispersed and one of its battalions—The Royal Leicestershire Regiment—was grouped with the East Anglian Brigade.

At the same time, it was stated that it was the Army Council's intention that all Brigades should be encouraged to move voluntarily towards the "Large Regiment". The effect of this will be that, while all Brigades will be expected ultimately to re-organise on the basis of the Large Regiment, the timing will, in each case, be a matter for each Brigade to determine in consultation with the War Office.

By "Large Regiment" is meant a Regiment in which there is centralised control of affairs, having a common factor in its title and based on one depot which will be its home. The main advantage of this concept is the extra flexibility in deployment and reinforcement. The present organisation of one regular battalion is neither economical nor suited to modern operational conditions.

With the arrival of the Royal Leicesters in the East Anglian Brigade, the problem of a title for the Brigade arose. The name "East Anglian Brigade" had already been stretched to cover counties such as Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, and it was felt that it was too much to include Leicestershire as well.

Accordingly, the Council of Colonels of the East Anglian Brigade decided to ask for the title to be changed to "Royal Anglian".

They based this choice on two factors:-

The counties from which the Regiments came were, in early days settled by East Angles and Middle

The wording represented a minimum possible change from "East Anglian".

The Council of Colonels also felt that in order to avoid yet another change in the not too distant future, they should, at the same time as asking for a change of title, ask for the Brigade to be re-organised as a Large Regiment.

Her Majesty the Queen has now approved the formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment on a date not yet finally decided, but probably in September this year.

The Battalions will be:--

1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion, The Royal

Anglian Regiment.

2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment.

3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment.

4th (Leicestershire) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother has been appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Anglian Regiment and she will have two Deputy Colonels-in-Chief—H.R.H. Princess Margaret and H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester.

The Regiment will have a Colonel and a number of Deputy Colonels. These have not yet been appointed.

It will have a new cap badge, similar to the one worn by the East Anglian Brigade and the 1st Battalion will continue to wear the collar badge of the 1st East Anglian Regiment—the figure of Britannia superimposed on a Castle.

The 4th Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment (TA) and the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA) will become part of the Royal Anglian Regiment and will remain particularly affiliated to the 1st Battalion.

All this will have its repercussions in our own regimental affairs. Details of these are now being worked out.

The Royal Norfolk and the Suffolk Regiment Associations will remain as at present. The annual dinner of the Officers Dinner Club will take place as planned on 9th October in the Army and Navy Club.

This Journal will cease publication on a date to be decided later, as the Royal Anglian Regiment will have its own Journal, and it will not be possible to publish two regimental magazines without making the cost prohibitive. It is however, proposed to replace the 'Britannia and Castle' by a Bulletin which will chronicle and circulate news of the 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, 4th Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment (TA), Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA) and past and present members of these regiments.

The 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment will remain particularly affiliated to those counties and will, we know, do its best to retain the close links we have at present with the towns and villages, and the people of the counties it represents.

Furthermore, the serving members of the battalion are most anxious to retain a very close liaison with those who are no longer serving and it is hoped that we shall manage to achieve this despite any changes we may have to make in the organisation of our Clubs and Associations.

# REGIMENTAL NEWS

The following telegram was sent to Her Royal Highness, Princess Margaret, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, on the occasion of the birth of her daughter:-

"The Colonel of the Regiment and all Ranks 1st East Anglian Regiment present their humble duty and send sincere congratulations to Her Royal Highness their Colonel-in-Chief".

Her Royal Highness graciously replied: -

"My husband and I sincerely thank you and all Ranks for your kind message of congratulations". (signed) Margaret, Colonel-in-Chief.

# Peninsular War Memorial-Biarritz

Brigadier A. J. C. Prickett represented the Regiment at the re-dedication of the Peninsular War





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Memorial in St. Andrew's Church, Biarritz on 12th April, 1964. A report of the service and other proceedings is published elsewhere in this Journal.

The Regiment is grateful to Brigadier Prickett for so kindly attending this function as its representative and for sending us the interesting report.

# Tigris Day

Greetings were exchanged between the Regiment and the 1st Bn. 1/2nd Goorkhas to mark the anniversary of the crossing of the River Tigris in Mesopotamia on 23rd July, 1917. In this battle the 2nd Norfolk Regiment and the 1/2nd Gurkhas took part in a successful operation in the face of stubborn Turkish resistance.

### Freedom of Entry into Ipswich

The Mayor and Corporation of Ipswich have signified their approval to accord to the 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment the honour of the Freedom of Entry into the Borough which, in 1963, was granted to the 1st East Anglian Regiment. A similar honour was previously conferred upon the Suffolk Regiment.

In a letter to the Colonel of the Regiment, the Mayor of Ipswich writes, "I have no doubt we shall continue the close association with the Battalion of the new Regiment which we have in former times".

### Reunion-Suffolk Section 1964

As already announced in the last issue of the "Britannia and Castle" the annual Reunion of the Past and Present Association, Suffolk Section, will be held at Blenheim Camp on Sunday, 19th July, commencing at 12 noon.

There will be no Church Service but the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Training Company Cinema commencing at 11-30 a.m. Branches have already been informed.

Lunch and tea will be served for those in possession of meal tickets. There will be only one bar for sale of drinks.

### Regimental Golf

The Regiment was represented at the Army Golfing Society's Spring Meeting over the Royal St. George's and Prince's Courses at Sandwich in May by Lt. Pearce, Major Creasey, Lt.-Col. Murray-Brown and Cols. Carroll and Freeman-Taylor. Ian Pearce played in the Army Championship without much luck, but being in Aden one week and Sandwich the next is not conducive to top class medal golf over a very difficult championship course. However, as the week went by it is clear that he can hold his own in top Army golf in the future. In the inter-Unit team event, the Argyll and Sutherland Bowl, the Regiment was d'awn against the Welsh Guards, whom it eventually beat at the 20th hole. Ian Pearce played particularly well to beat Colonel A. A. Duncan, both in the match and play-off. In the guarter-final, the Regiment lost to the R. Scots.

Congratulations are due to the 2nd East Angian Regiment on winning both the Argyll and Sutherland Bowl and the Army Team Challenge Cup, when they beat the R.A.M.C. in a thrilling match at the 19th hole.

# **GENERAL NEWS**

# BERTRAND STEWART ESSAY COMPETITION, 1965

Prize: £80

Closing Date: 22nd June, 1965

Subject:

"The resources of our defence forces have become increasingly stretched over the past two years. The army has been particularly affected, and has had to provide lightly equipped forces for IS and counter-insurgency operations world wide still maintaining more heavily equipped forces in BAOR. The other two Services suffer to a lesser degree, and are not faced with the same difficulties of having to train, equip and allocate manpower for two such different commitments. How can these difficulties best be met? Discuss any measures (including financial measures) which you consider might help the Army to meet its varying commitments more easily and without any loss of effectiveness."

General conditions for this essay competition will be the same as for the 1964 competition and can be found in ACI 397 of 1963, except that the address of the Army Quarterly and Defence Journal shown in paragraph 5 is now—43, Cardington Street, London N.W.I.

# GEORGE KNIGHT CLOWES MEMORIAL PRIZE ESSAY, 1965

Prizes: 1st Prize £35 2nd Prize £15

Closing date: 31st March, 1965

Subject:

"Because of the revolutionary development in weapons, and changes in the pattern of war during the past fifty years, some people now doubt the value of military history as part of an officer's educational curriculum.

Give your views on this, and discuss in general terms how best the experience of the past can be reconciled with modern trends and made to serve present and future needs in the military field."

General conditions for this essay competition will be the same as for the 1964 competition and can be found in ACI 243 of 1963, except that the address of the Army Quarterly and Defence Journal shown in paragraph 7 is now—43, Cardington Street, London N.W.I.

# GOLD MEDAL AND TRENCH GASGOINE PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION, 1964

Prize: Thirty guineas and Gold Medal

Closing Date: 15th October, 1964

The subject of the essay may be chosen from either of the following which rank equally in adjudication:

(a) "The geographical situation of the free part of Europe which as a consequence of World War II has shrunk to such an extent and has now so little geographical depth, that even a unified Western Europe would not be capable of successfully defending itself, without U.S. assistance' Franz-Joseph Strauss.

Discuss the validity of this statement.

ОГ

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(b) "Recent advances in missile technology have given rise to speculation on the future roles of manned military aircraft. However, the avent of V/STOL capabilities has restored the flexibility formerly lost to high performance aircraft when they were tied to long and expensive runways. Discuss the advantages of combining the missile and V/STOL manned aircraft in future British strategy for general and limited warfare."

General conditions for this essay competition are contained in ACI 15 of 1964.

# THE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION

The Officers' Association was founded by Field Marshal Earl Haig in 1920, with the primary object of assisting those who at any time held a commission in the Army, Navy or Air Force, and their wives, widows and dependents.

On the formation of the British Legion in 1920, the Officers' Association adopted the additional title of "The Officers' Benevolent Department of the British Legion", and it obtains its funds mainly from the British Legion Poppy Day Appeal and from the three Services Benevolent Funds.

The Officers' Association is not a fund raising organisation and has no membership as such, but nevertheless welcomes subscriptions and donations.

The Association has seven main functions:

- (a) Financial Help the Association is prepared to consider assistance to ex-officers and their dependants who find themselves in temporary financial difficulties.
- (b) Education—assistance towards school fees. This is normally restricted to the children of war disabled or deceased officers.
- (c) Advice—on a wide range of subjects, including legal advice.
- (d) Service Pensions and War Disability Pensions advice is given on the preparation and submission to the Minister of Pensions of claims in respect of War Disability Pensions. In addition advice is given on questions concerning Service Retired Pay and Forces Family Pensions.

The Association co-operates closely with the Officers' Pensions Society on these matters.

- (e) Homes—the Association has its own Home in South Devon, with 35 residents, for elderly and lonely ex-officers of limited income. It also has the right of nomination to a number of other Homes where officers or their widows can possibly be accepted at low rates.
- (f) Clothing Store—clothing of all kinds can usually be provided from the Store for those in need.
- (g) Resettlement and Employment—this Department whose address is 46 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. is at the disposal of any officer, male or female, at any time for advice, and when nearing retirement can give direct introductions to employers.

The Association works through a system of Honorary Representatives throughout the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and elsewhere and it is these representatives who find the cases of hardship or distress, or investigate cases that come to Head-quarters in other ways. Adjudication on cases is done

by a team of honorary workers who, in turn, attend at Headquarters every day of the week. This enables cases to be dealt with speedily and effectively. The help of all these honorary representatives and workers is invaluable and the Association is most grateful to them.

Anyone hearing of cases of distress or hardship among ex-officers, their widows or dependants, should refer them to: The General Secretary, The Officers' Association, 28 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

# PRINCESS CHRISTIAN HOME & TRAINING CENTRE, KNAPHILL, Nr. WOKING

There are now vacancies at the above establishment for training severely disabled Ex-Servicemen and women in Clock Assembly and Repairs, and also in Invisible Mending. Applicants must be fit only for sheltered employment or work in their own homes and the age limit is 55 years. Practically any disablement can be accepted providing the applicant has good eyesight and the use of both hands.

The Clock Assembly Course is for 3 months and a further 9 months for Clock Repairs: the Course for Invisible Mending last 3 months. During the period of training men are resident at the Centre but are free to go home at weekends if they wish. Those who are accepted receive Government Training Allowances from the Ministry of Labour during the courses.

A good living can be made by those who successfully complete the Clock Repair Course, whilst Clock Assembly with Smith Clocks Ltd., can provide extra income for those in receipt of a war disability pension. There is also a demand for those trained in Invisible Mending and in a fairly short time a trained man can successfully operate a business from his home.

# **PERSONALITIES**

# 2nd LIEUTENANT R. P. BARCLAY

It was with profound regret that we learned of the death of 2nd Lieutenant Robin Barclay which occurred on 12th April as a result of a mountain accident at Mukerias, about 100 miles from Aden.

Robin, the elder son of Brigadier and Mrs. Peter Barclay, was educated at Harrow and Sandhurst and was commissioned into the 1st East Anglian Regiment in August 1963. He was twenty years of age.

The funeral, with full military honours, took place in Aden on 15th April. A Memorial Service conducted by the Dean of Norwich was held in the Royal Norfolk Regiment Chapel on 16th April and attended by Robin's parents and relatives, friends of the family and members of the staff from the Dunham Estate. Colonel W. A. Heal represented the Colonel of the 1st East Anglian Regiment.

We extend to Brigadier and Mrs. Barclay our sincere sympathy in their tragic loss.

Brigadier H. Bulwer-Long, O.B.E., M.C., is the new High Sheriff for Norfolk. He has also been appointed an Area Commissioner in the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Colonel H. R. R. Conder, O.B.E., was successful at the recent election of candidates for the East Suffolk County Council. He represents Weston. Major S. J. Pope was again returned for the Downham Market constituency in the Norfolk County Council elections.

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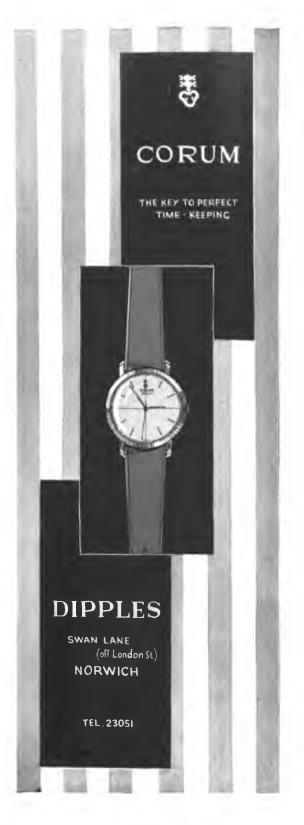
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Major A. H. Athill has retired after nearly 24 years' service and had joined Security Express Ltd., as their representative in East Anglia. He is now busily engaged in finding staff and offices in Norwich and in Peterborough. There is a possibility that Captain T. W. Chatting will be joining the Norwich branch and so, with Lt.-Colonel E. A. Cooper-Key, M.B.E., M.C., the managing director at the head-quarters in London, there is a distinct 1st East Anglian atmosphere in this firm.

Colonel J. F. Carroll, C.B.E., has moved from Aldershot and is now living in London.

His new address is: 3, Cope Place, London, W8.

We welcome Captain N. R. Pavitt and Lt. I. G. Barclay-Loggie on being granted Regular Commissions in the Regiment. Both are at present serving with units of the East African Forces and are expected to join the Regiment during 1965.



Major T. C. Warren at the War Cemetery in Singapore

Major T. C. Warren, writing from Singapore and reporting on a recent visit to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery at Kranji, says that the graves are very well maintained and are visited by large numbers of people of all nationalities. He sent us a photograph of the graves of 5830189 Pte. H. C. Dockerill and 6020488 Pte. E. Hoy, both of the Suffolk Regiment.

Congratulations to the following on passing the practical part of the Staff/Promotion Examination.

Captains N. J. Lewis, J. Y. Morriss and P. W. Morton.

Congratulations, too, to Major M. K. D. Gunton on his promotion to Field Rank.

Lt.-Colonel R. G. D. Hare has just finished an oil painting which he has presented to the Royal Norfolk Regiment Museum. It depicts the 2/9th Foot resting near Gibraltar on the return from the Battle of Barossa in 1811. The Regiment is most grateful to Colonel Hare for this most interesting and colourful gift.

Major Charles Pryer has returned home after a stay in the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital followed by convalescence at Mundesley. It is good to know that he is making excellent progress towards recovery of his speech which he completely lost as a result of an operation to his throat.



Brigadier E. H. W. Backhouse, C.B.E., D.L., presenting the Meritorious Service Medal to R.S.M. K. T. Duffy.

R.S.M. K. T. Duffy retired in January this year. It was characteristic of this fine soldier that his last parade whilst serving was one which, by R.S.M. Duffy's special request, was taken by an officer of his old regiment, Brigadier Backhouse, on the occasion of a passing-out parade at the Brigade Depot. He presented R.S.M. Duffy with the Meritorious Service Medal.

Mr. and Mrs. Duffy have now taken over the lease of: The Orange Tree, Cressing Road, Braintree, Essex.

Lt.-Colonel H. M. Wilson, M.C., has returned from Nigeria and has taken up a retired officers' appointment at the Ministry of Defence A(PS) where he will join Brigadier R. M. Allen, C.B.E., and Lt.-Colonel W. H. Brinkley. Colonel Wilson's home address is Manor House Farm, Mapledurwell, Nr. Basingstoke, Hants.

Mr. J. H. Pearce, M.B.E., has retired after fifty years' service in the Regular and Territorial Armies. He joined the Norfolk Regiment in 1914 and was promoted Regimental Sergeant Major in 1929 and retired ten years later when he joined the Yeoman Warders at the Tower of London. During the second World War he was commissioned into the Royal Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and rose to the rank of Captain.

