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THE BRITANNIA AND CASTLE



THE JOURNAL OF THE
1ST EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT
(ROYAL NORFOLK & SUFFOLK)

IX

XII



“The Britannia and Castle”

JOURNAL 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.*

JOHN COPPING

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(Royal Norfolk & Suffolk) [9 and 12]



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The Great War — 42 Battalions — Mons — Le Cateau — Retreat from Mons — Marne, 1914 — Aisne, 1914 — La Bassée, 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 — Fiers Courcellette — 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 — Beaufort — Courtrai — Selle — Valenciennes — Sambre — France and Flanders, 1914-18 — Italy, 1917-18 — Struma — Dolran, 1918 — Macedonia, 1915-18 — Suvla — Landing at Suvla — 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 Escourt — St. Omer - La Bassée — Dunkirk, 1940 — St. Valery-en-Caux — Normandy Landing — Odon — Caen — Le Perier Ridge — Brieux Bridgehead — Falaise — Venralj — Rhineland — Hochwald — Lingen — Brinkum — N.W. Europe, 1940, '44-'45 — Johore — Muar — Batu Pahat — Singapore Island — Malaya, 1942 — North Arakan — Imphal — Kohima — 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 (Militia).

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

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LOCATION LIST OF OFFICERS OF THE FORMER 1st EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT

(Compiled from official records and information available on 30th September, 1964).

(a) REGULAR ARMY

Lt-Cols

Brinkley, W. H.,
psc (Special List) Ministry of Defence (APS)

Fraser, D. U.,
MBE, psc (a)
(Emp List [1]) ... Ministry of Defence Q (Mov) Plans

Dewar, K. M. J.,
OBE (Emp List
[1]) ... RCB Westbury, Wiltshire

Campbell, A. F.,
MC, psc ... HQ, Southern Command

Harvey, H. C., psc,
(Emp List [1]) ... Salisbury Plain Sub-District

Burton, R. S. M.,
psc, ppsc ... Inspectorate of Armaments, Woolwich

Robertson, A. J.,
psc ... Headquarters, BAOR

Dye, J. B., MC,
psc ... 1 Royal Anglian

Petit, J. M., MBE,
psc (Emp List [1]) Ministry of Defence

Majors

Greef, A. O., MC . Clothing & Equipment Establishment,
c/o RAE Farnborough

Farrelly, T. P., TD GLO, RAF Station, Chivenor

Calder, W. J., psc HQ Northern Command, York

Dean, P. S. W.,
sq (T/Colonel) . Military Attache, Tokyo

Lummiss, E. T.,
psc (T/Lt-Col) ... GSO1, SHAPE

Irgle, F. D., MBE,
psc ... HQ1, (BR) Corps

Williams, R. M.,
MC, psc ... 4 Communications Coy, Cheltenham

Turnbull, A. W. J.,
MC, sq (T/Lt-
Col) ... 4th Bn The Royal Norfolk Regt (TA)

Creasey, T. M., psc RMA Sandhurst

Howego, G. C.,
jssc, psc ... HQ1 (BR) Corps, BAOR

Power, E. W. A.,
psc, fsc (US) ... Ministry of Defence A (SD5)

Haycraft, I. A.,
ptsc (Local Lt-
Col) ... Operational Requirements Staff,
Ministry of Defence

Morgan, E. H.,
MBE, MC ... HS Regimental Depot

Fairholme, W. D.
G. ... MIO Aden (HQ Mid-East)

Thain, P. ... Singapore Military Forces

Lywood, K. C. G. 1 Royal Anglian

Mason, F. E. I.,
AMIWS ... Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regt (TA)

Styles, T. H. ... 4/6 Royal Lincolnshire Regt (TA)

Gillmore, A. H. V.,
MC, psc ... HS Regimental Depot

Emaden, B. H. C.,
psc ... HQ, 148 Inf Bde (TA)

Palmer, L. A., pl . 653 Light Aircraft Squadron

Deller, W. C., psc,
fsc (US) ... 1 Royal Anglian

Fitzgerald, J. D. A. HQ Land Forces, Bahrain

Pullen, H. N. D.,
pl (1) ... Army Air Corps Centre

Cobbold, A. G. B. Regimental Depot

Godfrey, F. A., MC 1 Malaysia Rangers

Holman, R. M.,
MBE, psc (n) ... 1 Royal Anglian

Horrex, A. B., MC HQ British Forces, Cyprus

Hopper, P. D. L. . Singapore Military Forces

Gunton, M. K. D. HS Regimental Depot

Hall-Tipping, J. ... Cambridge University OTC

Macdonald, J. P. . Staff College, Camberley

Catchpole, A. K. . HQ Malaya Area

Jones, J. G., MBE 4th Bn The Royal Norfolk Regt (TA)

Captains

Dean, T. D. ... Staff College, Camberley

Beck, S. G. ... Federal Regular Army, Aden

Heath, J. R., psc Jungle Warfare School, Malaya

Smith, D. T., pl ... HQ Southern Command

Churchill, J. D.,
MC (T/Major) ... 1 Royal Anglian

Ford, P. C. ... HQ, FRA Aden

Frere, J. A. K. W. 44 Army Youth Team, Norwich

Henderson, M. L.,
psc (T/Major) .. DAAG, HQ East Anglian District

Wilson, R. G. ... 1 Royal Anglian

Thorne, D. C., psc
(T/Major) ... RAF College, Cranwell

Raven, P. G. ... Command Arabic School, Aden

Clarke, D. L. ... RMA, Sandhurst

Thorne, M. E., psc
(T/Major) ... Canadian Ministry of Defence

Trevethick, R. L. SMIS, Malaya

Reynell, N. ... Army MT School, Bordon

Morris, J. Y. ... ADC to GOC 1 (BR) Corps

Gowing, R. D. ... ADC to GOC, British Land Forces,
Kenya

Morton, P. W. ... HQ Aden Garrison

Barnes, C. M. J. . HS Regimental Depot

Peat, W. J. B. ... Desert Intelligence Officer attached
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Lewis, N. J. ... 1 Royal Anglian
 Pavitt, N. R. ... 5th Kenya Rifles
 Rowsell, S. A. J. 1 Royal Anglian
 Baily, D. R. ... 225 Sig Sqdn, BAOR
 Jefferson, I. W. ... 1 Royal Anglian