In 1947 he joined 4th Bn The Royal Norfolk Regiment as Chief Clerk and Orderly Room Sergeant, and held these appointments until the end of last year. He was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire in 1957. We wish him and Mrs. Pearce

a very happy and peaceful retirement.

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# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Rirths

BARNES.—On 10th October, 1963, at Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa, to Capt. and Mrs. C. M. J. Barnes a daughter, Clare.

CATCHPOLE.—On 28th December, 1963, at Nanjuki, Kenya, to Major and Mrs. A. K. Catchpole

a daughter, Diane.

STARLING.—On 5th January 1964 at Ipswich, to Pte. and Mrs. G. Starling a son, Philip Ivan.

CHANDLER.—On 6th January 1964 at Ipswich, to Pte. and Mrs. N. Chandler a son, Norman Paul.

POCOCK.—On 9th January 1964 at Colchester, to Sgt. and Mrs. G. Pocock a son, Neil Mark.

EAGLEN.—On 12th January 1964 at Felixstowe, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. L. Eaglen a son, Christopher Charles.

BAINES.—On 15th January 1964 at Ipswich, to

Cpl. and Mrs. F. Baines a son, Peter.

GREENWOOD.—On 4th February 1964 at Norwich, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. R. Greenwood a son, Daren Craig.

CARPENTER.—On 5th February 1964 at Ipswich to Cpl. and Mrs. R. Carpenter a daughter, Lorraine

Margaret.

WHITEFOOT.—On 8th February 1964 at Harwich, to Pte. and Mrs. F. Whitefoot a son, Michael Francis.

SHANKS .-- On 9th February 1964 at Felixstowe, to Sgt. and Mrs. B. Shanks a daughter, Kay Nicola.

BARNES.—On 12th February 1964 at Wisbech, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. A. Barnes a daughter, Jeanette

SMITH.—On 18th February 1964 at Ipswich, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. F. Smith a daughter, Louise Eliza-

beth Germaine.

MOSS.-On 25th February 1964 at Colchester, to Pte. and Mrs. F. Moss a son, Paul Arthur Richard.

BUCKEE.-On 1st March 1964 at Bury St. Edmunds, to Pte, and Mrs. J. Buckee, a daughter Lynn Louise.

GORBOULD.-On 13th March 1964 at East Dereham, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. D. Gorbould, a son Jeffrey David Arthur.

ANDREWS.-On 22nd March 1964 at West Ham, London, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. R. Andrews, a

daughter, Elizabeth Jane.

JONES.—On 31st March 1964 at Towyn Cottage Hospital, Merionethshire, to Captain and Mrs. J. G. Jones a daughter, Edwina Sophia Garton.

PRICKETT.—On 23rd April 1964 at the American Hospital, Paris, to Brigadier and Mrs. A. J. C. Prickett a daughter.

# Marriages

HILLS-CHAMBERS.-On 18th January 1964 at Walton, Pte. M. Hills to Anita Marian Rose Chambers.

COLEYSHAW—DIGGLE.—On 25th January 1964 at Felixstowe, Pte. D. Coleyshaw to Hilary Judith Diggle.

### Deaths

ANDREW.-In January 1964, Colonel R. H. Andrew, C.B.E., M.C., late the Suffolk Regiment.

SHEEPSHANKS.—On 1st February 1964 at Woking, Sir Thomas Sheepshanks, K.C.B., K.B.E., aged 69 years, late the Norfolk and Suffolk Regiments.

CAMPBELL.-On 3rd February 1964 at Colchester Hospital, Major General J. A. Campbell, D.S.O., aged 77 years, late the Suffolk Regiment.
ALDRIDGE.—On 16th February 1964 at West

Norwich Hospital, R.S.M. Charles Aldridge, D.C.M.,

aged 82 years, late the Norfolk Regiment.

PEARSON.—On 17th February 1964 at Thurston, Major E. E. Pearson, aged 83 years, late the Suffolk Regiment.

WYTCHERLEY .-- On 24th February 1964 at Sheffield, W. Wytcherley, late the Suffolk Regiment. NEWBY.—On 26th February 1964 at Hales-

worth, P. Newby, aged 75 years, late the Suffolk Regiment.

PAGET.—On 27th February 1964 at his home, Lt. Col. G. N. Paget, aged 73 years, late the Norfolk Regiment.

JAMES .-- On 11th March 1964 at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, C/Sgt. F. E. James, aged 78 years, late

the Norfolk Regiment.

WILSON.—On 16th March 1964 at Great Horkesley, Lt. Col. F. T. D. Wilson, O.B.E., aged 87 years, late the Suffolk Regiment. KING.—On 23rd March 1964 at North Middlesex

Hospital, T. E. King, aged 90 years, late the Norfolk Regiment.

NICHOLSON -On 5th April 1964 in a Nursing

Home, Colonel W. N. Nicholson, C.M.G., D.S.O., late the Suffolk Regiment. DAWES.-On 8th April 1964 at Hastings, Sus-

sex, D. C. S. Dawes, late the Suffolk Regiment. BARCLAY -On 12th April 1964 as a result of an accident at Mukeiras, Aden, 2/Lt. R. P. Barclay, 1st Bn., 1st East Anglian Regiment.

# **OBITUARY**

# Sir Thomas Sheepshanks

Sir Thomas Sheepshanks who has died aged 69, was Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for four years before his retirement in 1955. He had had a long and distinguished career in the Civil Service since 1919.

Educated at Winchester and Trinity College, Oxford, he joined the Norfolk Regiment in 1914 and later served in France with the Suffolk Regiment. He retired from the Army with the rank of captain in 1919 and entered the Civil Service.

In 1951 when the Ministry of Housing and Local Government took over the functions of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning Sir Thomas became Permanent Secretary. His principal post-war work was on town and country planning and new towns.

Sir Thomas who married Elizabeth Creemer Calvert, daughter of the late James Calvert in 1921, had two sons, one of whom was killed in action in 1943, and a daughter, who died in 1958.

### Major-General J. A. Campbell, D.S.O.

Major-General James Alexander Campbell died at Colchester Military Hospital on February 3rd after a long period of illness, at the age of 77. Known regimentally as "Jack" he was a distinguished soldier and much liked by all ranks of The Suffolk Regiment.

Jack Campbell was gazetted to The Suffolk Regiment from Sandhurst in the autumn of 1906 and after service with the 1st Battalion in the Middle East he went to Flanders with them in 1915 and was wounded almost at once. Re-joining later the same year he became Adjutant and accompanied the Battalion to Macedonia. After being a Bde. Major and doing a Staff Course he commanded the 9th East Lancashire Regiment. Whilst leading this Battalion he was awarded a Bar to the D.S.O. that he had gained in 1916, and was wounded for the second time. After the 1914-18 War he went to India as Adjutant of the 1st Bn. and in 1920 joined the Staff College, Quetta. Between 1922 and 1945, Jack Campbell held a number of Staff Appointments, with one exception all on the General Staff side. In 1934 he was given command of the Northern Bde., K.A.R. and was promoted Colonel and later Brigadier. It greatly grieved him that he thus never commanded one of the Battalions of The Suffolk Regiment.

On the outbreak of the Second World War he returned to the U.K. and after commanding Brigades for 2 years took over the South Highland Area and then the Lancashire & Border District as a Major-General. He retired in June 1944 and settled in Suffolk.

Jack Campbell had two great interests—soldiering and horses. Decorated for bravery and mentioned in Despatches, he had a marked influence upon younger officers; he not only looked a soldier but showed keeness and efficiency in all he did. His love of horses was most marked and he was ever ready to help and encourage those who were keen to learn. To the last years of his life he never failed to support all Suffolk Regiment activities, and the Regiment meant very much to him. His old friends of all ranks will miss him sadly.

Major-General Campbell married Violet Calthrop the authoress, in 1920. One son was killed during the war whilst serving in the R.A.F. His surviving son, Gordon, gained the M.C. for gallantry in June 1944 whilst commanding a Battery, R.A. Badly wounded he was invalided out and after serving in the Foreign Office, is now a M.P. and Under-Secretary of State for Scotland. We extend our sympathy to Jack Campbell's widow and to his son.

A note of a coincidence connected with General Campbell and Major Gordon Campbell appears elsewhere in this issue.

# Colonel W. N. Nicholson, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Colonel Nicholson was commissioned into The Suffolk Regiment in 1900 and served in the South African War from 1900-02.

He passed out of the Staff College, Camberley in 1912.

During the Great War 1914-18 he held numerous staff appointments and was granted the rank of Brevet Lieut. Colonel.

He was awarded the C.M.G., D.S.O. and mentioned in dispatches on seven occasions.

In 1927 he commanded the 1st Battalion. He was a most skilful administrator having held numerous administrative appointments since the beginning of the first World War. His talents were by no means confined to administration. As a teacher of tactics he soon showed that in this sphere too he was much above the average. As a result of his ability he soon had the Battalion in first rate shape from every point of view

He was very approachable at all times and his kindly help and advice on any subject was well worth having.

His final appointment was A.Q.M.G., Northern Command, India, where he made a great success of their mobilization planning.

In 1933 he retired for age. He came into the Army through the Varsity where he had read Maths. He was therefore older than one who came from Sandhurst. Had it not been for age, there is no doubt that he would have risen to a very much higher rank in the Army.

Colonel Nicholson was appointed Colonel of the Regiment from 1939 to 1947.

The Regiment is indebted to Colonel Nicholson for his excellent account of the History of The Suffolk Regiment 1928-1946.

He leaves a widow and two married daughters, Sally and Susan, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

# Lt.-Col. F. T. D. Wilson, O.B.E.

Lt.-Col. Wilson was commissioned in The Suffolk Regiment in 1896 and served in the South African War 1899-1902.

He took part in the attack at Colesberg and was present at the taking of Pretoria.

In the Great War 1914-18 he was taken prisoner at the Battle of Le Cateau.

In 1920 he commanded the 1st Battalion who took part in the Moplah Rebellion in 1921-22.

Colonel Wilson had an eye for all ball games and took an active part in Cricket, Hockey and Tennis and soon had a Battalion that was second to none in these and other sports. He played for the Army versus the Navy at Lords in 1910, 1911, 1914 and 1920.

Under his leadership the Battalion soon settled down to be a happy family and fit for any emergency.

He retired in 1924 having completed his period in command.

Colonel Wilson leaves a widow and a son, John, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

# Lt. Col. G. N. Paget

George Norrie Paget, second son of Sir John Paget, Bt. K.C., was born at Chelsea in 1890 and educated at Wellington College. He was commissioned into the Norfolk Regiment from the Special Reserve in 1913 and joined the 1st Bn. in Ireland. He left Belfast with the Battalion for active service in France on 14th August 1914 and was wounded and made a prisoner of war at the Battle of Mons ten days later. On release from captivity he joined the 2nd Bn. at Thetford and went to India. He saw further active service in Wazirstan before being posted to the Regimental Depot. Promotion to Major came in 1932 and he retired in 1935.

On the outbreak of the Second World War Major Paget was recalled from the Reserve and was posted to the Pioneer Corps with the rank of temporary Lt.-Colonel. He was a bachelor.

## Major E. E. Pearson

Major Ernest Edward Pearson died at his home at Thurston, near Bury St. Edmunds on February 16th after some years of failing health. He was 83. The only son of the Reverend E. L. Pearson of Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire, he was born in August 1880 and was educated at Charterhouse and Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He left the university in 1901 in order to take a Commission in The Suffolk Regiment, going at once to join the 1st Battalion towards the end of the Boer War.

When the war ended he returned to England with the battalion, and after service in Malta, became Adjutant of the 6th Bn. which brought him to Bury St. Edmunds. The outbreak of the First World War found Ernest Pearson with the 2nd Bn. at The Curragh, and he was captured with the rest of the Battalion at Le Cateau in August 1914. After 4½ years as a P.O.W. he became O.C. Depot, and in 1922 he retired. Although this ended his active career as a soldier he retained a tremendous love for The Suffolk Regiment until the end. Living as he did near the Depot, he seldom missed a chance to attend functions where he could meet old friends. And he had very many of these, being one of those quiet, cheerful and kindly people who became loved by all with whom they come in contact. One of the associations he always supported was the local branch of the South African Veterans.

Ernest married first, Rhona Parker, who died in 1947 and secondly, Gwenda, daughter of John Ryan of The Black and Tans. Gwenda had the same love of horses and hunting as her husband. Always a keen horseman, Ernest did much in 1948-49 to rebuild the Suffolk Hunt and in 1949 became Master. In 1953 his wife became Joint Master and it is no exaggeration to record that the Hunt has never been in better hands. Further, one can guess that Ernest achieved one of his main ambitions. In 1958, Major and Mrs. Pearson gave up the Mastership, but continued to give great support to the Hunt.

Ernest Pearson was buried at Horringer and the large number attending the Service showed something of the respect and affection with which he was held. Besides regimental friends there were many followers of the Hunt and members of the farming community; he had farmed at Welnetham for 15 or so years between the two Wars. He is now greatly missed and our sympathy goes to his widow, and also to his sister Evelyn who lived with them. The Suffolk Regiment has lost one of its best loved officers.

# R.S.M. C. Aldridge, D.C.M.

Charles Aldridge joined the Norfolk Regiment in 1899 and served with the 2nd Battalion in the South African War. He was promoted R.S.M. in the same battalion during the siege of Kut-al-Amara in 1916 and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the French Medaille Militaire. After a spell as a prisoner of war in Turkey he rejoined the 2nd Battalion at Thetford in 1919 and later saw more active service on the North-West Frontier of India and in Mesopotamia where he left the Regiment in 1922 on retirement.

He tried his hand as a publican in a Norfolk village, but the urge for closer ties with the Army led him to the Recruiting Staff in Norwich where he served for more than fourteen years. He continued to take a keen interest in Regimental affairs until his death at the age of 82 years. He bequeathed his eleven decorations and medals to the Regimental Museum.

At his special request the funeral service was held in the Regimental Chapel, Norwich Cathedral. A bugler sounded "Last Post" and "Reveille" at the interment which took place in Norwich Cemetery.

Mr. Aldridge, who had been a widower for some years, leaves nine children.

# EXTRACTS FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

# 17th January, 1964

TERRITORIAL ARMY-ROYAL NORFOLK

Major C. B. Grant, awarded the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.

# TERRITORIAL ARMY—SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Capt. (A Major) J. R. L. Brashaw, awarded the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.

# 24th January, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Short Service Commission

WO 1 (R.S.M.) J. W. Denny to be Lieut. (Q.M.) 23rd December, 1964.

### 31st January, 1964

**REGULAR ARMY** 

Capt. (Q.M.) T. W. Chatting retires on retired pay 1st January, 1964.

# 4th February, 1964

# TERRITORIAL ARMY—SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Capt. (Q.M.) C. E. Isaacson having exceeded the age limit retires on 8th February, 1964.

# 7th February, 1964

**REGULAR ARMY** 

Capt. P. D. L. Hopper to be Major 9th February,

Capt. C. J. N. Trollope retires 12th February, 1964.

# 25th February, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Major (Q.M.) F. J. Albrow having attained the age limit ceases to belong to Res. of Officers 16th February, 1964.

# 28th February, 1964

# COMMANDS AND STAFF

Major-General M. A. H. Butler, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., relinquishes his appointment as General Officer Commanding 2 Division 4th March, 1964.

### TERRITORIAL ARMY-ROYAL NORFOLK

Pte. M. P. Lee-Warner and Gnr. P. T. R. Palgrave-Moore to be 2/Lts. (on probation), 16th February, 1964.

# TERRITORIAL ARMY—SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Major C. C. Wells to be Lt.-Col. 1st August, 1962.

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# 3rd March, 1964

## REGULAR ARMY

Major J. M. Petit, M.B.E., to be Lt.-Col. (Employed List (1)) 5th April, 1963.

Lieut. I. G. Barclay Loggie from Res. Officers, Cl. I and Rhodesia and Nyasaland Army to Lt., 1st Janary, 1963 with seniority 19th January, 1960.

# 17th March, 1964

## TERRITORIAL ARMY-ROYAL NORFOLK

Lt. P. E. G. Bartlett resigns his commission 3rd January, 1964.

# 3rd April, 1964

# REGULAR ARMY

Major A. H. Athill retires on retired pay 5th April, 1964.

Capt. N. R. Pavitt from Gen. List (K.A.R.) to be Capt. 8th April, 1964, with seniority 2nd July, 1963.

# 10th April, 1964

## REGULAR ARMY

2/Lt. D. A. Voy granted a Short Service Commission 15th February, 1964.

# 14th April, 1964

### REGULAR ARMY

Capt. M. K. D. Gunton to be Major 9th February, 1964.

Capt. B. H. G. Mills retires 31st March, 1964 and is granted the honorary rank of Major.

# 17th April, 1964

## COMMANDS AND STAFF

Brigadier G. R. Turner-Cain, C.B.E., D.S.O., is appointed Major-General in Charge of Administration Headquarters, Far East Land Forces and is granted the temporary rank of Major-General 26th March. 1964.

### 24th April, 1964

# TERRITORIAL ARMY-ROYAL NORFOLK

Lt. N. J. Davies from Res. of Officers to be Lt. 25th February, 1964 with seniority 9th December, 1960.

Lt. V. C. Raywood from Active List to be Lt. 3rd March, 1964.

# 8th May, 1964

# TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL NORFOLK

Capt. A. J. Sinton from Active List to be Capt. 2nd March, 1964.

# "THE BRITANNIA AND CASTLE"

Your Regimental Magazine.

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# 1st BATTALION

### **BATTALION REVIEW**

By the 26th January, 1964, the move of the main body of the Battalion from Felixstowe to Aden had been completed. Due to the operational requirements in the Middle East at the time, the original flight plan had to be amended many times as the move was accelerated. For some days in January it seemed that we had extended our amalgamation once again to include the KOSB, and Waterloo Barracks was filled to capacity. On 1st February the Battalion took over the internal security operational role for the State of Aden and that role has been our primary task ever since. During an acclimatisation period in January and February we were fully deployed and exercised in our I.S. role many times including the movement of Platoons in Belvedere helicopters. It was a full and active life quite new to a good many soldiers in the Battalion. During this period we were visited by the C-in-C, Lt. Gen. Sir Charles Harington, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., the G.O.C. Middle East Land Forces, Maj. Gen. J. H. Cubbon, C.B., C.B.E., and many visiting officers from England including the Adjutant General and the Quartermaster General.

Early in March, 1964, "A" Company moved from Aden to Mukeiras leaving Bn. H.Q. and four Companies in Waterloo Barracks. At this stage we considered ourselves to be competent in our I.S. Role, and had carried out two Cordon and Search operations with the Aden Armed Police. So we began to train further afield in the Western Aden Protectorate (WAP). The training areas of the WAP are large areas of rugged volcano hills rising out of a sea of sand, painting a very vast and stark panorama.

Our soldiers, tied by operational necessity to Aden for I.S. duties, have thoroughly enjoyed the break provided by their training exercises into the WAP where we have carried out some useful training with 45 Commando Royal Marines and with the 16/5 Lancers.

Early in April dissident tribesmen activity in the Radfan area (Northern WAP area adjoining the Yemeni Border) began to merge with dissident activity being directed towards the important Aden-Dhala road.



Water supplies arriving for 1st Battalion. With peak temperatures of about 130 degrees Fahrenheit the water issued to the troops is about as warm as bath water.

As a result we were alerted to take part in operations and "A" Company were ordered to move down from Mukerias to Aden by air on 16th April in order to concentrate the Battalion in Aden whilst the preliminary operational move was taking place. The Battalion was also preparing for the Queen's Birthday Parade. The Commanding Officer commanded the parade, comprising Royal Navy, Royal Marines, 1 E. Anglian and the Royal Air Force guards and mobile detachments of the Royal Horse Artillery and the Royal Tank Regiment. The success of the parade was due to a first class piece of joint service co-operation and a tactful Adjutant. Immediately following the Queen's Birthday Parade "B" Company moved north to the operational base at Thumier some 30 miles south of Dhala, and preparation began to deploy the Battalion for the operations against the Radfan tribes. We were made responsible for the Thumier-Dhala road to see that it was kept open to both civilian and military traffic. On Sunday, 26th April, the Commanding Officer was called up to the Thumier base by the Brigade Commander to take charge of the Thumier base and the Thumier-Dhala road.

On Tuesday, 25th, "C" Company moved up to the Thumier base with the remainder of Bn. Tac HQ. On Wednesday, 29th, the Battalion was given the task of clearing the Wadi Ranwa so that the guns of the Royal Horse Artillery could be moved nearer the rebels. To carry out this task No. 6 Platoon under

2/Lt. Long was used supported by a Squadron of Armoured Cars and Saladins from the 4th Royal Tank Regt

When they had proceeded half-way up the Wadi they came across a road block made up of boulders which must have been placed there the night before as two nights previous a patrol had reported the Wadi clear. As it was suspected that the road block was mined or booby trapped considerable care was taken. During this period the troops were being continually sniped at, from a distance of 600 to a 1000 yards, but because of years of practice in this type of life and warfare the rebels could not be located. During this action 2/Lt. Long was hit and had to be evacuated to Aden. He is now progressing well in the R.A.F. hospital there.

Eventually the block was blasted away and the force proceeded to make a position for the guns, where they remained for 24 hours under constant sniper fire until recalled to base camp. The Mortar Platoon was also used during this action.

"C" Coy. were used to picquet the Thumier-Dhala road and on the night of 1st May a dissident tribesman walked into a night ambush and was wounded. The next day blood trails were followed up but no body was found. During the weekend 2nd/3rd May "A" Coy. was moved up and the whole Battalion concentrated at Thumier ready to take over from the Royal Marine Commando on the high ground to the East. At the same time 1st Bn. The

King's Own Scottish Borderers arrived in Aden once again to take over the Internal Security Role. Little did they realise as we said "goodbye" to them five months earlier that they would be back so quickly.

As we go to press Mr. Sandys has just visited us and 39 Infantry Brigade have taken over the running of the operation. The Battalion is still picqueting the hills and all is fairly static except for the Recce Platoon commanded by Captain Horrex who have been lifted into Wadi Taym by Belvedere helicopters. The temperature is around 110 mark, and water is rationed to two gallons per man per day. All the re-supply is being done by Belvederes which run continuous sorties to keep the troops supplied with rations, water and ammunition.

# **OFFICERS' MESS**

Our Officers' Mess in Aden was built some four years ago and consists of three blocks, two for accommodation and one for the ante room, dining room, etc. All the officers' rooms are air conditioned, and the public rooms have plenty of fans and look out on to a patio. We were very thankful to take over from the King's Own Scottish Borders a fine garden which includes an aviary with a large number of birds and two giant tortoises. To see greenery in Aden is a great delight and we are very grateful to the KOSB for handing over such a good garden.

Since we have arrived we have said "goodbye" to Paddy Ford who has moved up the road to the Federal Republican Army and Bill Peat who has moved up to the Trucial Oman Scouts. We congratulate both on passing their Arabic language exams. We welcome to the Mess Davis Voy who has joined us

from Mons OCS.

We would like to send our deepest sympathy to Brigadier and Mrs. Barclay on the death of Robin Barclay. Robin was a very popular member of the Mess and was quickly making a name for himself

in his platoon and Company.

We have had a number of functions since we have been in Aden including two dances held on the main patio with dancing to the steel drums, and roulette has also become a very popular pastime. Our professional croupier Ingleby Jefferson now makes such a name for himself that he is in demand from a number of sources.

# SERGEANTS' MESS

After much packing, weighing and repacking, the Mess finally got to Aden, only to find vast numbers of Scotsmen still there. A few rather cramped nights were spent on camp beds in every available spot, and then away went the Scotsmen and we were able to get down to putting the Mess shipshape again.

This was achieved by much hard work on the part of CSM "Paddy" Conboy and his very willing helpers, and by the use of vast quantities of paint, but the result was very gratifying. On the social side the Mess held a cocktail party and dance as a formal opening night which was a great success (them there old cocktails sure do have a kick). The Mess owes much to CSM "Ted" Holden and his committee for the great amount of praise received from outside units on this event. Many of the Mess members have spent periods in the desert or at Mukeiras and CSM "Tom" Bullock has a real red "konk" to prove it.

We congratulate Sgts. Kelly and Laver on their

promotion to Colour Sergeant, may they have many years of "fiddling", and also the following on their joining the Mess: Sgts. Fletcher, Hansley, Watson,

Lines and Cocksedge.

We must mention a period when it was difficult to tell whether the Mess belonged to the 1st East Anglian Regt. or the Royal Navy, there were so many sailors about. They were Chief Petty Officers and Petty Officers of H.M.S. Llandaff with whom the Mess spent some very happy hours. A visit was arranged to the ship and from the state of a certain old file who came back a very good night was had by all.

At the moment we are preparing for a second event, the Llandaff is back in port again.

## "A" COMPANY

Company Commander: Major W. C. Deller C.S.M.: W.O. 11 Bullock C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. Marjoram

Since we last wrote much water has passed under the bridge and it is difficult to remember what life at Felixstowe was like. Doubtless elsewhere in this issue will be full details of the Battalion move to Aden and so we will not talk about it here but will try to bring all past members of the Company up to date on our recent activities.

Before going any further, we must comment on the tragic death of 2/Lt. Barclay in a climbing accident at Mukeiras on 12th April. In the nine month's he had been in the Company, Robin Barclay had become a well-liked and respected member of the Company, and was a fine leader of No. 1 Platoon. His loss is felt deeply here in "A" Company.

On arrival in Aden we expected to leave almost at once for the only up-country station of Mukeiras. However, this did not occur and we remained in Aden for some five weeks while the local security temperature subsided to a level that permitted the rest of the Battalion to cope without us. During this time we learnt to swing a pretty police baton—soldiers of the sixties seems remarkably like the soldier of the fifties to those of us who were in Cyprus—did some guards, and actually took part in one real I.S. operation with

the local police.

March 2nd saw us released from Aden and we set out for Mukeiras by road. The first thirty miles or so were very pleasant driving along the beach on hard packed sand with the white-capped waves and squawking gulls to keep us company. It seemed a picnic. Then we turned inland through Zingibar and along an inland route to avoid a bad patch of beach. Quite what it was we were missing we prefer not to imagine as our taste of the corrugated up country roads and tracks axle deep in dust resulting in choking clouds of dust and bellied land rovers, told us we were definitely "up country"! After about an hour of this we regained the beach, and while waiting for the tide to recede so as to allow us to continue the Colour Sergeant produced a welcome brew. After about an hour we set off along the beach again, but this time it was much softer going and before long we were towing one of our three-tonners. Despite this we were all at Shugra by one in the afternoon, having covered some sixty miles in six and a half hours.

At Shuqra we turned in land and began the climb up the Lodar plain via the Irgub Pass. This track climbs up through a tumbler mass of lava rocks by a series of hairpin bends to a height of 2,500 ft. above sea level. When we set out, we hoped to reach Lodar that night, but due to one vehicle being on tow and the others feeling the altitude, it was 4 p.m. before we arrived up on the plain. Hopes of reaching Lodar that night were finally dashed when one of



The Thirra Pass

the three-tonners broke a front spring. We therefore leagered for the night in the best "General Custer" tradition. Lt. Hawkins and 3 Platoon patrolled the surrounding area to ensure our security, whilst Cpl. Day and his section spent the night in a picquet position high up on the only "jebel" that overlooked our camp.

The next morning March 3rd we set off once more towing our vehicle casualties, and after an uneventful but very dusty drive, arrived at the foot of the Thirra Pass at about 10 a.m. We had seen pictures of this pass but to see it winding its way up the Audhali escarpment for 4,000 ft. quietened even those who had been longing to get out of the -- truck in this dust. At about 1015 the platoons set off for their climb and, despite the heat of the day, the 4,000 ft. climb and the 55 hairpin bends, arrived at the top in reasonable order about three hours later. Pte. Meakins and Cresser will, we feel, remember their climb for a long time and we all learnt the value of salt and water discipline, Getting the vehicles up was a different story. This took nearly four hours. Three-tonners have to reverse and angle themselves at all the corners with a cliff face on one side and a sheer drop on the other. Other complications were Arab vehicles whistling down the pass with a blind trust in Allah and absolute disregard for other traffic, and a complete lack of brakes, wheezing petrol pumps and fuel locks caused by the temperature and the vehicles overheating on the climb. Sergeant King, who because of a twisted knee came up on a three-tonner carrying ammunition, arrived looking like a ghost and saying "Next time I'll climb up on my hands and knees before I'll ride". Mention should be made here of Colour-Sergeant Marjoram's effect on vehicles. Despite frequent transfers between vehicles, different vehicles carrying him experienced water leaks, broken springs, broken petrol pumps (twice), fuel starvation after a halt and a tyre blow-out. What a jinx! Having successfully arrived at Mukeiras, we settled in at the airfield camp where we were very well maintained by the RAF, gripped our advance party which we had not seen since before Xmas (L/Cpl. Wade's haircut particularly exciting the CSM) and began to train -Annual range course, on rifle, LMG, Field Firing, Picquetting, Hangar building, helicopter delivery via the rope to mountain tops, patrols, PE tests and so on. We were visited by the C.O. twice and by the Brigadier once and as they both seemed satisfield we assume that we are achieving something even if it is only the complete destruction of all our boots and most of our KD.

Despite all this we've still found time to explore the local wadis which are surprisingly green and fertile with lettuce and tomatoes growing between fields of barley and clumps of peach trees. We've also visited the Souk in Mukeiras which, on Tuesday, is a most colourful sight—rather like Cambridge on a Monday, as Major Dellar was heard to mention—and have at last found a football team we can beat—Mukeiras United. However, why a soldier in soccer boots in a collision with an Arab in bare feet gets bruised shins while the Arab is unhurst will always remain a mystery to us.

Tombola was a great activity at Mukeiras. Pte. Devonshire is alleged to have never drawn any pay after his first lot of winnings and the Sgts. Mess Syndicate seemed to do very well. Perhaps this was because the CSM was the caller. Pte. Coggles also did very well until he failed to duck whilst leaving the camp one morning in a 3-tonner and found the barrier down and harder than he thought!

Other aids to amusement at Mukeiras were two Russian type grenades being thrown into the campfortunately the thrower hadn't been to a Small Arms School to learn how to remove the pin—and some twenty rounds or so being fired into the camp one evening. This, we were told, is a fairly traditional Arabian pastime. However, L/Cpl. Davies didn't see it this way and had a very untraditional furniture layout in his tent after the grenade incident.

We are now back in Aden combining all sorts of activities to allow the rest of the Battalion to go and see something of the Western Aden Protectorate. We hope that they enjoy it.

Since arriving in Aden we have said goodbye to Sgt. Cocksedge who left us for "C" Company on his promotion to Sgt. Congratulations on the promotion, anyway; also to Cpl. Harman (C), Pte. Whiteman (B). Ptes. Hudson, Murrels, Nettleingham (MT), Pte. Bloomfield (SP), Kent, Lewis, Guymer (Mortars). We wish them all the best in their new surroundings. We also welcome Ptes. Cornwall, Griggs, Redmile, Johnson, Richardson and Spooner, all fresh from "C" Company.



A Belvedere helicopter lifting Reconnaissance Platoon vehicles into the Wadi Taym.

### "B" COMPANY

Company Commander: Major F. R. Fleming C.S.M.: W.O. 11 Holden C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. Kelly

Since the last notes the Company finds itself in an entirely new environment. We left a murky and damp England and on arrival in Waterloo Barracks plunged into a welter of I.S. Drills and "arrival administration". We had only a few casualties from sunburn, the sufferers claiming that this was sustained while doing guard mounting practice in "bare buff".

We have carried out several exercises and minor operations with and without the battalion. On one night of road blocks 7 Platoon was successful in finding 18 rounds of 7.62 ammunition. They also held up a camel train for a considerable length of time. The Company also took part in the Maa'lla cordon and search operation. We went out on a somewhat illfated three days' desert familiarization exercise where our trail was marked by broken or bogged down vehicles including the water cart whose radiator blew up in the training area. However, the surf is excellent down there so a good time was had by all until Sgt. Sharpe fished out a young shark. 5 and 7 Platoons were next called upon to act as enemy for 45 Royal Marine Commando in training areas B and C and the Little Aden Area. The exercises lasted 3 days and we enjoyed ourselves a lot. Our sympathy was extended to troop after troop and very hot and tired Marines doing attacks over loose sand and high jebel. A certain Platoon Commander also got in some practice with his verey pistol at aerial targets.

Platoons are now equipped with GPMG although in the initial stages of training it was the case of one harrassed subaltern instructing the whole Company on the gun. Sgts. Sharpe and Jones are now our experts having completed a cadre under the eagle eyes of a SASC team from Hythe.

We congratulate Sgt. Kelly on his promotion and wish him good luck in his new job with "C" Company. We welcome Sgt. Jones to 7 Platoon in his stead. We also congratulate Cpl. Goodrum, L/Cpls. Smith and Slinn on their promotions. Together with "C" Company we found the Army Guard on the Queen's Birthday Parade and although this meant rising even earlier than usual the parade was most interesting. It included guards from the Army, Navy and Royal Air Force and Royal Marines. A very colourful parade rounded off by our down-town activities and the Company's move next day up country. The next notes will give details of this exciting period.