Lieutenants

Barclay-Loggie, I. G. 1st Kings African Rifles
 Ross, P. K. R. ... 1 Royal Anglian
 Horrex, H. R. (T/
 Capt) ... 1 Royal Anglian
 Conder, E. H., BSc HS Regimental Depot
 Mather, C. A. S. . 1 Royal Anglian
 Abbott, R. J. 1 Royal Anglian
 Stone, P. P. D. ... 1 Royal Anglian
 Turner Cain, M. G. 1 Royal Anglian
 Reeve, W. H. ... 1st Bn Malawi Rifles, Malawi
 Varley, J. H. Regimental Depot
 Malim, A. C. 1 Royal Anglian
 Keep, J. H. 1 Royal Anglian
 Child, B. J. S., BSc 1 Royal Anglian
 Thompson, R. H. . 2 Royal Anglian
 Long, P. P. D. ... 1 Royal Anglian
 Conder, R. S. 1 Royal Anglian

2nd Lieutenants

Calder, A. J. K. . 1 Royal Anglian

Quartermasters

Case, H. S. R.,
 MBE (Staff QM),
 (Lt-Col) (Emp
 List (2)) Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park,
 Frimley
 Joanny, A., MBE
 (Major) 4th Royal Norfolk Regt. (TA)
 Warren, T. C. (Maj) GHQ, FARELF
 Howard, C. E.
 (Major) Regimental Depot
 Norman, H. H.,
 MBE (Capt) ... 1 Royal Anglian
 McColl, N. (Capt) 4 Royal Anglian

Director of Music

Stunell, G. H.,
 ARCM, psm (Maj) Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst

(b) REGULAR ARMY—SHORT SERVICE OFFICERS

Captains

Seekings, P. C. HQ Mov Control, Bristol Chan Ports

Lieutenants

Prosser, B. Malaysian Rangers
 Pearce, I. L. 1 Royal Anglian

2nd Lieutenants

Hawkins, W. L. ... 1 Royal Anglian
 Voy, D. A. 1 Royal Anglian

Quartermasters

Denny, J. W. (Lt) HS Regimental Depo.
 Baldry, R. (Lieut) 1 Royal Anglian
 Bates, C. C. (Lieut) 3 Royal Anglian

(c) EXTENDED SERVICE OFFICERS

Majors

Titmarsh, H. T., FARELF
 TD
 Powell, K. W. ... BAOR, BFPO 29

FORMER REGIMENTAL OFFICERS STILL ON THE ACTIVE LIST

Lieut-Generals

Goodwin, Sir
 Richard, KCB,
 CBE, DSO, psc . GOC 1 (BR) Corps, BAOR

Major Generals

Butler, M. A. H.,
 CB, CBE, DSO,
 MC, ldc, psc,
 psc (a) Ministry of Defence (Joint Warfare)
 Freeland, I. H.,
 CB, DSO, ldc,
 psc GOC British Land Forces in Kenya
 Turner-Cain, G. R.,
 CBE, DSO, jssc,
 psc HQ Far East Land Forces

Brigadiers

Prickett, A. J. C.,
 jssc, psc SHAPE

Colonels

Allen, R. M., CBE,
 jssc, psc (T/Brig) Ministry of Defence (APS)
 Smith, W. C., CBE,
 jssc, psc GHQ, FARELF
 Hallett, J. N. R.,
 MBE, jssc, psc . Ministry of Defence

Lieut-Colonels

Ferrier, W. P. ... RMP
 Shuttleworth, W.
 P. A., psc — 1 (BR) Corps, BAOR
 Thursby, P. D. F.,
 jssc, psc Parachute Regiment

Majors

Ward, J. A. W. . RAPC
 Eberhardie, C. E.,
 MBE, MC, psc
 (T/Lt-Col) — GSO1, BAOR
 Blackmore, A. W.,
 t AMITA RASC attached Gurkha ASC
 Starling, J. G.,
 MC, psc Parachute Regiment
 Kelly, J. N., MC... Gurkha Rifles

Captains

Oddie, W. R. A. . Parachute Regiment
 Coates, K. Parachute Regiment

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GT. YARMOUTH
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EDITORIAL

The Royal Anglian Regiment came into being on 1st September, 1964.

As readers will know, this is the first of the large regiments into which all the regiments of the Infantry of the Line are being formed.

The 1st East Anglian Regiment (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk) is now the 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment. This is our own battalion of the new Regiment and we wish it and the Royal Anglian Regiment as a whole, every success in the future.

The Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment is Lieutenant-General Sir Reginald Denning, KBE, CB, DL, formerly Colonel, The 3rd East Anglian Regiment. He is assisted by four Deputy Colonels, one of whom is Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Goodwin, KCB, CBE, DSO. General Denning has delegated to General Goodwin the responsibility for the affairs of the 1st Battalion and for regimental matters in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

The Royal Anglian Regiment will have a Regimental Association of its own.

The Regimental Committee has decided that the 1st East Anglian Past and Present Association should cease to exist. Those members who served only in the 1st East Anglian Regiment will be transferred to the Royal Anglian Regiment Association and the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Regiment Associations will cease to be branches of the 1st East Anglian Regiment Association, reverting to their original titles.

This is the last issue of the *Britannia and Castle* as a printed journal because we do not feel that we can continue to publish a magazine of this nature at an economical price concurrently with the journal which the Royal Anglian Regiment is to publish, starting in April or May next year.

The Regimental Committee has therefore decided that we should produce a Bulletin which will chronicle and circulate news of the 1st Battalion, 4th Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment (TA), The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA) and past and present members of these regiments. Details of this are now being worked out and we hope to be in a position to write to subscribers shortly giving them full information about the Bulletin.

We shall, also, be writing to members of the Officers' Club to tell them what the Regimental Committee has decided about the future of the Club.

We would like to thank our readers for all the help and encouragement they have given us during the five years that this *Britannia and Castle* has been in existence. We would also like to pay a tribute to the high standard of the work of our printers and publishers, The Morecambe Bay Printers Ltd. They have been most helpful and co-operative.

REGIMENTAL NEWS

THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

A dozen red and a dozen yellow roses were sent to Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret Colonel-in-Chief on Minden Day.

Her Royal Highness graciously replied:—

"Please convey my warmest thanks to All Ranks of the 1st East Anglian Regiment for the beautiful roses which you sent me on Minden Day. These flowers have given me great pleasure and your kindness in sending them is much appreciated."

MINDEN DAY

Minden Greetings were exchanged with the Lancashire Fusiliers, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Royal Hampshire Regiments, KOSB, KOYLI, and the Minden Battery, RA.

FREEDOMS

The Lord Mayor and Corporation of Norwich and the Mayor and Corporation of Lowestoft have signified their approval to accord the 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment, the honour of the Freedom of Entry into the City and Borough respectively which was granted to the 1st East Anglian Regiment.

The Mayor and Corporation of Bury St. Edmunds have similarly approved that the Honorary Freedom of the Borough should be accorded to the 1st Battalion.

MEMORIAL SERVICE—the late Lieutenant-Colonel F. D. T. Wilson, O.B.E.

A Memorial panel to the late Lieutenant-Colonel F. T. D. Wilson, OBE, was dedicated in the Suffolk Regimental Chapel on September 24th. The service was taken by Canon R. C. R. Godfrey and included an address by Brigadier E. H. W. Backhouse, CBE, DL. The lesson was read by Colonel N. J. Wilson, OBE, son of Colonel Frank Wilson.

A number of retired members of the Suffolk Regiment were present, including many who had served in the 1st Battalion when Colonel Wilson was in command.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NGARUAWAHIA, NEW ZEALAND

This church was built by soldiers of the Twelfth Foot during the Maori Wars in 1864.

The centenary of the church was celebrated during this summer and thanks to the co-operation of our allied regiment, the Countess of Ranfurly's Own, a telegram from all ranks was sent.

This was read out during the Centenary celebrations.

TA COMPETITIONS

We congratulate the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment in winning the 161 Brigade Championship. They won five out of eight events. 4th Royal Norfolk were the runners-up.

OFFICERS' DINNER

2nd Bn The Suffolk Regiment—1915-1918

The Members of this Dinner Club dined as usual in London in March, 1964, when Captain W. L. Simpson, MC invited them to come and have another Dinner in Bury St Edmunds.

This duly took place on Thursday, July 23rd, 1964, when 14 officers gathered at Simpson's house and then were entertained by him to dinner at The Angel Hotel. The table had been beautifully decorated with Red and Yellow flowers by Mrs Simpson, and the Menus had the Regimental Crest. After a few speeches of thanks to Simpson, he replied in 'broad Suffolk' and presented everyone with a copy of the new Guide to Bury St Edmunds.

Following their usual custom of remembering the men whom they had commanded, those dining gave donations to the Suffolk Regiment OCA. The £9 subscribed has been used to purchase tickets in the St Leger Draw which is run by the 1st East Anglian Regiment Past & Present Association. Any prizes won will be paid into the Suffolk Section Funds.



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The following attended the Dinner : W. L. Simpson (in the Chair), G. M. Aird, E. H. W. Backhouse (Guest), F. W. Bailey, L. J. Baker, H. J. Bird (Guest), John Cootie, A. A. Johnson, F. J. Howlett Jones, Chas. J. Hupfield, J. S. D. Lloyd, W. M. Lummis, W. J. Pearce and F. W. Thomas.

SERGEANTS' DINNER CLUB

The 45th Dinner of the Club was held at the Royal Anglian Regimental Depot on Saturday, 5th Sept.

The Club, while retaining its basic form and traditions, has conformed to the latest re-organisation and changed its name to the 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment Sergeants' Mess Dinner Club (Past and Present).

A very excellent dinner was served by the catering staff of the Depot and the Club is very grateful to the Depot Commander for permitting them to use the facilities of the Depot.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. J. Turnbull, MC, who has just taken over command of the 4th Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, was the Chairman for the evening. He has recently returned from Aden where he was second-in-command of the 1st Battalion. In his speech, he gave an interesting account of the activities of the battalion.

Major H. R. Cotton, MBE, read out telegrams which had been exchanged with Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Anglian Regiment and Princess Margaret, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, also messages from General Goodwin and from the Sergeants Mess of the 1st Battalion, who had dined in Aden the same night.

In proposing the toast of "Absent Comrades", Major C. E. Howard gave a brief account of the re-organisation which had come into effect on September 1st.

Guests of the Club were :—

Brigadiers Barclay and Wight, Colonels Heal and Wilkins and Major March.