### **HEADQUARTER COMPANY**

Company Commander: Major K. C. G. Lywood C.S.M.; W.O. 11 Holland C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. Sennett

The Coy. was returning from leave in dribs and drabs, most of the packing had been done and everyone knew when were due to fly to Aden. We should have known it was all too good to be true. The War

Office suddenly decided it would be nicer if the Regiment could arrive in Aden a few days earlier than expected. Chaos followed, but by the end of January most of us reached Aden one way or another, only to find that the barracks was literally overflowing thank to the War Office and their brainwave. Quite a large number of the Company spent their first few nights in Aden on camp beds in the gymnasium. Luckily the weather was relatively cool but nevertheless a sigh of relief was heaved when we moved into our permanent accommodation as the KOSB thinned out. We have one complete barrack block and bits of the other three. There is no doubt about it, we are quite really well off. Only four to a room and most corporals have their own bunks. Each room has a ceiling fan and an air conditioner (which sometimes works).

During February and early March we settled down and gradually got used to the tropical "working day", 7 a.m.—12-30 p.m. This acclimatisation period was made much easier because we arrived in the middle of Aden winter—glorious weather, quite hot but not unpleasantly so, and with very little humidity. The administrative machine, which comprises a large part of the Company, is now working smoothly but we still have not accepted entirely the 'Aden factor". In plain English this means that tomorrow here means any time in the next week or so—if you are lucky. No doubt we shall succumb to the attitude when we have been out here a little longer! At the moment the cry is "flexibility" meaning that when the plan is changed for the third time in as many hours you just grin and bear it.

With every afternoon free, in theory at least, sport of all kinds is flourishing, though with the arrival of the hot and humid months some of the more energetic pastimes are not quite as popular as they were a month ago.

Just to give you some idea of the wide variety of sporting activities which take place in Aden, here are some which members of this Company take part in. Rugby, soccer and hockey of course, and in the next few months cricket. Then there is basket ball and some sort of rounders' followed by the Band! Athletics are over now but we did very well as a Battalion in all the matches we took part in, due in no small measure to the outstanding performance in field events of L/Cpl. Tancred, ably supported by a number of other HQ Coy. athletes. We have a lot of keen fishermen who operate from the shores or from hired boats as well as those who glide and others who are "Go Kart' addicts. Of course, almost everyone swims, either in our own fresh water swimming pool or in the sea at the "Mermaid Club". A surprisingly high proportion of the Coy. confessed to being unable to swim but instruction takes place daily and everyone should be able to swim like a fish by September.

On the more serious side of life, more and more of the Coy. are finding themselves operational—many for the first time ever. We now have to find two "I.S." platoons, One is made up mostly of Drummers and the other from all sorts of unlikely people, but nevertheless just waiting for a chance to show that they are every bit as good as a "I.S." platoon found by a rifle Coy. In addition, most departments have men away "up country" supporting whichever rifle coy. happens to be "playing soldiers" at the time. All in all, such a varied and busy existence that the weeks fly by and it will soon be August when our leave to the U.K. and East Africa starts.



Private Mugleston takes a "bead" at an armed tribesman in the distant foothills.

### M.T. Platoon

M.T.O.: Lieut M. G. Turner Cain M.T. W.O.: W.O.11 Doughty M.T. Sgt.: Sgt. Bryant

Aden has revised our ideas of driving so much that we have had to start learning to drive all over again. Our initial desert driving was not at all what it might have been and so the M.T.O. decided on drastic methods to improve our style. All available drivers were taken out into the desert for a minimum of one day and practised in digging out "bogged down" vehicles. The result is that we don't bog down now as we know the hard work involved in getting a bogged down vehicle free. Our driving techniques have generally improved during the last month and the number of breakdowns is decreasing.

The platoon is at the time of writing split up, with one group under Cpl. Cox of Mukeiras and another under Cpl. Gardiner out in the blue with S.P. and "B" Coys. We hear from them now and again, usually when they want something we haven't got, but it would seem that as long as they receive their mail, they are fairly happy.

The section under the M.T.O. in Khormaksar continues to have the same problems that any M.T. section has, plus many that it has never had before. However, we get through with the backing of a good R.A.S.C. Company Transport Office.

Our congratulations to L/Cpls. Woolf and Kilvington on their promotion and welcome to Ptes. Nettlingham, Rintoul, Salmon, Hancock, Hudson, Murrells, Coulson, Walker, Cpls. Cowperthwaite and Slocombe. Cfn. Harkness and Eyton, on joining the

Section. We hope their stay with us will be a happy

The following have left us on release: Ptes. East and Aylett. They have both been with us since Berlin days and were two of the "characters" of the section. We still think that "Cabby" Aylett will be back with us and we are keeping a Bedford ready for him.

L/Cpl. Gollings has taken over the servicing from Cpl. Love and is guided in his duties by Hughes, who, many of our readers may remember, had a lot of trouble in keeping his false teeth. We are proud of his new ones and hope he manages to keep them in. CSM Doughty is doing a "Percy Thrower" act and turning the waste ground surrounding the M.T. offices into a garden. Plants are springing up in all directions and volunteers (??) can be seen at all hours watering and

Mention must be made of the Recce PI drivers or the "Desert Wanderers" as they are better known. Although not M.T. personnel they have been a great help to us since our arrival in Aden, and on certain occasions we would have had the greatest of difficulty in managing without them. S.P. Coy. drivers, especially Ptes. Reeve and Fowler have also been clocking up the miles and their work is appreciated by the section.

# **Battalion Orderly Room**

Suffolk and the South Arabian Federationworlds apart, and yet, as usual, the tide of paper is ever-increasing and all attempts to stem the flow are of no avail. Our motto must remain "if you want anything done put it in writing and make it priority"

The days of Monday morning absence and "sick at home" are now behind us and each "Government official" now has his passport, thank goodness, but already the new task of sending all the single and married unaccompanied soldiers on leave to the United Kingdom looms large over the horizon ready to fill the vacuum left by our Felixstowe problems.

However, there is no doubt that L/Col. Starling and Ptes. Whitman, Leonard, Welch and Patrick will willingly work overtime to overcome any difficulties that may arise. WO11 Kinson, Sgt. James and Cpl. Compton are luckier in that they have their respective families with them in Aden whilst Private "I want a transfer" Brown can daily be seen estimating his chance as his name nears the top of the "Married Ouarters Fixed List"

Certainly the majority of the Orderly Room miss the East Coast weather and are finding that constant sunshine has its disadvantages. The English climate is not the only thing that is missed and it is becoming increasingly evident that Felixstowe had far more attractions than those published by the Information Bureau. Certainly Private "Wings" Patrick will have little competition if he applies to extend his tour and join the permanent staff of the Aden Garrison Gliding Club. The remainder of the Orderly Room staff quickly lost interest when it was realised that to return to the United Kingdom by glider was impracticable! Arabs, bed bugs, paludrine tablets, riot drills, faulty air conditioners and Rifle Company attachments must therefore be endured for another 16 months, but surely the free lemonade and the afternoon siestas are some compensation, whilst the ardent Ipswich supporters must be better off than those who are drawn to Portman Road with the hope that "it can't be so bad next week"

Finally our congratulations to Private Welch who was selected for the Battalion, Army and Combined Service Athletic teams, and won his event in fine style, to L/Cpl. Starling on gaining his promotion after a six weeks cadre, and to the O.R.Q.M.S. who continues to represent the Battalion at hockey whilst the bulk of his staff seem to prefer more oriental types of physical endeavour.

### P.R.I.

Captain P. K. R. Ross

Since the last issue Capt Ross has taken over from Major Churchill and Cpl. Hughes has come from "C" Coy., to look after the NAAFI. Sgt. Adams, the mainstay of the department, is still with us working like a beaver and ably assisted by L/Cpl. Greaves, our photographic expert, Pte. Flower (typist, and the only man who understands the intricate filing system) and Pte. Champion, who is the minibus driver and jack of all trades.

We must not forget Ptes. Moss and Whymark who are doing jobs as grooms in the stables, and who, although nominally on strength are seen only at irregular intervals when they appear on pay parade.

# Corps of Drums

On our arrival in Aden we were made welcome by our favourite Drum Sgt. who was acting C.Q.M.S. on the Advance Party for H.Q. It took him only 15 minutes to issue us with our bedding on temporary loan and 10 days to withdraw it. We wonder why he still looks behind lockers in our rooms-is he

looking for those missing camp beds?

After exchanging our Drum Kit for rifles we found that once more we were required to assist the Rifle Companies in their I.S. commitments. A few days' practice and we became quite efficient in these duties, so much in fact that on the I.S. competition we had to request the Drummers not to win first place as we would have had to demonstrate to the Battalion and the Garrison.

Out from the U.K. came our Drums and most of the parade kit. In between guards, I.S. drills and Battalion turnouts we found time to practice for the Queen's Birthday Parade who said we did not know whather it was Wednesday or Wembley?

With the help of a section from the Q.M.'s department, we now have an efficient I.S. Pl. waiting to prove ourselves. We have been very close at times to being called out, never finally committed. A few of us have a funny feeling they are frightened to send

We have just completed our first Queen's Birthday Parade in Aden, in which we were proud to take part. A lot of praise was heard all round, but at one stage of the parade the rear rank of buglers were nearly joined by the marching troops, but thanks to Drummer Foster who was not looking to his front, the catastrophe was averted.

Much to our regret we had to leave Cpl. Phillips and Pte. Stokes behind at the Depot in Bury St. Edmunds, but we are hoping that Cpl. Phillips will be able to join us soon. Our "Fascinators" Steel Band has made a great success here both with the worthy oriental gentlemen and Europeans.

Thanks to the Public Relations who gave us plenty of publicity we were a big hit from the start and have not looked back since. We must apologise to Cpl. (Sid) Phillips for not mentioning him in the National Press as a past player in the Steel Band. We heard he was very upset about this, so to make amends we are now going to dedicate a new tune for him (Come And Join Us).



Corporal Bowman's Section advances.

At this point we would like to say farewell to L/Cpl. Colgan who has left us for Civvy Street and welcome Ptes. Burrell, Allen and Docerill who have joined us from the Depot. We hope they will have a long and happy stay with us.

Our congratulations to L/Cpl. Gee on his promotion and to Dmrs. Whyatt, Talbot, Foster and Smith on their appointments as qualified drummers. We wish to inform readers that, not only have we got a tuning attachment on our bugles which enables us to get in tune with the Band (when they are out) but according to a certain drummer we also have one that plays wrong notes whenever the Adjutant is listening, but not to worry.

We are now looking forward to U.K. leave which stretches over a period of 7 months starting in August.

### Quartermaster's Department

Q.M. (Tech.): Capt. (Q.M.) H. H. Norman, M.B.E. Q.M. (Accn.): Lt. (Q.M.) R. F. Baldry R.Q.M.S.: W.O.11 L. Drew

Since our last notes we have welcomed into our department Lt. (Q.M.) R. F. Baldry and C/Sgt. Laver. Lt. Baldry has taken over Q.M. Accn. whilst C/Sgt. Laver is being baffled by Cpl. Jacobs in the G1098 office.

We would also like to congratulate the following on their promotions: C/Sgt. Laver, Cpl. Fletcher to Sgt., and Ptes. Smith and Amis to L/Cpls.

We are thinking of our R.Q.M.S. on his little jaunt into the mountains; we understand that he is enjoying the fresh air; also the change from camp life. At the time of writing these notes it is the Arabs' Christmas holiday which means we have lost our "Char Wallah" but like all Q.M.'s we have a No. 2 copy, our one and only Cpl. Henry who was promoted Char Wallah for a day, and a very good one he was.

We are sure all the families in station would like to say thanks to the Bn. M.Q.A.S. Representative, C/Sgt. Nichols for the gallant work he has been doing, and will be sorry to learn that he will be leaving us in the near future.

We would like to send our congratulations to "Dad" Andrews' wife on giving birth to a bonny bouncing girl, also to L/Cpl. Smith's wife on giving birth also to a bonny girl. We hope that both wives and daughters are doing well in England and that they will soon join their husbands here. Cpls. Jacobs and Gladwell, and L/Cpl. Stannard have started informing everyone on the amount of days they have to do, which at the present is two hundred and thirty.

In closing we would like to say that we are sorry that we are unable to supply any information or photographs of our recreations as we are far too busy supplying our Coys, with equipment.

### Band

Owing to the worsening situation in the Middle East the Band was rushed to Aden in January followed only a month later by its instruments. We then settled to a steady streaming round of engagements, and performed alongside the 16/5th Lancers Band at the Queen's Birthday Parade on 21st April. We hope to join forces socially later.

Bdsm. Jenner must leave the Band on medical grounds but while bidding him fond farewell we welcome Bdsm. Hunter and Norris who have recently joined us.

Sportwise we find little opposition at hockey but have been a trifle unlucky at football. Swimming and water polo are now the rage and we should produce some good players. We have also found some fine fishermen who can catch cold if little else. The beer here is cool and canned and we make every effort to become likewise. The married quarter situation here is improving and with the fond wish that all our families will soon join us I close these notes.

### Gliding

Some people say there is nothing to do in Aden. As far as sport is concerned the opposite is true. There can be few other places where so many different sporting activities take place at the same time, all within a radius of a few miles. One of the more unusual sports which flourishes in Aden is Gliding.

The Aden Services Gliding Club was formed two years ago and equipped by the generosity of the Nuffield Trust. Gliding is a sport new to the Battalion but we now have nine enthusiastic members of the club. Pte. Patrick of the Orderly Room and Pte. Warren of "B" Coy. have both "gone solo" after completing the course. They both did their first solo flight within a month of starting the course—a very good effort. Bdsm. Hunter and Pte. Cheong Kee You of "C" Coy. are in the early stages of their course, so all being well we should soon have another two solo pilots.

We have several people waiting to start their courses and as soon as the word gets out there will no doubt be more. Perhaps some of the M.T. and Recce Pls.—a number of whom have had joy rides after driving club members to the field. We also hope to persuade the R.S.M. to "have a go", he of course having been an Army Glider Pilot in his youth. So far he seems surprisingly reluctant to renew acquaintance with engineless flight. We can assure him that our machines are a very different kettle of fish to the monstrous things he used to fly.

The "hot" season is now upon us but we hope to continue instruction for some months yet and perhaps throughout the hot weather so we should have quite a lot of fully fledged glider pilots before the next issue of the journal goes to print.

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# 4th BATTALION THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT (T.A.)

# **BATTALION REVIEW**

The pundits said "No"; the adventurous said "Yes"; youth and the spirit of adventure won the day and the Battalion Dance was a great success. On Friday 10th April the Federation Club rocked with "mod" and "shake" led by R.S.M. and Mrs. Fowler, and C.S.M. Parker distributed expensive prizes at half-time to lucky ticket holders. The immediate outcry for another dance will be satisfied on Friday 3rd July when once again legs, arms and torsos will be twisted, entwined and shaken free to the hot beat of Dave Quinlan and the Cheaters, and the rhythmic

strumming of L/Cpl. Grant.

A deafening roar; a streak of light; and the Saxonians had fired their rocket on to Fantasia in the nick of time. Moments later the rocket base had been over-run by the marauding Fantasians on their annual mid-winter incursion into Norfolk. This was the highlight of a Cold Weather Tough Training Exercise in which TA and Cadet units from all over Norfolk joined the Battalion, Platoons from Norfolk A.C.F. Units, Gresham School C.C.F. and Nottingham University O.T.C. joined the rifle companies, 331 Signal Squadron provided communications and 927 Coy. R.A.S.C., transport. The exercise ended on a cold, grey morning on Sunday, 15th February on the north coast of Norfolk near Wells when the Saxonians, Bear Force, led by Major Ted Smith, chased the Fantasians, Jackall Force, led by Major Isak School of the Carlot of the Saxonians of the Sa Jack Salter, across a bridge built by 251 Fd. Pk. Sqn., R.E., over Warham Green and into the sea to "waiting ships". C.S.M. Hiscock, a Bedfordshire man, improved his knowledge of Norfolk during his nocturnal search for a platoon of cadets, lost during the first half of the exercise and eventually discovered drinking tea at the base camp in R.A.F. Bircham Newton. The "fighting troops" obviously thought Bn. H.Q.

The "fighting troops" obviously thought Bn. H.Q. had had too comfortable exercise sitting sipping hot tea and brandy in sheltered barns; for an hour after the exercise's end Bn. H.Q. still struggled to maintain contact with company radio stations that had closed

down without warning.

A tuft of grass moved; or was it just a shadow dancing in the sun? Another moved, and yet another, and then a group of shadows flitted quickly from shrub to fold and fold to bush. "B" Company's section were well on the way to winning the inter-company Section Competition, an innovation this year. Every Company trained one section of men who had to move from a rendezvous in transport, debuss and advance on foot, and attack a series of enemy positions. The Competition was easily won by "B" Company from King's Lynn, led gallantly by Cpl. Oakes, and trained skillfully by their P.S.I., C Sgt. Watson.