Members present included :

Ex Sgt J. Barnard	Ex RSM A. E. Blake
Ex CSM A. C. Boreham	Ex CSM E. A. Burley
C/Sgt W. Bates, BEM	Ex C/Sgt W. Barrett
Ex DM P. Burke	Ex CSM H. Bell
Ex RQMS J. Cadman	Major A. Chandler
Ex CSM S. H. Cook	Ex ORQMS W. Cooper
Ex RQMS A. Calver, BEM	Ex Sgt F. Collins
Major H. Cotton, MBE	Ex RSM K. Duffy
Ex C/Sgt A. Dye	Lt (QM) J. Denny
Ex C/Sgt A. Dickerson	CSM R. Evans
Ex Sgt C. Edgerley	Sgt M. C. Ferrier
RSM M. Fowler	Ex Sgt M. Gilbert
Ex CSM E. Gates	Major S. D. Jackson
Band WO F. George	Major C. E. Howard
Major G. S. Jasper	Ex Sgt H. Jenvey
Major A. Joanny, MBE	Ex CSM L. Keeble
Ex CSM W. Leach	Ex DM I. Miller
Ex Sgt D. Mowle	Ex Sgt D. Newitt
Ex DM E. Mingay	Ex Sgt E. Newick
Sgt S. Spalding	Ex CSM F. Smith
Sgt J. Pollen	Ex CSM B. Richardson
Ex Sgt E. Sore	Sgt Sainsbury
Ex RQMS J. Tolley	Capt D. Tompson
Ex Sgt W. A. Williams	Lieut F. Wyartt
Ex Sgt A. Woods	Ex CSM S. Winter
Ex C/Sgt M. Wyartt, MM	Ex Sgt C. Golder
Ex Sgt S. F. Moore	

GENERAL NEWS

SSAFA and the Regimental Funds

One of SSAFA's objects, "to look after the welfare of the families of Service and ex-Service men and women, and to help applicants to obtain all the assistance for which they may be eligible from statutory sources, and also from Service and Regimental Funds," has meant a close and understanding liaison with those funds by all SSAFA representatives.

There is a SSAFA worker covering every town, village and hamlet in the British Isles, available at short notice to investigate a case which requires advice or financial assistance. All ex-Servicemen, at home and overseas, are eligible to apply if their families or dependants are in need. Widows and dependants, of course, can apply direct, but applications for SSAFA's help are often received from various outside sources and not only from the man or family concerned. Hospitals, prisoners themselves, probation officers, Local Authorities and many other bodies ask the local SSAFA representative on the spot to investigate and follow through a case that has come to their notice.

SSAFA may be able to solve the problem without financial aid, but if such aid is required and financial help cannot be obtained from statutory sources, the next step is for the SSAFA to approach the Service or Regimental Fund on which the man has the strongest claim.

The case must be presented to the Fund by SSAFA on a detailed form, generally the common application form giving full particulars of the need, and this may entail more than one visit to the family or dependant.

Contact may have to be made with doctors, hospitals, National Assistance Board, Employment Officers, Local Authorities, landlords; with electricity and gas boards in the case of unpaid bills, and with Hire Purchase firms to verify HP debts. Negotiations may have to be made to persuade such firms to accept lower payments or a cut rate. If the case needs immediate help, the SSAFA representative may make an initial payment from SSAFA funds.

The man may have served in more than one Service or Regiment, which means SSAFA has to duplicate the report and apply to all the Funds on which the man may have a claim. The full picture of the need and of the help already obtained ensures that the Fund can assess the position immediately and, when a grant is authorised for a specific purpose, the SSAFA representative sees that the Fund's requirements are carried out to the letter.

In many cases SSAFA is approached by the Commanding Officer—perhaps from overseas—or by the Service or Regimental Fund itself, to ask that SSAFA investigate a case and report back so that the Fund may have the full background on which to base their decision. SSAFA is usually asked in such cases to administer any grant sanctioned and to follow the case through.

The SSAFA network of 1,500 Branches throughout the United Kingdom and in many places overseas ensures that the help of central funds can be brought personally to every village doorstep. No Service or ex-Service family is beyond the reach of SSAFA. We are the eyes and ears of the Service and Regimental Funds and their willing agents in bringing their generous and welcome help across the threshold.

Royal United Service Home for Girls, Newquay (Alexandra House)

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PERSONALITIES

Congratulations to the following on their Queen's Birthday Honour Awards:—

Major R. M. Holman, MBE
WO II M. E. Rudling, BEM

The following qualified for promotion to Major at the 1963 examination:—

Captain S. G. Beck
Captain J. A. K. W. Frere
Major M. K. D. Gunton
T/Major P. G. Raven
Captain D. T. Smith
Captain R. G. Wilson

Major T. M. Creasey has been selected to command the 1st Battalion in succession to Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. Dye, MC, in February, 1965.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Martin, late Suffolk, writes from Helm-A-Lee Ocean Side, Southampton Estates, Southampton PO, Bermuda. He expects to be in the United Kingdom in 1965, and sends his regards to Major F. V. C. Pereira.

We congratulate Lieutenant C. C. Bates on being granted a Short Service (QM) Commission. Lt Bates, who is a native of Beccles, was RQMS of the 1st Battalion on amalgamation. In 1963, he became RSM of 4/5 Northampton's (TA) and has now been posted to 1st Battalion, 3rd East Anglian Regiment.

Captain D. L. Clarke has gone to the RMA Sandhurst as an instructor.

Lieutenant E. H. Conder has achieved his BSc degree at the Royal Military College of Science. He is doing an attachment with 4 Royal Anglian before going to Netheravon. He joins 1 Royal Anglian in December.

Lt-Colonel J. P. Lloyd Mostyn when in Devonshire recently met a very old member of the Royal Norfolk Regiment. He was Colonel C. F. M. Worsley who joined the Regiment in 1898 and later transferred to the Indian Army. Although 89 years of age, very

deaf, and lame as a result of wounds received in Mesopotamia in the first World War; Colonel Worsley was most keen to hear news of the regiment.

Members of 1 Royal Norfolk during the period 1913-31 may remember Sgt "Pedlar" Palmer, a well-known character, who has recently been admitted to Chelsea Hospital as an In-Pensioner. He served with the RASC for the whole of the second World War.

Lt-Col C. R. Murray Brown's new address is: Little Court, East Bergholt, Suffolk. (Tel. East Bergholt 383).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Births

HORREX—On 12th December, 1963 to Major and Mrs. A. B. Horrex, a daughter Catherine Amanda.

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

HARPER—On 8th May, 1964 at Colchester to L/Cpl and Mrs D. Harper, a son Peter Daniel.

CLARKE—On 6th June, 1964 at Ipswich to Cpl and Mrs T. Clarke, a daughter Mary.

TURNER—On 22nd June, 1964 at Rougham to Cpl and Mrs O. Turner, a son Garry Leslie.

SMITH—On 22nd June, 1964 at Ipswich to Pte and Mrs D. Smith, a daughter Fiona Elizabeth.

RUSH—On 29th June, 1964 at Bury St Edmunds to Pte and Mrs G. Rush, a daughter Melanie Jill.

BREWIN—On 12th July, 1964 at Steamer Point, Aden to L/Cpl and Mrs Brewin, a daughter Heather Jacqueline.

CLARKE—On 4th August, 1964 at Aden to Captain and Mrs D. L. Clarke, a son Nicholas George Lee.

HUGHES—On 5th August, 1964 at Steamer Point, Aden to Sgt and Mrs C. Hughes, a son Ian Graham.

DEVINE—On 12th August, 1964 at Paddington, London to Pte and Mrs B. Devine, a son David Michael.

Marriages

REEVE-LE DIEU—On 21st December, 1963 at Intwood, Norfolk, Lieut W. H. Reeve to Miss Mary Diana Le Dieu.

WILSON-BAGNALL—On 25th July, 1964 at Shropham, Norfolk, Captain R. G. Wilson to Miss Rachel Mary Bagnall.

ALLEN-MOSS—On 8th August, 1964 at Wangford, Suffolk, Pte R. Allen to Miss Helen Ruth Moss.

BISHOP-BAILEY—On 8th August, 1964 at Hemel Hempstead, Cpl K. Bishop to Miss Elizabeth Ann Bailey.

MAY-WILLIAMS—On 12th August at Middlesborough. Pte. F. May to Miss Pauline Williams.

SELF-ROBINSON—On 13th August at Terrington St Clements, Major A. J. Self to Miss I. L. Robinson.

ROSELL-LOWE—On 15th August, 1964 at Cadeby, Leicestershire, Captain S. A. J. Rowsell to Miss J. M. Lowe.

Deaths

SHOPLAND—In Radfan Area, Western Aden Protectorate, Pte S. Shopland, 1st East Anglian Regiment on 4th June, 1964, as the result of an accident.



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FOX—In Radfan Area, Western Aden Protectorate, Pte B. Fox, 1st East Anglian Regiment on 10th June, 1964.

HORNOR—At Norwich Lt-Colonel B. F. Hornor, DSO, OBE, DL, late The Royal Norfolk Regiment on 24th June, 1964.

CANNING—At Wearsley, Bedfordshire, on 19th August, 1964, Colonel C. V. Canning, MC, TD, DL, late the Suffolk Regiment.

OBITUARY

Lieut-Colonel B. F. Hornor, DSO, OBE, DL

Bassett Hornor's long association with the Royal Norfolk Regiment began when he was commissioned into the 3rd (Militia) Battalion in 1915. He was later posted to the 2nd Battalion in Mesopotamia where, as a 2nd Lieutenant, he was awarded the DSO for gallantry at the crossing of the River Tigris in February, 1917.

After the war Colonel Hornor was elected to the Regimental Memorial Cottages Management Committee and continued to serve until ill health compelled him to resign in 1962.

During the second World War he commanded a Norwich battalion of the Home Guard and was awarded the OBE in 1943. His battalion contributed the sum of £1,000 to purchase the site in Norwich upon which six more memorial cottages could be erected. When the war was over Colonel Hornor set about raising no less than £30,000 to meet the cost of building these cottages, together with four more at King's Lynn. Subsequently, major improvements to the cottages built after the first World War were carried out under his guidance. His sound advice and willing help were always available in connection with any project affecting the cottages and the tenants to whose welfare he gave considerable thought.

When the Regimental Chapel Committee was formed in 1954 Colonel Hornor accepted the Colonel of the Regiment's invitation to become a member and he took a prominent part in planning the furnishing and other improvements which were dedicated in September. He gave generously to regimental activities.

Outside the Regiment Colonel Hornor was head of an old-established business of Chartered Surveyors and Land Agents. A Norwich magistrate for nearly twenty years and a Deputy Lieutenant of Norfolk, he was well known for his life-long voluntary services to good causes.

The funeral, which was private, took place in the Regimental Chapel and was followed by a Memorial Service in Norwich Cathedral which was attended by a large congregation representing the many organisations with which the late Colonel was associated.

We offer sincere condolences to his widow and son.

The Right Reverend C. E. Ingle, Bishop of Willesden

Bishop Ingle, the son of a former Rector of Wells, Norfolk joined the 4th Norfolk Regiment as a Territorial in 1915, but did all his active service with the 1st Battalion in France where he was wounded. In recent years the Bishop preached the sermon at Gaza Day Commemoration Service in Norwich and was guest of the London Branch of the Regimental Association at Dinner. In December last he preached at the service in Norwich Cathedral during which the Colours of the 1st and 4th Battalions were laid up.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. Jay

Colonel Jay whose death in New Zealand occurred on 23rd June, served as a Territorial Officer in the Royal Army Service Corps during two World Wars. His association with the Royal Norfolk Regiment began in 1947 when he asked if he might be permitted to present to the Regimental Museum a collection of medals in memory of the Officers and men who had given their lives in the service of the Regiment since 1685. This generous gift of some 280 medals, all of which had been awarded to members of the Regiment, was gratefully accepted and there were many more such gifts to follow. Prominent among these was a collection of medals commemorating brave deeds of servicemen and civilians covering a period of more than 100 years.