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ADVICE GIVEN

For the first time cadets from A.C.F. units in Norfolk were invited to take part in the Battalion Small Arms Meeting, and for the first time for many years the Individual Rifle Competition was wrested from the W.O.'s and Sgts' Mess by 2/Lt. Farrington. W.O. 11 Banthorpe and W.O. 11 Hiscock won the LMG Pairs and C/Sgt. "Sam" Turner won the Sten Competition. H.Q. Company yet again won the Inter-Company Competition. Immediately after the Bn. meeting the Bn. team started training for The Brigade /District Meeting under the expert eye of Major Cousins. On the first weekend it snowed so heavily that shooting was impossible and so there were only three weekends available for practice, and on one of these it rained much of the time. In spite of little practice the team did well and won the Brigade Competition, and was placed third in the District Competion. The following won prizes:

Bn. Rifle Team—1st in both Brigade and District

Competitions.

China Cup Team-1st in Brigade Competition. Falling Plate Team—1st in Brigade Competition. Sgt. Spalding-Highest score amongst T.A. permanent staff in Brigade Individual Rifle Competition.

Pte. Warhurst-Runner-up in Brigade Young

Soldiers Rifle Competition.

R.S.M. Fowler & Sgt. Spalding-Runners-up in the District LMG Pairs Competition for Permanent Staff.

In preparation for Camp the Mortar Platoon fired their mortars in conjunction with "R" Battery of 308 (S & NY) Regt., R.A. (TA), and the Battalion deployed on a signal exercise with the same Battery. Our accommodation at Camp will be comfortable huts but a glance at the training programme suggests that we will see little of them.

# OFFICERS' MESS

The last of the winter's Mess Nights was held early in March, when the Mess welcomed Captain E. L. Thompson (R.A.P.C.) Lt. N. J. Davies, 2/Lt. P. J. R. Palgrave-Moore and 2/Lt. M. P. Lee-Warner, who have recently joined the Battalion. One of our guests was Mr. B. L. Misselbrook, general manager of the Norwich Union, whose son Peter was "Mr. Vice" for the evening.

At the Regimental Rifle Meeting at Thetford Mr. Hubbard's Curry Lunch kept all of us warm on a none-too-pleasant day—perhaps it was the curry that was responsible for wresting the Individual Cham-pionship from the Sergeants' Mess for the first time for a great many years—our congratulations to Peter

Farrington for his fine effort.

# SERGEANTS' MESS

As usual we have a number of changes to report. Sgt. Toll, Hilton, Page, Locke, and Judd Dawson have at last retired. We welcome in Sgts. Bransby and Burton, and congratulate them on their promotions.

Successful Saturday evening Mess socials have again been held thanks to work put in by the entertainments committee; and we are very pleased to report that news of these socials has at last reached the ears of more ex-members who are now attending in increasing numbers to re-live and re-fight many battles over a pint of the best at the cheapest possible price. Pass the news around—the more the merrier. This maxim proved to be true at the Regimental Dance held at the Norwich Industries Social Club

where twist, mod and waltz came not amiss to R.S.M. and Mrs. Fowler and to many others.

Congratulations twice-over to Sgt. Spalding upon the birth of a bouncing daughter and on his successful shoot at the 54 (East Anglian) Div./Dist. Rifle Meet-

We are still waiting for Sgts. Danny Dance, Stan Burrell and Eagle to collect their tankards from the Mess, Ex-members please stir them up to come to

another party.

W.O. II's Hiscock and Banthorpe, and C/Sgt. Turner excelled at the Bn. Rifle Meeting. The countdown to Camp has started and we set out for Plasterdown Camp on 6th June.

# HEADOUARTER COMPANY

We started off in February with Exercise "Cold Comfort"—no exercise was more aptly named. The North Norfolk coast is surely one of the coldest places in the country at that time of year though a certain W.O. II was heard to remark that it was nothing compared to the Ardennes in 44/45, a comment we take with a large pinch of salt. The Exercise took place in the area between Bircham Newton and Wells, the byways of which are becoming more familiar to us each year. Attacks were pressed home with great determination against equally determined defenders accompanied by loud and varied noises. The foreign language at times had to be heard to be appreciated. Only one bunch of Cadets got lost but they managed to find their way back to base, much to the disgust of our P.S.I. W.O. II Hiscock, who had been searching for them during the greater part of the night. We feel that the Cooks deserve special mention here for their good work in preparing hot food and soup throughout the Exercise. All too often their hard and long hours of work go unacknowledged. The star turn of the whole affair however was when the Command Post sat down at the wrong Map Reference; how are the mighty fallen! Early in March the Battalion Riffe Meeting was held at Thetford Ranges. Once again the Company was highly successful, winning all the team events and most of the individual trophies. Congratulations are due to 2/Lt. Farrington who became the Battalion rifle champion, to C/Sgt. Turner as Sten champion and W.O. II's Hiscock and Banthorpe, the best LMG Pair. Congratulations to the young soldie's' team on their performance on this occasion and especially to Ptes. Warhurst, Green, Orford and King. Later on in April a number of our Company Team were selected to fire for the Battalion in the District Rifle Meeting where Lt. Farrington had the distinction of being runner-up to the best Officer and Pte. Warhurst came fifth in the young soldiers' event.

We have had some losses lately that deserve mention: Sgts. Toll and Hilton have had to finish their time with us owing to age and as we go to press we await to hear if C/Sgt. Turner has obtained his extension; Sgt. "Dug" Moore, whom we had recently acquired from "D" Company as M.T. Sgt. is now leaving us to take up a position with the Cadets at Nelson Barracks and we wish him the best of luck.

Promotion has been thrust upon some and our congratulations in this direction go to L/Cpls. Cornwall, Hewitt, Howes, Plummer, Sadd and Cpl. Lab-

We are once again preparing for Camp, this year at Plasterdown on Dartmoor, and it could be a very good camp if only the P.S.I. would indent for a little bright weather.

We are now preparing for the busy season and

we have plenty to do.

So far we have played for the Officers' Ball at the Norwood Rooms, at Norwich Prison and the Old Folks' Home at Sprowston. Forthcoming bookings have been made to play at Blundeston Prison, Wymondham British Legion Garden Fete, County British Legion Rally, Watton, Oulton Broad, Group Rally, Wymondham, two programmes on Mousehold, Caister Holiday Camp and a Church Parade at Swaffham. We will also be attending the Band Competition in London. We welcome Major Grant as the new Band President and hope all the headaches that bands usually cause will be small ones. Also we are pleased to have with us Bandsmen King, North and Grimwood, valuable additions to the Band. The two veterans of the Band, Sgts. Locke and Dawson have decided to retire. Their total service with the regular and TA band was in the region of seventy years and we shall greatly miss them. To show our appreciation of their long and valuable service we presented them a clock each. We wish them both good luck.

We have had a few rehearsals with our Corps of Drums which have been a great success, and we hope

to continue to play regularly with them.

The Bandmaster is writing a new symphony called nsdown Lament" or "Amp-Rita-Roco". His "Lansdown Lament" or

inspiration comes from a beautiful maiden.

Our Thursday evening sessions are devoted to light opera, conducted by Bandsman Wilson, with music written mainly by Mozart, Chapman and Plat-

We have recently been told that we will take part in the carnival procession in Norwich, and during

Regimental Cricket Week.

As usual our annual social went with a swing and large portions of eats were consumed and washed down with plenty of beer. We would like to thank Mrs. Eves, Baker and Wilson for the splendid layout of the buffet. It actually did lay a couple out!

If anyone saw the R.S.M. with a cockerel on his shoulder would they please report the matter to the

Ministry of Chickenry.

We hope the weather at Camp is kind and no doubt some of the band will find their way to Okehampton to visit old friends-and young ones.

# "A" COMPANY

One unusual piece of training was Exercise 'A' Drive when we had seven 1 ton vehicles roaming round Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex. They all worked completely independently and had to select routes avoiding all main roads and keeping five miles clear of towns. This proved to be a real brain-teaser and was a very good instructional test of map-reading ability. One group learned the difference between Eastings and Northings the hard way whilst the rest of us spent what was left of the night bivyying on the bleakest airfield in East Anglia—just outside Saffron Walden. The crew who had borrowed the R.S.M.'s Rover had to walk the last few miles to get help to pull it out of a ditch. Does anybody know why Pte. Polkey is not going to camp?

"A" Company represented the Bn. in the R.A.S.C. competition "Rally Round" and Capt. Shearman and Pte. Wallace came second-they would have been first if Capt. Shearman had not been so modest

about his endorsements!

We have had a very encouraging influx of recruits recently and Sgt. Barnes has been able to

organise some interesting training for his recruit platoon, which is now far stronger than the rest of the Company put together. His most ambitious effort was a weekend exercise at Fritton where 22 of "A" Company spent the weekend with an equal number of Army cadets. Bivouacing for the night was a good demonstration of the right and wrong way of doing it-we kept dry under our groundsheets whereas the cadets became a sodden mass of misery. In the Bn. Inter-Section Competition we did very creditably considering that our Section was composed of recruits some of whom had never even fired a rifle before.

We were very pleased when Pte. Haylett upheld the honour of the Company by winning the Young Soldiers' Cup in the Bn. Rifle Meeting. His good example was followed by our P.S.I. Sgt. Spalding who won the Divisional Regular Army Competition.

At Costessey we had a demonstration of the instability of two-man dinghies. Who said "Help! The Little People are pulling me down?" We think they must have got him after all, for we have not seen him

On the social side the Annual Dinner at the Sandringham Hotel was an outstanding success with

an attendance of 84.

Congratulations and best wishes to Ronnie Amis on his marriage and to Sgt. and Mrs. Spalding on the birth of a daughter. Congratulations also to Cpl. Harris on his promotion.

### "B" COMPANY

In the March issue we complained that there was little to report. In the best of traditions of the British Army grouser we have now cause to complain that too much has happened! It will be quite impossible to write an account which does full credit to our warlike activities.

Our week-end training up to the end of March concentrated upon section work. The junior N.C.O.'s were given plenty of practice in the field and by the time the Battalion Section Competition arrived all were confident of victory. Though only one section took part in the competition all N.C.O.'s and men had worked so hard and made such progress that the selection of the final team was not simple. The result of the competition was ample reward and Cpl. Oakes and his men deserve our congratulations.

On drill nights in March the emphasis was upon patrols. Lt. Davies, whom we are pleased to welcome to King's Lynn, found himself in the deep end at once. On his first evening out he found his patrol entangled with a courting couple. A very fitting intro-

duction to a T.A. exercise.

Early in April, "B" Coy. did a night fighting patrol exercise on Stanford P.T.A. C/Sgt. Watson "TA Watson" as he must now be called as the result of the well deserved promotion of P.S.I. Watson) was sent out on a mission of vital importance. The Coy. had purchased a new yellow plastic bucket and was anxious to test its virtues. The C/Sgt. was despatched to a pub with instructions to bring back a bucket of beer. At the sight of the crowded bar his nerve failed. He sneaked round to the back door and an astonished landlady was given the bucket and the order! The beer was much enjoyed by the returning patrol. Next day the Brigadier watched the Coy. house-clearing. He remarked that they looked very fit. It must have been the beer!

Benefer, Short, Taylor and Goldsmith have joined the Regular Army and we hope that they enjoy their

new life.

Cpl. Childerhouse (R.A.S.C. att.), Pte. Pegg (A.C.C.), and Pte. Brock have joined us. Three other recruits are in the melting pot. The following "Ever-Readies" are going to Aden: L/Cpl. Bolderow, L/Cpl. Benefer, Cpl. Bloom, Pte. Bussey B., Pte. Bussey S., L/Cpl. Mapletoft, L/Cpl. Somerton, L/Cpl. Terrey.

Two highly successful socials have been held in the last few months. Those members of the Bn. Rifle Team who spent the night here can bear witness to them. The R.S.M. was most impressed by the turn-out of the "Mod girls!!" He can't wait to attend our next performance!

# "C" COMPANY

The period under review started with our annual Company dinner, this year held at the Lamb Hotel. The meal was excellent and for our entertainment we had a local "Beat Group" which happens to employ one of our own L/Cpls. working under the unlikely name of "Wild Bill Grant". The highlight of a very enjoyable evening was a presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, our Wymondham end "Civvy Attached", who work so hard and willingly for our comfort.

Many hopefuls attended a junior N.C.O.'s cadre, successful, we think, as more and more of the Company now refer to various weapons by name and not as that or this "Whatsisname".

Horsford Range in early February is not the most encouraging of sights but we had to go to select our Company representatives for the Battalion Rifle Team. As the weekend was well attended and we shared the range with Headquarter Company, our sharpshooters were inspired to do their best, old talent was rediscovered and the likelys showed of their best; and included in this show of best was our Colour bloke's efforts to produce hot dogs and tea, which in fact sold like hot dogs.

Talk of hot dogs, those two magic words were a week later the code words that started the Battalion exercise "Cold Comfort". Held in North Norfolk and based on Bircham Newton airfield there were some Saxonians who wore berets and some Fantasians who wore cap comforters—or was it the other way around or was it? Never mind. Attack, defence, hot soup, bleary eyes, one or two new words (obviously from those fiendish Fantasians) are now all mixed in a blur and summed up by the stalwarts with the new common phrase, "It wasn't as easy as this last year"

A more gentle and pleasant weekend came with the Battalion Rifle Meeting held at Thetford on 29th

February/Ist March.

Inconspicuous at prize giving time we justified our presence with C.S.M. Hewett coming 5th, Cpl. Howes 10th in the Rifle, and Pte. Bokenham being our highest scorer with the Sten. Our congratulations are due here once again to Headquarters Company for being champions for the third successive year.

On our specialist side we have had several 3 inch Mortar Shoot weekends which are viewed with mixed feelings dependant on the amount of affection you have for "the stove pipe thing" (new recruits' vocabu-

lary).

After many threats, pleas, and promises a Battalion Dance was held at the Federation Club Rooms on Friday 10th April. The pessimists were really knocked cold this time; everyone who came enjoyed themselves and we are now pressing for a repeat performance after Camp.

A blow to our Camp numbers was the news that the Ever-readies could go to Aden to the Regular Battalion for their Camp. The news produced a flurry of forms to be completed and when the dust had settled we found that we had to do without the pleasure of the Company of L/Cpl. Grant W., Ptes. Budrey, Bokenham, Minns, Yallop, Overton and Batten who prefer Aden to Plasterdown, and L/Cpl. Grant J., who is going to B.A.O.R. We wish them the very best of luck and wish even more that we could ioin them.

The Brigade and District Rifle Meeting will be covered elsewhere and enough said that we won the Brigade Competition, with the aid of W.O. II Hewett. Cpl. Howes, Ptes. Budrey, Bokenham and Minns. Well done, chaps, but please check that sten barrel

earlier next time.

We have strengthened our numbers since the last issue with Ptes. Armstrong, Dobson, Brown, Oakley, Davies, the other Brown, and Sgt. Slaughter who has joined us from the Q.R.R.'s.

Farewells are due to Ptes. Seaman and Thacker (who were they anyway?), known only to the Com-

pany by their ID Card photographs.

Congratulations to C/Sgt. Bates, our P.S.I., on promotion, to Pte. Budrey T., on his marriage, to all of our many new dads on their extra family allowances and lastly the rarely mentioned type, the engaged to be married (can't come so often now, Sir) — the novelty, sometimes called chains, will loosen and they'll be back.

Looking ahead to Camp we can only hope that the bedding-in drill will not be spoilt by the complete disappearance of our Mortars into a bog and thus

spoil our P.S.I.'s inventory.

Until the next time we see the diary entry "Gazette Notes to Adjutant by . . ." may we wish all our friends all that we would wish ourselves.

# "D" COMPANY

Since the last issue of the Regimental Journal we have been extremely busy, or giving the appearance of being busy.

Having got over "Cold Comfort" for another year we settled down to attempt some form of training in readiness for Camp. In between Section, Platoon and Support Weapons work, we managed to field quite a reasonable team for the Battalion Rifle Meeting on the 29th February and 1st March. Although we did not win any of the major prizes we did manage to frighten the rest of the Battalion so much that the only ones to beat us were H.O. Company. Our only comment is "Watch our smoke next time!" We are hoping that after Camp we can get a team together to challenge any company in the Battalion. and once we have beaten them have a go at the rest of the Brigade.

Our new Drill Hall is fast growing and we are keeping our fingers crossed that it will be finished in time for the Grand Opening Ceremony by the Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk. The opening date rests on the broad shoulders of the builders.