To honour the memory of Nurse Edith Cavell, Colonel Jay presented a set of drums to the Regiment and gave sufficient money to provide in perpetuity a wreath to be placed on Nurse Cavell's grave on 12th October every year, the anniversary of her execution by the Germans in 1915. Other gifts included silver bugles to commemorate the five members of the Regiment who were awarded the Victoria Cross during the 1939-45 war. Provision was also made for the maintenance of the regimental memorial at Kohima and for gifts to be provided annually at Christmas for tenants of the regiment's Memorial Cottages.

Colonel Jay held the British Soldier in high esteem. By his death the Royal Norfolk Regiment has lost a very good friend.

Colonel C. V. Canning, MC, TD, DL

Colonel Canning of Saffron Walden, Essex, was born in 1887, and saw much service in the first World War with the 9th and 11th Battalions. The Suffolk Regiment, being awarded the Military Cross and Bar in 1918.

He commanded the 1st Battalion The Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA) 1929-36 and was made a brevet Colonel in 1933.

He was appointed Vice-Chairman Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely TAF Association in 1936, and Deputy Lieutenant (Cambridgeshire) in 1937.

Colonel Canning received an Honorary Master of Arts degree in 1954.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

22nd May, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Brig G. R. Turner-Cain, CBE, DSO, ADC, late Inf to be Maj-Gen, 26th March, 1964, with seniority 30th November, 1963.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS —SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Maj R. A. F. Kemp, TD, from Active List to be Major 31st March, 1964.

9th June, 1964

TERRITORIAL ARMY— SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Capt G. M. Wilson to be Major 31st March, 1964.

16th June, 1964

REGULAR ARMY— RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Short Service Commission

Lt D. C. P. Gamberoni from Active List, to be Lt 5th June, 1964

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REGULAR ARMY

2nd Lt P. B. D. Long to be Lt 21st June, 1964.
2nd Lt R. S. Conder to be Lt 21st June, 1964.

26th June, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Maj Gen G. R. Turner-Cain, CBE, DSO, relinquishes the appointment of Aide-de-Camp to the Queen on promotion.

Short Service Commission

WO CI II (RQMS) Charles Clifford Bates to be Lt (QM) 28th May, 1964.

7th July, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

2nd Lt R. H. Thompson to be Lt 21st May, 1964.

14th July, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Maj (QM) G. S. Jasper having attained the retiring age is placed on retired pay, 17th July, 1964.

21st July, 1964

REGULAR ARMY—

RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Lt Col (Hon Col) P. A. Morcombe, DSO, OBE (Emp List [1]) having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the Res of Offrs, 24th July, 1964.

24th July, 1964

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Capt (Hon. Maj) P. F. Rodwell, MBE, TD, having obtained the age limit ceases to belong to the TA Res of Offrs 28th July, 1964, retaining the hon rank of Major.

31st July, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Capt J. Hall-Tipping to be Maj 3rd August, 1964.
Capt J. P. Macdonald to be Maj 3rd August, 1964.
Capt A. K. Catchpole to be Maj 3rd August, 1964.
Lt I. W. Jefferson to be Capt 2nd August, 1964.

4th August, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Lt Col W. H. Brinkley is appointed to the Special List, 24th May, 1963.

21st August, 1964

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE

2nd Lt R. G. S. Wylie is confirmed in his appointment as 2nd Lt 1st August, 1962. To be Lt 1st August, 1964 with seniority 1st August, 1963.

25th August, 1964

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Capt (Actg Maj) H. W. Garrood, TD, to be Maj 28th August, 1964, with seniority 14th February, 1963.

28th August, 1964

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of:—

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother as Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Anglian Regiment, 1st September, 1964, on formation.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Anglian Regiment, 1st September, 1964, on formation.

Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Gloucester, as Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Anglian Regiment, 1st September, 1964, on formation.

REGULAR ARMY

Lt-Gen Sir Richard Goodwin, KCB, CBE, DSO, relinquishes the appointment of Colonel, 1st East Anglian Regiment (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk) 1st September, 1964, on re-organisation, and is appointed Deputy Colonel, The Royal Anglian Regiment, 1st September, 1964, on formation.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL NORFOLK

Lt E. B. Warrington to be Capt 20th July, 1964.

4th September, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Capt B. M. Murphy retires, receiving a gratuity 1st September, 1964.

11th September, 1964

THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

By virtue of the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th August, 1964 (published in Army Order 51 of 1964) all officers of the Land Forces belonging to 1st East Anglian Regiment (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk), 2nd East Anglian Regiment (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire), 3rd East Anglian Regiment (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire), 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) and the Royal Leicestershire Regiment will be transferred to the Royal Anglian Regiment with effect from 1st September, 1964.

15th September, 1964

REGULAR ARMY

Capt J. G. Jones, MBE, to be Maj, 19th Sept., 1964.



1st BATTALION

BATTALION REVIEW

Since our last review the Battalion has spent the majority of its time up in the Radfan and a full report of this is the subject of a separate article in this edition.

On the 29th of May 25 members of 161 Brigade (TA) joined the Battalion for a fortnight's training. They were taken to our Base Camp at Thumier and as on most nights the perimeter picquets were attacked, they had some very good demonstrations of fire power including the Saladins of the 4th Royal Tank Regiment.

The Battalion held a Parade on Minden Day and

We must express our sincere thanks to those advertisers whose announcements have appeared throughout the pages of this publication for the past 5 years.

We are sorry the publication has to be discontinued as and from this issue and although we are not at the moment to be entrusted with the New Brigade Publication, we hope some day to have the opportunity of again soliciting your support.



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Major General J. H. Cubbon, CB, CBE, General Officer Commanding Middle East Land Forces took the salute. This year there was a slight change to the normal parade in that the General actually presented the roses on parade. The parade was followed by a champagne breakfast in the Officers' Mess and in the afternoon by the customary Minden Day Fair, the proceeds going to the Army Benevolent Fund. In the evening the Sergeants' Mess held a Minden Ball.

On the 6th of August the Battalion proceeded up country again for a further three weeks. This period was spent in patrolling and ambushing to try and capture the dissidents who on most nights shoot up the hill top positions from long range. During this period the mining incidents increased and a three tonner driven by Pte Oates was blown up, he being very seriously injured. He is now making a good recovery and will be evacuated to England shortly.

On the 23rd of August "A" Company took part in a night helicopter assault, and as far as is known this has not been done before. It was carried out in two Scout Helicopters of 653 Light Aircraft Squadron and after much preparation and reconnaissance a successful assault was made. Great credit should go to the pilots, but for whose skill it could not have come off.

The Battalion returned to Aden in time for the "Change of Cap Badge" parade. Because of IS commitments it was not possible to hold a parade on the day nor would there have been any chance to practice for it. On the evening of the 31st of August a beating of Retreat by the Band and Drums was held. In the middle of the Retreat a guard from HQ Company Commanded by Major K. C. G. Lywood marched on and formed up in front of the dais. Lieutenant General Sir Charles H. P. Harrington, KCB, CBE, DSO, MC, then presented new cap badges to each Company Sergeant Major for issue the next day except in the case of the Guard on Parade who actually changed their badges. After the changing of the badges the most moving part of the parade came as Retreat was sounded and the 1st East Anglian flag was lowered for the last time.

At the time of writing the Battalion is on IS and Guards in Aden and have about 100 men on duty each night so it is hoped that a visit to the Radfan again will relieve this tedious commitment.

OFFICERS' MESS

Due to the Radfan Operations the Mess has been used by the majority of us only in the intervals spent in Aden. During our sojourns up country the efforts of Ken Lywood, Keith Ross, Cyril Coates and Sgt Place in maintaining the normal high standards for our return have been much appreciated.

Since the last edition, Alex Turnbull and David Clarke have left us for the UK. We are all sorry to say goodbye to them but will doubtless see them on our return. The Mess Committee and Mess Staff will miss all Alex Turnbull's hard work as PMC and will strive to maintain the high standards he set.

We welcome to the Mess Jimmy Hughes, Dick Holman and Leslie Cupples. Socially we have been very busy during our periods in Aden. In July we held a barbecue on the beach at Tarshyne Officers' Club. It was a great success mainly due to the Steel Band who are now one of the main attractions in Aden.

Because of the early hour of the Minden Day parade, it was decided to hold a Champagne Break-

fast in the Mess after the parade. It proved an excellent start to Minden Day and was enjoyed by everyone.

Our last social highlight was a cocktail party on August 31st, after beating the retreat to mark the formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment. The Champagne cocktails got stronger and stronger as the evening wore on with disastrous results in many cases. General opinion the next day was that it had been an excellent party.

What the future holds no one is quite certain as events change so rapidly in this part of the world. However, with a bit of luck we should all continue to spend some time in the Mess and on various Jebels drinking Cpl Beecham's never ending supply of tea.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We would like to welcome back to our fold Sgts Mixer, Noble and Smith and we hope that they find their stay rather cool and refreshing, amidst the green and pleasant countryside of Aden.

With rather a heavy heart we say cheerio to CSM Paddy Conboy, who has left us to go to the TA at Lowestoft to learn how soldiering should be done (quiet and peaceful). Sgt Brunning has left us, and we wish him a pleasant tour at Mons OCS.

Mess social life is still rather hectic; our Minden Ball was a real success, thanks to CSM Bullock and his committee. This year it was rather unique, as it was the last Minden Day Ball of the 1st East Anglian Regiment. CSM Bullock must have gone to great expense to produce the skull of the RSM who was at the Battle of Minden. None of us believe it was the original, as we all thought that 'Don' Mowle was the RSM at that time.

Sgt Lawson handed over his duties as Mess Caterer to Sgt Noble. We all say "Thank you" Lew for the efficient way you have handled our Mess affairs for the past six and a half years. And we hope that your talent is put to good use on the "Q" Side of things.

If anyone is interested in having lessons on Poultry Farming would they please contact C/Sgt Kelly? He is the Mess expert on this subject (Arabian Farmers please note).

Since we have been in Aden some rare sights have been seen in Barracks. It was a sight for sore eyes to see the Bandmaster and the ORQMS mounting the Guard.

Our tramps ball was rather a good 'do', some members really were tramps, and went wholeheartedly into the spirit of things. However, it must be pointed out to "Cooky" Regan and our old friend "Jonah" that fire buckets do not make very good washbasins.

The Annual Past and Present Dinner was held in the Palm Beach Hotel, on Friday, 4th September. Forty-nine members and guests were present, our Chairman was the Second-in-Command, Major Hughes in the absence of the Commanding Officer, who was on duty in Kenya. The guests were Captain (QM) Norman, 2 Lt Voy and 2 Lt Calder. After dinner the mess was open for the usual refreshments (Liquid).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Mess Staff for the hard work and long hours they have put in for our comfort and pleasure.

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Officers of the 1st Battalion on top of Jebel Huriyah after its capture.

Back Row (left to right)—Capt Lewis, Maj Deller, Capt Wilson, Lt-Col Dye, Gunner F.O.O. Maj Turnbull, Capt Horrex, Maj. Fleming and Churchill, Medical Officer, Capt Stone, Lt Abbott Capt Clarke.