Major Smith disappeared in March to the heart of darkest Russia, and several members of the Company cast doubts as to whether he would be allowed to return. He came back to us mouthing such fiendish phrases as NIET, PRAVDA, DA, etc., and one night he even went so far as to shout IZVETZIA. The whole trouble is that he is the only one who understands all this, so his lectures to the company are not really as interesting as they used to be.

Captain Standley left us early in April muttering things about "best man", "reception", "honeymoon".

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etc., so exactly what he had planned we are not quite sure.

Finally we welcome Ptes. Ward, Clarke and Freezer who have joined us, and we say farewell to "Doogy" Moore who has decided that he cannot stick us any more and has gone to grace the ranks of H.Q. Company. We know that they will be that much better off having one of his calibre helping them out.

Till next time then, all the very best to all "ex" "D" Company members, and if you would like to rejoin our happy band, we'll be only too glad to see

#### NORFOLK ARMY CADET FORCE

Boys of the Cadet Norfolk Artillery often spend week-ends camping out and most of the time including nights-is spent in adventure training.

This training encompasses, with many variations, canoeing, rifle shooting, wireless operating, river crossing, and cooking.

One of these week-ends was recently spent at Downham, near Wymondham, and nearly eighty boys took part.

On this occasion the cadets got through nearly half a ton of food, which included 180 eggs, 80 loaves, 160 assorted meat and fruit pies, and 56 lb. of por-

The primary object of all training is to teach the boys to be self-reliant, and it was with this purpose in mind that groups were taken some miles from base camp, given a map and magnetic compass and told to make their own way back.

It was to the boys' credit—and their instructors' that everyone succeeded, and in a reasonably short time



Navy and Army Cadets enjoying a meal at camp.



#### THE SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE **REGIMENT (T.A.)**

#### OFFICERS' MESS

Mess activities since last we wrote have been centred upon the Dinner Night held at the beginning of May, but it would be wholly wrong not to make some reference to our visit to Overloon, despite the fact that this episode is covered elsewhere in this issue. There were twelve officers in the party that went over to Holland and the kindness with which we were entertained at every stage of the week-end by our Dutch hosts seemed boundless. It was a great pity that our timetable did not allow us to hold the party which we had planned to give at the end of our stay to repay their hospitality, but we hope that we will one day re-visit Overloon and will be able then to

put the matter right.

On the previous Saturday, 2nd May, we held a Dinner Night at The Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds when we "dined-out" the officers who had left the battalion since camp last year. We were very sorry that Roy Kemp, Duncan Sutor, Charles Isaacson and Tony Checkley were unable to join us but the late members of the Mess were well represented by Derek Sach, John Emra, Christopher Wright and John Clements. The latter re-appeared in the guise of Flying Officer and had just passed his test to undergo training as a pilot. We wish him all the best in the Royal Air Force. Those who were "dined-out" were presented with the customary tankards as a memento from the Mess and we hope that the officers who could not be with us will provide us with an opportunity to present them with theirs soon.

It was an excellent evening and we believe that the guests enjoyed themselves. The tension of the impending by-election did not penetrate so far as the St. Edmund Rooms, although the "law" took a lively interest as the evening proceeded when David Bradford organised a "son et lumière" impression of the army of the future, using some municipal property in the foreground!

All the ex-officers will be greatly missed in the Mess and they carry our very best wishes on their return to full time civilian life. May we, through these columns, remind them that they are honorary members of the Mess and that we hope that they will call in on us often in the future.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

Annual Camp is again on our doorstep and all members are looking forward to this yearly event, both from a training point of view and for the social activities which are such an integral part of the Camp. This year the site is Plasterdown, Devon; most members of the Mess have camped in this area before, namely in 1959.

We offer our congratulations to the following:—C.S.M. Bland on winning the SMG Competition at the Divisional Small Arms Meeting held during April at Colchester; Sgt. Reynolds and Sgt. Hammond on being awarded the T.A. Efficiency Medal; C/Sgt. Brock and C/Sgt. Spall on gaining the 1st clasp to the T.A. Efficiency Medal; C/Sgt. Garrod on his promotion to W.O. II; Sgt. Page on attaining the rank of C/Sgt. We also welcome to the Mess on promotion Sgt. Dedman and Sgt. (D/M) Marshall.

On the 3rd May we held our annual W.O.'s and Sgts. Convention followed by a Sgts. Mess luncheon at the T.A. Centre, Leiston. Guests included the C.O., Training Major, Adjutant, Unit Pay Officer, O.C. "C" Coy. and ex-C.S.M. Peter Cook. The lunch was organised by C.S.M. Smith and his merry members of the Leiston Company. We are most grateful to them for the splendid way everything was arranged and the very pleasant time enjoyed by all.

Immediately after lunch ex-C.S.M. Cook was presented with a tankard, having served 13 years in the T.A. Peter will surely be missed, and we all wish him the best of luck in the future.

Last, but not least, we have just heard that our R.S.M. (A. F. Charlesworth) has been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (Regular). We offer our heartiest congratulations on his well-earned award.

#### **HEADQUARTER COMPANY**

'I' Sec.

At the beginning of February the "I" Sec. was formed in H.Q. Coy. and consists of five men at the moment, namely Ptes. Andrews, Poole, Markwell and Wilson. The training up to date has been theoretical, under Sgts. Fincham and Hammond. We have not much to report this quarter, but next month we are off to annual camp so we will be able to see if what we have been taught in theory we can put in practice.

#### Assault Pioneer P1

The amalgamation of the Bury St. Edmunds and Stowmarket detachments has so far gone with a swing and all are giving their full co-operation.

W.O. II Garrod now has to do quite a bit of travelling to fulfil all his commitments. However, he has 75% attendance at both detachments.

Our latest recruit, Pte. Cockle, is thoroughly enjoying his new vocation and has attended all possible training periods.

Casanova Dye has had to do a long range courting act, as his light of love has moved to Edinburgh, we are wondering if he is considering transferring to a Highland Regiment.

We would like to congratulate L/Cpl. Edwards and Pte. James on their getting the Bn. football team to its present position and likewise Pte. Hughes for his support. Sgt. Pollen, Cpl. Oxford, L/Cpl. Edwards and Harvey are again in the Bn. shooting team and hope to do well in the Div. Shoot.

We shall miss L/Cpl. Edwards at camp this year as he is flying to Aden to be attached to the 1st East Anglian Regiment for training. Cpl. Norman completed a successful week-end with the Anti-Tank Pl. preparing weapon pits and gun positions. He has taken

over the Stowmarket detachment now that W.O. II Garrod has to take part in the training at Bury St. Edmunds.

We understand that Cpl. Oxford is included in the big money bracket as he is now a night worker. We take it that he does his drinking during the day.

#### Band

Since the last edition very little has taken place in the Band except for fulfilling various routine service engagements. The Band is still under the direction of Mr. Walker.

Some old members have left and some new ones have been welcomed to the fold. A new Corps of Drums has been formed at Ipswich and is working very well with the Band, thanks to C.S.M. Townley (P.S.I.), who has worked hard to get it to the standard required.

On May 8th, 9th and 10th the Band and Drums spent the week-end in Holland at the invitation of the people of Overloon who still remember the part played by the Suffolk Regiment in their town in World War II. We Beat Retreat and gave a concert; both these items were televised on the Dutch network.

Camp this year is at Plasterdown, near Plymouth, and we shall be delighted to have 4 Royal Norfolk with us.

Next year the Brigade Band and Drums are hoping to perform at the Royal Tournament. If this comes off it will be a great honour for the Brigade and the Band.

The T.A. now has a Musical Director in the person of Lieut. Kitson (late Sherwood Foresters), whom we had the pleasure of meeting recently. It seems that the T.A. is really getting "with it" at last.

#### Corps of Drums

Now we are firmly established as a Corps of Drums we have had all our time occupied by either practising for or playing at engagements. We started off on January 18th by having the Corps Annual Dinner. This was held in the T.A.C. Ipswich, a hundred per cent attendance insured us of a successful evening. We were honoured at dinner by having as our guests our Coy. Commander, Capt. James, Band-master Walker, C.S.M. Mowle and our P.S.I. W.O. II Townley. After dinner as we were "raving on" the Band President, Major Mason and Major Garrood, O.C. 4 Coy. dropped in for a "quick one". The 26th January found us in Beccles where we paraded through the town hopefully "beating" for recruits, and two weeks later just to show that our new drums will stand up to any weather we played in the rain, hail, sleet and snow at the Bn. football match at Colchester. The Sunday following at Aldeburgh (with no hail, rain, sleet or snow) we played in a gale force eight wind for the Annual Mayors Sunday Parade.

On the 12th April we gave a demonstration of drumming on the stage of the Marino Cinema at Lowestoft. This was the opening performance of the film "Zulu". What with Drummer Rush creeping round the darkened cinema in his leopard skin trying to buy an ice cream, the audience must have thought the film was in three dimensions.

The football final held at Edinburgh on the 25th was a chance for us to visit old friends, namely Drum Major Burlton of the 1st Gordons. He was quite astonished to see our Drum Major, Jock Marshall



Members of the Band of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment try out a new instrument in Holland.

leading the football team on playing "Speed the Plough" on his pipes. Besides all this we have found time to attend Coy. parades and most of us have now passed our T.O.E.T.'s and the annual weapon training course.

Our strength is now 15 and we still have vacancies for a few more.

Pte. Ferguson and his son Ginger are now on tenor drums, and Dicky Bird is learning to trill the flute. Lastly, congratulations to Cpl. Marshall on his appointment to Drum Major and Berney Currey as L/Cpl. storeman.
P.S.—Who is the most important man in the

Drums?

#### Signal Platoon

The acquisition of three 19 sets should give the Platoon a bit more scope in the use of high power transmitters. L/Cpl, Durnan makes a weekly excursion to Woodbridge spreading the gospel according to Pamphlet No. 7.

Congratulations are due to L/Cpl. Durnan on being selected for the Bn. shooting team and to Cpl. Dedman on his promotion to Signal Sgt. All members of the Platoon were sorry to lose Cpl. Phillips to the R.A. We wish him every success—our loss, their gain.

Once again camp draws near and the Platoon are busy painting and praying that our overworked equipment will last the course. Last month we had a Signal Platoon exercise at Ipswich, when we manpacked the 62 sets and this gave us a foretaste of what we shall be doing at Dartmoor during Annual Camp. We also used the 19 set on this exercise and they proved a

The new landrovers are now fitted permanently for radio, this should take some of the drudge out of a signaller's life, as we will not now have to drag batteries around.

We welcome to the Platoons Ptes. Fisher, Bennet and Morphew, Sgt. Soames still soldiers on at Lowestoft, where we hope he is having success with the signallers he is training.

All things being equal, we expect to meet friend and foe alike at camp, and we hope that companies will show their sympathy by not overworking our sets.



Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment Drummers at their annual Dinner.

Top (l. to r.), Captain James, Cpl. Marshall, Bdmr. Walker.

Left (top to bottom), L/Cpl. Warne, C.S.M. Mowle, Pte. Reeve, Boy Sykes, Pte. Bird, L/Col. Currey. Right (top to bottom), Pte. Snell, WO 11 Townley, Ptes. Gadsby and Reeve, Boy Leeke.

#### "B" COMPANY

The last few months have seen many changes in the Company. First of all the Ely Platoon has been transferred to 1 Company and we have missed many old friends on recent occasions. We wish them all the very best in their new Company, C/Sgt. Gillett was included in this transfer and Sgt. Page has been promoted to C/Sgt, to fill this vacancy. He has also taken on the job of civilian-employed storeman clerk and is now working very closely with the P.S.I.. Sergeant Pope, at Cambridge.

The next change has been the decision by C.S.M. Brown that his civilian job was such that he could not carry out his duties of C.S.M. and he has reverted to Sergeant. He has been on a 3-inch Mortar course at the School of Infantry and has now been appointed mortar sergeant in the Support Platoon at Cambridge.

Sgt. Jay, who has been at Haverhill for many years, has unfortunately now reached the age limit and is having to leave us. He has served the T.A. very loyally and kept the Haverhill Detachment togethe through many difficult times. We are all very sorry to see him leaving us. Sgt. Chapman has been posted back to Haverhill from Cambridge and will be taking over as Platoon Sgt.

We should like to welcome Lieut. J. Tyler who has joined us from The Royal Army Pay Corps. He is at the moment helping us at Cambridge but we believe may be posted to another Company fairly soon. We congratulate Cpl. Wells and L/Cpl. Turney on their

promotions.

Week-end training in the last three months has consisted of two range days when we fired our annual range courses, Exercise "Christmas Pudding" and other week-ends organised by Battalion Headquarters. Exercise Christmas Pudding was a test of initiative, fitness, map reading and wireless control. The object was to get from Strethall, near Salfron Walden to Carlton, about 14 miles away. Three teams chose to hitch-hike and three went on foot. The hitch-hikers were at the Newmarket Drill Hall enjoying their turkey Christmas lunch when the walkers hobbled in over two hours late. The winning team, which took advantage of a van driver's generosity, consisted of Pte. J. Taylor, Pte. B. Holder, Sgt. Burch and Cpl. B. Holden. They reached Carlton Memorial some time before the rest, some of whom eventually had to be picked up in lorries. One team got a lift on the main road in a chicken lorry, but the members who gained full experience from the test were those who travelled by "shanks pony". They fulfilled the aims of the exercise by seeping it, reading their maps, using the compass and the wireless.

The Support Platoon have also had week-ends of their own. Highlight of the period was the combined shoot with 308 Regt. R.A. on Stanford P.T.A. This was an exercise to show Company and Battery Commanders each other's capabilities. We supplied one mortar team and they acquitted themselves quite well. Earlier in the year they spent a day doing some dry training in the hills of West Suffolk. This was very successful and the hard morning's work was well rewarded at mid-day. In preparation for Dartmoor they decided to try their hand at mess tin cooking. Eggs, sausages, bacon and fried bread were soon sizzling over the burners and, although their wives would have shuddered at the result of their labours, it was all eaten with relish. Hardly an introduction to the inevitable compo Irish stews but when three of the lads work at Sainsbury's, what can you expect!

The main event on Drill night training has been the inter-platoon drill and signal competitions. The



Exercise "Christmas Pudding". (l. to r.), Sgt. Durch, Ptes. Holder and Taylor, Cpl. Holden and Sgt. Taylor.

Drill competition was held at Cambridge when the chief judge was C.S.M. Townley. We congratulate the Haverhill Platoon who were the winners. Recently we have had a signal competition at Newmarket. The standard was extremely high and the Haverhill Platoon won this as well.

On the social side we have had our annual company dinner. As last year, this was at Newmarket and we are most grateful to Sgt. Taylor for the way in which he laid it on. Over Christmas we have also had our usual functions. The Christmas Shoot was held at Cambridge when the champion team was from the Ely Platoon. The children's party was held at Newmarket when Sgt. Pope as "Father Christmas" made a popular arrival in an open vintage car towed by human reindeer.

Recruiting has gone quite well since the turn of the year. We have welcomed six new faces at Cambridge, two at Newmarket and three at Haverhill. Unfortunately discharges seem to keep pace with recruiting.

#### "C" COMPANY

Many congratulations to our C.S.M., W.O. II A. Smith, on his being awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for Meritorious Service. All will agree that it was indeed deserved.

It was mentioned in the last issue that "C" Coy. were eagerly awaiting their first-ever Dinner. This, was held at the Leiston T.A. Centre on January 11th and was a great success. The catering was done by an Ipswich firm under the direction of 2/Lieut. Capps and an excellent meal was enjoyed by all. The dinner was followed by dancing and a cabaret and our guests included such old stalwarts of the Coy. as Hermy Bailey, Wilf Goddard and Taffy Morgan, all of whom voted it one of the best evenings they have ever enjoyed. The dinner was virtually Major Kemp's swansong (although his joke about camps in his afterdinner speech might belie this fact). It is sad to see him retire after many years fine and unselfish service to the Battalion and this Coy. in particular. He now hands over to Captain Wilson to whom very good wishes in his new role.

The last issue contained a long narrative of the now famed boat race. This issue contains a report of no less sterling feat, if less glamorous, of the members "C" Coy, who made the trip to Edinburgh by car (a distance of over 400 miles) to support the Battalion football team in the final of the Territorial Army Cup. Congratulations are therefore due to C.S.M. Smith, Sgt. Summerfield, Cpl. Murphy, L/Cpl. Smith D. R., Ptes. Clarke, D. Bailey, E. Bailey, D. Emmerson, J. and Gissing D. These gentlemen set out from Leiston at 6-45 p.m. on Friday, 24th April in three cars and by hard driving through the night reached Edinburgh at 7 a.m. the following morning. Due to the hospitality of the Royal Scots (T.A.) they were then able to get their heads down for a few hours' rest until the match started in the afternoon. The same stalwarts then gave moral support to the team and had to compete with at least 200 wild Scotsmen from the opposition. After the fifth Scottish goal the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire gas-rattles died down and a rearguard action under the command of Captain Wilson was then fought to prevent the Flag and the Company Sign mounted over Capt. Wilson's umbrella being taken as war loot. In spite of the heavy defeat the supporters stayed overnight in Edinburgh and travelled back on Sunday, reaching Leiston at 10-30 p.m. All praise is due to the members of the Coy. who made such a grand effort to support the Battalion team. We must also not forget the members of the Bn. team who should receive eternal praise for reaching the final of the T.A. Challenge Cup for the first time ever. Indeed a line effort and we in this Coy. are proud of the fact that we supplied four members of the team in Ptes. Lloyd D., Spall M., Ling A., and Wilson E. We wish them luck in next year's draw and feel sure that they, with the rest of the team, will do their best to get to the final again and bring the Cup home.

Recruiting in the Coy, has improved during the last quarter and we welcome to the Coy, Ptes. Morseley D., Hall D. J., Harvey H., Warner A., Warner L. (our first pair of twins), Russell D., and Hall D. E. We hope they will enjoy a long stay with us. Congratulations are also due to L/Cpl. Seaber on his recent marriage. We wish him and Linda all happiness in the future.

#### No. 4 COMPANY

Recruiting has been the main theme of this last quarter. To start the year rolling an open week-end was held at Beccles Drill Hall, with a static display of weapons in the morning, and in the afternoon "The Battle of Beccles Common". This consisted of a section attack, mortars firing sand-filled bombs, and the mock destruction of an Arab outpost by the Anti-Tank Platoon.

Catchpole's "Marauders" have been very successful in "press ganging" five first-class recruits to build up the new rifle Platoon at Beccles.

On the subject of Beccles, great work is being done by Jimmy Harris and his assistants in converting the Victorian lecture room into a palatial lounge-bar. No doubt we will be having offers from the brewers soon.

Week-end training has been rather sparse this quarter as the T.A.'s treasure chest has been empty. We have had two range week-ends. The Mortars had an excellent exercise in April at Norwich and on the Stanford Battle Area, working in conjunction with the Suffolk & Norfolk Yeomanry. All praise to the junior N.C.O.'s and privates who had to carry out the tasks of the more senior ranks.

Social events have consisted of two platoon social evenings, a darts match against "England's Heroes" at Gorleston, and the third round of the shoot against The British Legion at Beccles, where we just "pipped" them, although it was a close thing this year.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Bland and Pte. Noble on their success in winning the SMG and Volongis pairs respectively at the District Rifle Meeting.

Congratulations on their promotion to L/Cpls. Button and Baldry and Ptes. Pitam and Belsey.

#### VISIT TO HOLLAND

On Friday evening, May the 8th, a group of over 60 Territorial Army officers and soldiers of the Battalion sailed on the night boat from Parkeston Quay. Dovercourt, for the Hook of Holland. Their final destination was the village of Overloon, which is a short distance from the German border. This village was liberated by the 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment on 12th October, 1944, after very heavy fighting.

Men from the counties of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire travelled in the group which was led by



The Colonel of the Regiment talks to members of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment at Overloon.



Lieut-Colonel C. C. Wells, the Commanding Officer, with members of the party which visited Overloon.

Lt.-Col. Wells, the Commanding Officer. Also travelling were members of the Band and Drums.

The party arrived at Vierlinksbeek (to which the municipality of Overloon belongs) on Saturday morning and travelled by road to Overloon where a reception was held for the officers in the Dutch National War Museum.

In the afternoon the whole party made a tour of the battlefield in and around the village to study the action which took place there nearly twenty years earlier. They visited the local War Cemetery and paid homage to the fallen of the Regiment. They were touched to find that each grave had been "adopted" by a local family, and had been lovingly tended over the years. In the evening a visit was made to Arnhem where British paratroopers suffered such heavy losses.

On the morning of Sunday, May 10th, the party joined with the Dutch people in a joint memorial service and parade at the Overloon War Memorial. Later the Band gave a concert outside the Overloon Church. In the afternoon they visited the War Museum and afterwards were treated to a display of Dutch flag dancing given by the local people.

In the evening of Sunday the end of the visit was marked by the Beating of Retreat by the Band, at which the Colonel of the Regiment was present.

After the ceremony the Regiment presented to the Burgomaster of Vierlingsbeek and to the Curator



A Dutch girl tending the grave of a Suffolk soldier at Overloon War Cemetery.

of the Dutch war museum plaques bearing the Regimental Crest.

The party returned to England by overnight ship arriving at Parkeston early on the morning of Monday, 11th May.

#### DEPOT EAST ANGLIAN BRIGADE

The Depot has been kept busy during the last six months and the improvement in recruiting which began in January has allowed us to start a recruit platoon training every two weeks instead of waiting for three weeks; we hope this will continue. The figures show that we have now 130 recruits on training of which 59 joined in February.

Major General R. A. Fyffe, DSO, OBE, MC, did his annual inspection of the Depot on 10th December, and we again received a very satisfactory report. Passing Out Parades have taken place as usual and some of the inspecting officers were:-

The Mayor of Southend
The Mayor of Ipswich
Lt.-Gen. Sir Reginald Denning, KBE, CB, DL
Brig. E. W. H. Backhouse, CBE, DL
Brig. R. H. L. Oulton, CBE...
Lt.-Col. J. M. Petit, MBE, 1st East Anglian Regt.

Brigadier Backhouse presented the MSM and ISM to R.S.M. Duffy, late Regimental Sergeant Major of the Depot Suffolk Regiment, and Mr. P. Watts respectively. Mr. P. Watts has now retired from being the Officer's Mess steward after 35 years' splendid service and his place has been taken by Mr. Calver. late R.Q.M.S. of the Suffolk Regiment. Brig. R. H. L. Oulton presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to C/Sgt. G. R. Wood, of the 2nd East Anglian Regt

Of the many changes in Staff, Major P. P. Young, Royal Leicesters, has taken over Trg. Company from Maior P. C. Philco MC 3rd East Anglian Regt.: Major W. K. Pool, 2nd East Anglian Regt. took over DAAG from Major F. R. Fleming, 1st East Anglian Regt.; Capt. A. R. A. Veitch, 3rd East Anglian Reet., has just relieved Capt. J. E. Hutchings, 3rd East Anglian Regt. as Adjutant; and R.Q.M.S. Duke, 2nd East Anglian Regiment has replaced R.Q.M.S. Pond.

Christmas was celebrated as usual. An ambitious pantomime written by members of the staff was admirably performed. The Children's Party seemed to have more children than ever, both Officers and Sergeants Messes had their dinners, and an All Ranks Dance was held which was a great success. The whole Christmas programme started with a Carol Service in the gymnasium with the Band of the Junior Soldiers playing.

Sporting activities have not been neglected. The Depot Football Team entered the Ipswich and District Wednesday League for the first time and so far have won eight of their football games. Unfortunately they were beaten early in the Minor Unit Cup. At hockey we reached the semi-final of the District Minor Units Competition. Under the encouragement of R.S.M. Jenks, Royal Leicesters, the Depot basket ball team has worked wonders, being still unbeaten in the District League, and at cross country we again won the District Championship in the Minor Units Competion. We have also had a rugger team which has played games with local clubs most weeks. This is largely due to the Leicestershire element of the Depot.

Talking of the future we are training up a Junior Soldiers acrobatic display with trampolines which will be performing in a number of shows throughout the area, and the Bury St. Edmunds Tattoo. The Junior Soldiers Band and Drums are also likely to do some outside engagements during the summer. We are now scratching our heads on how we will accommodate the Bands and Drums of 2nd and 3rd East Anglian Regiments and I Royal Leicesters over the Brigade Week-end

We are looking forward to the autumn when the new organisation will become effective for many reasons one of which it that at last we shall all have the same coloured hats on parade.

#### REDEDICATION OF PENINSULAR WAR MEMORIAL PORCH AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, BIARRITZ

From Brigadier A. J. C. Prickett

The Ceremony of Rededication of the Peninsular War Memorial Porch at St. Andrew's Church, Biarritz, by the Lord Bishop of Fulham, The Right Reverend Roderic Coote, DD, took place on Sunday, 12th April, 1964. The Bishop's diocese covers most of Europe! Also present were the British Consul Biarritz, Mr. Mitchell, Lord Luke, representing the Commonwealth and Continental Church Society who are the trustees of the Church, the Assistant Chaplain General BAOR, The Reverend J. R. Youens, the Naval and Military Attaches from Paris and representatives from some twenty-five of the Regiments whose names are recorded on the memorial, including 9th Foot.

The whole day was spent in ceremonies and celebrations associated with the 150th anniversary of the last occasion on which British and French forces opposed each other in battle on French soil.

The last battle was, in fact, the Sortie de Bayonne on 14th April, 1814. The commander of the French garrison refused to believe the news that the French forces elsewhere opposing Wellington had ceased fighting and he organised a sortie. This led to a short, sharp engagement in which the principal British participants were the Coldstream and Scots Guards, who drove the French back into Bayonne. Considering the relatively small forces engaged, the casualties on both sides were considerable. It would appear that at least two men of the 9th somehow became involved, because their death on 14th April is recorded on the memorial at Biarritz.

The day's events began with a ceremony at the cemetery of the Scots Guards at which were present the whole British visiting contingent, a guard provided by a nearby French parachute unit and the Band of the Worcestershire Regiment, and local French dignitaries. A similar but shortened form of ceremony took place at the same time at the nearby Coldstream cemetery. There followed a ceremony at the French memorial to those who lost their lives in the battle, performed in the French style at which the deputy Mayor of Bayonne made a short speech, very much to the point, to which the British Consul replied.

A high Mass was then held at Bayonne Cathedral. This was very well attended and accompanied by some fine music and excellent singing. This occasion was the more remarkable because the congregation included an Anglican Bishop which would not, until comparatively recently, have been possible. The Cathedral was built by the English during the rule of the Plantagenets, whose coat of arms is in the building.

After the service, and to conclude the morning's events, the British visitors and residents, of whom there are quite a number, were entertained at a "Vin d'Honneur" at the Grand Salon of the Hotel de Ville, Bayonne (equivalent to the Mayor's parlour) while the Band of the Worcestershire Regiment played to the local population in the main square.

During the afternoon, the scene moved to Biarritz and wreaths were laid at the memorial to Queen Victoria and Edward VII who, during their respective reigns, visited this resort. Here, too, were present a guard from the local parachute unit and the Worcestershire Regimental Band, and both, at the conclusion of this ceremony, marched through the town to St. Andrews Church. There a large congregation assembled, British and French, for a very appropriate and moving service which preceded the unveiling and rededication of the War Memorial.

The memorial takes the form of a porch at the north west corner of the church. Upon the walls in black letters on white marble are inscribed the names of officers and numbers of rank and file who were killed during the closing phases of Wellington's Peninsular Campaign. At the foot of one wall is inscribed:

#### PRISTINAE VIRTUTIS MEMOR

"This Porch, dedicated to the Memory of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the British Army who fell in the south west of France from October 7 1813 to April 14 1814, was erected by their Fellow Soldiers and Compatriots, 1882."

#### GIVE PEACE IN OUR TIME O LORD

On the wall are the badges of all the Regiments concerned, including the figure of Britannia surrounded by a wreath above the word "Ninth".

In all, sixty-three Regiments are included, plus the names of a few Naval officers who apparently assisted the army in bridging operations. The names of the 9th dead are set out in two columns and comprise:—

Lt. P. L. Lemesurier	Nive	Dec. 10
Ensign Geo. Bolton	Nive	Dec. 10
N.C.O. 1		Dec. 9
RF VIII		Oct. 7
RF I		Dec. 9
RF X		Dec. 10
RF XIV		Dec. 11
RF 11		Apr. 14

The day's events concluded with a banquet given by The Deputy Mayor of Bayonne and The Mayor of Biarritz at which Regimental representatives were the guests.

There is no doubt that the success of this enterprise is due entirely to the energetic efforts of the Anglian Vicar of Biarritz the Reverend Walter Barnes, and all the Regiments concerned owe him a sincere debt of gratitude, not only for having the memorial restored but also for arranging that its rededication should be accompanied by such appropriate cere-monies. There is equally no doubt that between the British and Basques there is a very friendly feeling There are a number of British residents in those parts and since the reign of Oueen Victoria the area has received many British visitors. It was the area through which British escapees were passed during the second world war on their way to Spain. Anyone contemplating spending a holiday in the area can be assured of a friendly welcome, but at the present rate of exchange he will need either a very favourable bank balance or a friendly bank manager!

#### WHERE NOW BULLETS FLY-

## A PEACEFUL FRAGMENT OF OLD ADEN

by Captain J. G. Jones

"Yet another holiday!" I had exclaimed as my bearer asked me for the next day off to attend the Sheik Othman Fair, the major Arab social event of the year. In keeping with their easy-going nature Arabs are quick to find an excuse for a rest and enjoy with equal delight Christian, Jewish and Indian holidays as well as their own Muslim ones.

The next day Aden's streets were almost deserted and all the shops closed. From dawn jeeps gaily adorned by gaudy patterned cloth bonnet-covers swayed wildly along the road to Sheik Othman, leading the queues of buses, cars and camel carts packed with figures swathed in crisp chequered futahs and turbans. The rustling black shadows in each vehicle were Arab women, the splendour of their coloured silk dresses and golden trinkets covered by a curtain of shimmering black overdresses with only a golden sandal or wrist jingling bangles disclosing the secret beauty beneath, and their eyes, seeing but not seen, hidden behind thin patterend veils which their laws of purdah demand.

In need of exercise I, too, set out for Sheik Othman and the desert.

Sheik Othman, named after a pious and benevolent Sheik, was a rambling little town just inside the border of Aden at the start of the road to Dhala. Side by side stood the modern shiny grey Magistrates'



Two African women dance to the beat of a drum and tambourine.



A crowd of some 15,000 at the Sheik Othman Fair.

Court and old open-fronted buildings with ornately decorated roofs purporting to be "The Mayfair Hotel" or "The Red Sea Restaurant" and displaying anything from earthenware chatties to second-hand bicycles. There was one main street crossed by several minor streets and it was in this main street that a crowd of several thousands was moving slowly up and down talking, jostling and laughing. Both sides of the street were lined with shacks and rows of large black umbrellas hastily erected on the pavement in front of the existing shops. The dour black English umbrellas I was so used to seeing carried neatly rolled and hooked over pin-striped arms looked strangely out of place in a country where rain rarely falls more than three or four times a year. Now, mushroom-like in a row, in a shade temperature of over 95 degrees F. they protected their owners from the blinding rays of the sun

On closer inspection I found there were two distinct rows of umbrellas, one row of eight or nine shading cobblers, cross-legged on the ground, surrounded by old bits of leather and shoddy hand-made sandals, the other row protecting glistening hot cross buns and local sweets piled high on shallow circular bins. How so many cobblers within a few yards of each other hoped to find shoes to mend or customers to buy their sandals I failed to see, especially as almost every foot in Aden was shod with a "flip-flop", a sandal which consisted merely of a rubber sole and a wishbone-shaped retaining strap. No-one seemed to need shoe repairs or new sandals but the cobblers seemed happy to sit and enjoy the spirit of the Fair and frequent chats with passers-by. They all wanted to pose for a photograph and eventually I selected one with a little black beard and an untidy turban perched jauntily at an angle on his head. The hot cross buns looked fresh and golden and only memories of my last bout of "Aden tummy" prevented me from buying one.

The town was packed with Arabs, Somalis and Indians who had travelled as much as thirty or forty miles from Aden and up-country, and all were dressed in their best clothes. Arabs in striped pyjama shirts and coloured turbans or embroidered skull-caps chatted in gutteral, staccato sentences, while Indians in long white shirts and trousers walked slowly beside their womenfolk whose jet-black hair and silken saris glistened in the sun. Brightest of all, dazzling even in this kaleidoscope of moving colours, were the luminous yellows, pinks and greens of the long cotton



Sheik Othman sweet shops.

robes worn by the Somali women. Little boys and girls, dressed alike in party dresses, eyes darkened with charcoal and hair smooth, black and shining, walked hand in hand obediently at their parents' heels.

I walked the length of the street stopping at each shop and shack to examine the wares for sale, and large earthenware chatties standing row upon row particularly attracted my attention. Some were four feet tall and could easily have hidden a small man. I was tempted to buy one, but there was not room in my tiny flat for so large an ornament and so I left my childhood memories of Ali Baba in Sheik Othman. The "restaurants" and "hotels" were selling soft drinks laster than they could cool them, and water vendors carrying buckets of iced water sat at every street corner. A glass of cold water cost five cents and was as important at this desert town Fair as a cup of hot tea is at its English country counterpart.

At four o'clock the crowd started to move towards one end of the main street and so I moved with it into a large open sandy square at the edge of the town. The square was packed with ten or fifteen thousand people cheering and shouting at half-a-dozen horsemen riding round an oval clearing some hundred yards long. The riders were not racing each other but merely showing off their horses' paces, now walking, now galloping, now turning. After three or four minutes they were replaced by camels with their riders perched precariously on large cumbrous saddles forward of their humps. With a supercilious air, only a camel's face can display, eight scraggy, smelly beasts walked slowly round and goaded, prodded, kicked and finally stung by a cane they were persuaded into a trot and then into a loping flat-footed gallop. All round the square spectators clambered on every available car, cart and building to get a better view. In one corner some local nationalist had set up his stand and flung abuse at the British Imperialists. He attracted few listeners. Moving through the crowd I found another little side-show of two Arab men and two African women. One man was trying to push an iron bar into his stomach and in spite of the most frightening groans and grimaces never succeeded, the other walked around the little circle of spectators with a thin metal spike sticking through his cheeks. The two African women, both sweepers, dressed in floral dresses, necklaces and bangles danced to the rhythmic beat of a small drum and tambourine. My white skin soon attracted their attention and the crowd in front of me cleared and they danced a special little dance

for me while I took a photograph. A few cents reward brought smiles to their faces and I moved on.

As the sun dropped low over the horizon, catching in its oblique rays the swirling clouds of dust above the crowd, the Fair came to an end and I watched the crowd disperse hot, leg-weary and dust-smothered, but happy. I walked to the Camel Station where groups of camels lay patiently waiting for their masters to return, and that evening as I drove back to Aden in my car competing for a place on the road with the hundreds of vehicles racing for home I thought of those lucky men who, just as their ancestors had travelled for centuries past, would be sleeping bent over their camels' humps and with only the stars as their guide would be making their leisurely way home along a desert track—where now bullets fly.

#### A FINE FAMILY RECORD

Surely it must be unique that two Battalions of the same Regiment have been supported in battle during two different campaigns— by both a father and his son, who, as a result of their courageous actions, have received awards for gallantry. Yet it is our own Regiment which is proud to acknowledge such acts in support.

The father, Major-General J. A. Campbell, DSO, will be remembered by some older members of the 1st Bn. as a Subaltern in the Sulfolk Regiment when they were stationed in Malta before the 1914-18 War. During 1918 this officer was commanding a Battalion of the East Lancashire Regiment in the Salonika Campaign. Upon the day when the 12th Bn. A & SH, by its indomintable courage, won the Croix de Guerre as a tribute from the French Army. Lieut-Colonel Campbell was ordered to lead his Battalion of the East Lancashire Regiment to the support of the Argylls, The following extract from the "London Gazette", 1st February, 1919, tells the story:—

"Bar to the Distinguished Service Order.

"Captain (Acting Lieut.-Col.) James Alexander Campbell, DSO, The Suffolk Regiment.

"For conspicuous gallantry in the field. He led his Battalion in an attack on enemy trenches . . . while doing so he was wounded . . After the first attempt failed he reorganised the Battalion and again attacked, but was severely wounded in the advance . . continuing in command until he was no longer capable of action. He set a fine example of courage and initiative."

The son, Major G. T. C. Campbell, was serving in The Royal Artillery during the recent war, and, in 1944, had been ordered to support a Battalion of The Gordon Highlanders in attack. The following extract appeared in the "London Gazette":—

The Military Cross.

"Captain (temp. Major) Gordon Thomas Calthrop Campbell, The Royal Artillery.

"During the afternoon of Friday, 30th June, 1944, a Battalion of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders was ordered to withdraw from the Gavrus area after having suffered severe casualties from a surrounding enemy. The Battery Commander supporting this Battalion had already been wounded, and his Observation Post put out of action. Major Campbell heard of this situation, and although still supporting The Gordons, he decided on his own initiative to lend all assistance to The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. This he did, well aware that

he must pass through an enemy-infested area to reach them.

"Major Campbell arrived at his destination at great risk to himself, and the withdrawal of the Battalion was greatly assisted by Major Campbell's act of gallantry, an act far in excess of his immediate duty."

Our Regiment is glad to know of—and to acknowledge with gratitude—the acts of brave men who risked their own lives for the sake of our men.

Thank you, General Campbell! Thank you, Major Campbell! for you gallant acts as father and son. How aptly you have displayed by these actions the impulse which lies behind your own clan march—and our Regimental Air—"The Campbells are Comin'!"

(Extract from the Journal of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders)



## THE 1st EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk) PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION

#### NORFOLK SECTION

President:
Brigadier F. P. Barclay, DSO, MC, DL
Secretary:
Major W. G. Cripps
Headquarters:
Britannia Barracks, Norwich, NOR 67A

#### Dates to Remember

26th September—Dedication of new furnishings in the Regimental Chapel, Norwich Cathedral, 3-30 p.m.

Annual Meeting of the Regimental Association General Committee in the Regimental Museum, 5-15 p.m.

Reunion Dinner, Britannia Barracks, 6-30 for 7 p.m. 12th October—Nurse Cavell Memorial Service at Life's Green, Norwich Cathedral 10-45 a.m.

30th October—King's Lynn Branch Dinner, 7-0 p.m. 6th November—London Branch Dinner, 7-30 p.m.

11th November—Remembrance Service at the Memorial Cottages, Norwich, 10-45 a.m.

#### Regimental Chapel

The Dedication of the new furnishings in St. Saviour's Chapel, Norwich Cathedral will take place during the Evensong Service on Saturday, 26th September at 3-30 p.m. The Bishop of Norwich will be present and the sermon will be preached by a great friend of the Regiment, Bishop Herbert. It is hoped that a large number of former members of the Regi-

ment and their families will find it possible to be present in the Cathedral on this important occasion.

It is almost ten years ago since the Dean and Chapter of Norwich Cathedral invited the Regiment to regard St. Saviour's as the Regimental Chapel.

Because of the need for close consultation at all levels, the task of beautifying the Chapel has taken a long time to complete but the results are most gratifying, and reflect examples of first-class workmanship.

Ten old Colours have been netted and placed in position and five brass memorial tablets have been transferred to the Chapel from the main body of the

Cathedral.

The cost of all the work completed is in the region of £8,750 and the response to appeals for funds has been most encouraging, both from serving and former members of the Regiment, and from firms and friends of the Regiment within the County of Norfolk. The long-term maintenance of the Chapel must now be considered, and in order to build up funds to meet future expenses, contributions to the Chapel Fund are needed. These, however small, will be gratefully received and acknowledged. Please send them to: The Honorary Secretary, The Royal Norfolk Regiment Chapel, Britannia Barracks, Norwich, NOR 67A.

#### Reunion Dinner

The 1964 Dinner at Norwich will be held on Saturday, 26th September at 6-30 for 7 p.m. The Regiment is being honoured on this occasion by the presence of the Bishop of Norwich and Bishop Herbert, as guests of the Association.

#### KERVENHEIM MEMORIAL-

The Memorial at Kervenheim which commemorates more than 40 Officers and Men of the 1st Battalion who were killed in action during the fighting in and around this village on 1st March, 1945, has been visited recently by Captain S. G. Beck. He writes to say that the Memorial is in good condition and appears to be satisfactorily maintained by the local council.

Should any of our readers contemplate visiting Kervenheim it is pointed out that the Memorial has been moved a few yards from its original location to a point just inside the local German civilian cemetery.

#### LONDON BRANCH

#### (From Mr. G. Burns)

Our monthly meetings at the Clarence in Whitehall are still full of interest. Many lively discussions take place and although we are numerically few it is surprising how much work is got through at these meetings. Arrangements are in hand for our Annual London Branch Dinner, which will again be held at the Dragoons Rooms, Westminster. Details can be had from the Dinner Secretary, Mr. George Terry, 18. Devonshire Road, Newbury Park, Ilford, Essex.

It has just come to our notice that Albert Pooley has at long last had to submit to the surgeon's knife and has had his leg amputated. Well, Bert fought a long battle to bring to justice those who committed the atrocity of Le Paradis, and eventually won it. I am sure he will fight and win this latest struggle

for health.

We held our Annual General Meeting in March, but were without the services of Sid Tuck who was kept away by family troubles. However, that old stalwart Dolly Gray, past secretary, stepped into the breach and deputised for Sid. Who better could we have found!! I am afraid that as I am also deputising

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for Sid Tuck in writing these notes I may miss out many things that he would have included. If I have done so please accept my apologies. I shall again be running a coach to Norwich on 26th September on behalf of the London branch and those members who wish to travel with it should contact me at my home address or through the Branch Secretary. Letters for me should be addressed to: G. Burns, 70 Ruskin Avenue, London, E12.

The numbers attending our meetings still keep up a fair average. We have seen one or two new faces recently and we could wish that a few of our older members who seem to have disappeared could make the occasional appearance. The more the merrier, so don't forget the London Branch meets on the first Monday in every month (excluding Bank Holidays) at the Clarence, Whitehall, SW1. If you want to keep in touch with old comrades, why not come along?



#### SUFFOLK SECTION

#### Reunion-Suffolk Section, 1964

As already announced in the last issue of the "Britannia and Castle" the annual Reunion of the Past and Present Association, Suffolk Section, will be held at Blenheim Camp on Sunday, 19th July, commencing at 12 noon.

There will be no Church Service, but the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Training Company cinema commencing at 11-30 a.m. Branches have already been informed.

Lunch and tea will be served for those in possession of meal tickets. There will only be one bar for the sale of drinks.

#### Bury St. Edmunds Branch

Major Blake, ex-Suffolk Regiment, and Chairman of the Plymouth O.C.A., visited Blenheim Camp on the 13th May whilst on a touring holiday and had quite a talk over old times. A few of the names mentioned were Stan Winter, Bill Perry, Horace Lowe, Vic Holiday, Stan Cullum, A, Dickerson, Terry Calver, Taberer, etc.

Major Blake mentioned that he had been appointed Q.M. to the Devonshire T.A.F.A. at Exeter and was commencing his duties on the 20th July next, after his "end of service" leave. He will be greatly missed by the Plymouth Branch in which he took an active interest. We wish him the best of luck in his new appointment.

Some of the older members of the Regiment who knew ex Colour Sergeant Joe Brewer in the 2nd Battalion, will be sorry to hear of his death which occurred in St. Martha's Hospital, Mysore State, on 1st March. 1964 in his 89th year. He enlisted in 1894 and joined the 2nd Battalion in Rangoon from Warley

in 1897. He remained with the Battalion until 10° when he was discharged after 18 years' service. He returned to India as an Army Scripture Reader in the Bangalore area and visited the 2nd Battalion when stationed in Madras. In 1935 he was awarded the Silver Jubilee Medal. He leaves a widow and an only son to whom we offer our sympathy.

We regret to announce the death of another exmember of the 2nd Bn., No. 8083 Donald C. S. Dawes, who passed away on 8th April at St. Helens Hospital, Hastings. He took an active interest in the O.C.A. and was a keen member of the Sergeants' Dinner Club. He leaves a widow to whom we extend our sympathy.

The Bury St. Edmunds branch of the Dunkirk Veterans Association, of which Lieut-Col. J. W. Josselyn is the president, visits Dunkirk at Whitsun every year. This year they also went to Ypres, and took with them as their guest, Mrs. Blake, widow of P.S.M. Blake who was killed while serving with the 1st Battalion Suffolk Regiment in May, 1940, and who was buried near Ypres.

We were sorry to learn of the death of Mr. Percy Broome, who was Post Corporal of the 2nd Battalion, Suffolk Regiment from 1916 to 1918. He was vicepresident of the South Eastern Area of the British Legion. He went to West Sussex in 1922 with his wife to be Superintendent of the North View Old Persons' Home at East Preston, and retired from this post in 1959. He joined the Suffolk Regiment in 1907 as a regular soldier and served until 1919. In 1921 Mr. Broome became a founder member of the Legion, and for 32 years was chairman and later president of Angmering branch, an office he held until he retired last November when he left the district. He also served on the Sussex Council of the Legion from 1936, became county vice-chairman in 1940—followed



by six years' valuable service in the chair, and was a member of the War Pensions Committee and the Unemployment Panel. Mr. Broome will be remembered not only for his fine Legion work, but for his services on the Guardians Committee of Oueen Alexandra's Hospital Home for Disabled Sailors' and Soldiers at Gifford House, Worthing. Major A. P. Nicholson, Sussex county chairman, attended the funeral, together with the county vice-chairman, representing Wing-Cmdr. T. C. Burchell, South Eastern area chairman. Representatives from Angmering, East Preston and Rustington branches also attended.

Another death during the period was that of Mr. Philip Newby of Halesworth. In the first world war he went to France in 1914 with the 4th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment, his company being under the command of Captain (afterward Major) F. J. Rodwell. The Regiment suffered heavy casualties in the battle of Neuve Chapelle in March 1915, and Cpl. P. Newby was shot through the chest. After several weeks in hospital he recovered and was subsequently appointed

Sgt. Instructor.

Ex-Band Sergeant Evans writes: For some time now I have been Musical Director of the Sheffield Military Band, which consists of ex-bandsmen of many regiments. When I took over the band I was pleased to know that the retiring Bandmaster was an ex-Suffolk, namely Bill Wytcherley, who was for many years the euphonium player of the 2nd Battalion Band during the time of Charlie Bye, Bob Curry (ex Band Sgt.) and many other stalwarts who served under the late Major H. E. Adkins.

It is with deep regret that I have to report the passing of Bill Wytcherley on February 24th in the Royal Hospital, Sheffield, after collapsing just before rehearsals one Sunday morning. He was, I think, 63 years of age, but even then he was always the life and soul of the band. He will, I am sure, be missed

by all who knew him.

#### **Ipswich Branch**

Because of the bad weather which was expected in the early part of the year it was decided to suspend O.C.A. meetings during January and February. We held our first meeting of the year on 6th March—the worst evening for about 3 months! In spite of the very cold and wet evening a party of 18 gathered round the fire and had quite a talk on happenings since the last meeting in December 1963.

We welcome as new members Mr. Osbourne and Mr. Pollard both having served with the 4th Bn. many years ago in their younger days.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Harry Frost of Brantham at the ripe old age of 82 years. He died at Tattingstone on 11th April, 1964, after a short spell in hospital. His funeral took place at Brantham

on Friday, 17th April. The following represented the Branch: Messrs, Clarke, Given, Langston and Wyartt. A wreath was sent from the Branch and a letter of condolence to the relatives. Harry Frost originally served in the Essex Regiment and was transferred to the Suffolk Regiment during the 1914/18 war on being commissioned as Quartermaster. He joined the Ipswich Branch of the O.C.A. when it was first formed in 1947 and until quite recently attended meetings, usually during the summer months. He was present at the Presentation of Colours at Felixstowe in June 1963.

Mr. A. Green, one of our FEPOW, has had another spell in hospital at Roehampton. We are pleased to know that he has now started work again.

Congratulations go to Mr. and Mrs. Barnes on being "Centre Page News" on the occasion of their golden wedding, and to Major and Mrs. Williams on "marrying off" their daughter Valerie.

#### London Branch

Our Meeting on April 25th was very poorly attended and very disappointing indeed. Where have all our members gone?

It is hoped that our next Meeting on June 27th will be well attended. We have been missing quite a lot of the old faces lately, and, to make things worse no news is received from or about them.

Ex-Sgt. Harold Jenvey attended our meeting for the first time and, I think, thoroughly enjoyed himself. Business permitting, he hopes to be a regular

attender.

Some of us are looking forward to the Anuual Reunion at Bury St. Edmunds where we hope to meet some of our old comrades again after another year, or perhaps more. Incidentally, "Shoey" Yarham warns "Mary" Gilbert to oil the "bat" ready for July 19th. I expect "Slogger" Leach of Mildenhall branch will go along with that too; he used to send down some "very crafty ones" to "Matty" behind the Bar in Malta. There were, of course, plenty of others, too. Remember!! you "shower"

Burra Salaams to all Old Comrades and branches.

#### Cambridge Branch

With little enough happening here at Cambridge, we do however, put ourselves on record for this issue to inform all our old comrades that we are still here, firmly entrenched.

We could be described as being poised for the summer programme and should, therefore, have more

to write about in the next issue.

We would like also to have a special thought for serving members in Aden and the task before them. We have no doubt in our minds that they will acquit themselves as all members have done before them. We wish them all good luck and a safe return.

#### 1st EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION

If you have served, or are still serving, in either the 1st East Anglian, Royal Norfolk or Suffolk Regiments and are not already a member of your Regimental Association, you should join the 1st East Anglian Regiment Past and Present Association.

Write to the Secretary for full particulars at:-

Regimental Headquarters. 1st East Anglian Regiment, Britannia Barracks, NORWICH, Norfolk. NOR. 67A.



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