Front Row (left to right)—2/Lt Calder, Lts Child, Hawkins, Pierce and Keep, 2 Lt Voy, Lt Conder.

RADFAN OPERATIONS APRIL—JUNE, 1964

Introduction

Running out of the busy entre-pot port of Aden are four main routes over which the inland trade has been carried to the hinterland, to the Yemen and to Saudi Arabia for many hundreds of years. One of these roads is the Dhala Road which runs Northwards from Aden to Lahej, and then through tribal areas to Dhala, some eighty miles North of Aden, and near to the Yemen Frontier town of Quataba. For many years the tribes regarded the trade on this road as their main source of income, either from taxation of camel trains or from loot. Consisting of several tribes with a loose alliance they form the Radfan Confederation.

In recent years the growth of political awareness in the area—and of material development in surrounding states—has made the poverty stricken and truculent people of the area more and more dissatisfied with their lot and ripe for subversion and intrigue. As a result the always turbulent Radfan Confederation has been an ever increasing source of trouble to the Federal Government since 1961. In January, 1964, the Federal Regular Army mounted a

limited operation against them which, after achieving almost all its military aims, was withdrawn when there was no political follow up. This withdrawal gave the Radfanis renewed confidence, and with outside support from the Yemen Arab Republic, they began to mount a campaign of looting and ambushes on the Dhala Road in the general area of Thumier. If the vital trade route to Dhala was to be kept open, and if the authority of the Federal Government was to count for anything, this lawlessness had to be crushed and the Radfanis taught a severe lesson.

The Federal Government of the South Arabian Federation therefore asked for assistance from HQ Middle East Command to mount an operation in the Radfan in late April, 1964 to quell the pretensions of the Radfan Confederation once and for all. This request was readily agreed to.

The Force earmarked initially for this operation was as follows:—

- “J” Battery Royal Horse Artillery
- 45 Royal Marine Commando
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The Signal Platoon take a breather.

Elements of 1st and 2nd Battalions Federal
Regular Army
254 Signal Squadron

Command was to be exercised through Headquarters Radforce which was headed by Brigadier L. Hargroves, normally Commander Aden Garrison, and staffed by officers drawn from any available source. Administratively units were to be supplied direct from parent units in Aden.

It was against this background that "B" Company was warned to go to Thumier. They were to be ready to move on 22nd April, 1964, immediately the Queen's Birthday Parade was over. At this stage no one had realised that the Battalion was also to be heavily involved administratively and would eventually be entirely committed to Radforce.

Thumier is the half way point between Aden and Dhala and also the natural place for the Radfanis to leave their territory and enter the road as it is at the junction of the Wadis Rabwa and Misrah which give access unto the Danaba Basin and Wadi Taym. A Federal Guard Fort is located there, looking like something out of P. C. Wren, and an airstrip capable of taking Twin Pioneer aircraft, existed at the beginning of the operation. This was later extended to accept Beverleys. The area of Thumier is bleak, volcanic, uninviting and completely lacking in shade or cover, and at an altitude of some two thousand feet. The road is a well worn camel track following the wadi beds.

It was from here that operations were to be directed and the troops based for the Radfan Operations.

Thumier 19th April-3rd May, 1964

As stated, the operations in Radfan were planned and conducted by an ad hoc Headquarters which commanded an ad hoc force. At the beginning, operations were conducted in a very hand to mouth fashion. The fact that maximum security was essential to the operation's success, did not help matters from the administrative angle.

It soon became apparent that the Battalion's commitment was considerably greater than providing "B" Company for operations. On 16th April, 1964, Major J. D. Churchill, MC, was detailed as Camp Commandant for the Radforce Thumier Base Camp and left for a reconnaissance of the area. He left a rather cavalier message for the Quartermaster asking him to "indent for all necessary stores for a one thousand man camp and all that was considered necessary to maintain a force of this size in the field for an indefinite period". This provoked a sharp reaction from the Quartermaster's Department. However, after the reconnaissance and some discussion Captain Norman and Lieutenant Baldry began as they intended to continue and coped with the seemingly impossible. Stores, varying from tentage to typewriters, carpets to chemical closets, and from refrigerators to rubbish bins were indented for, drawn and loaded into vehicles. It amounted to some twenty-five three ton loads in all.

On 19th April, 1964, Major Churchill's party left to establish the Base Camp at Thumier. They had verbal instructions only, and these were—"Erect a camp store and issue tents and accommodation stores as required to units, detachments and individuals as



Members of Support Company and TAC HQ leave Aden Docks on internal security operations. The vessel is manned by Royal Engineers.

they arrive in the area. Two camps are to be formed—The Anglian Group and the Commando Group—you look after the Anglian Group.” As can be imagined with peace-time accounting in full swing these orders were viewed with some suspicion by the Quartermaster’s Department. RQMS Drew was the senior Q representative at this stage and left expecting to make his issues, get his signatures and return home to Aden. Little did he know.

There then ensued a period of about twenty-four hours’ comparative calm before the storm. With the arrival of troops in the area all the administrative demons came whistling out of the Radfan bottle and the full extent of the Battalion commitment became known. It appeared that the administrative implications of maintaining a thousand men from a dust-bowl on the side of a very indifferent track some fifty miles from its source of supply just hadn’t been fully realised.

When this vast administrative task was appreciated a special party was formed under Lieutenant Baldry to go forward to Thumier and run the Q side there under the orders of Headquarters Radforce, while Captain Norman remained in Waterloo Barracks to organise the resupply and keep the normal Q side of the Battalion running. The up country administration party moved to Thumier with “B” Company Group on 22nd April and despite many and varied difficulties, ranging from perpetual dust storms at Thumier to recurrent brainstorms in Aden, changes of plans, and apparently impossible demands received in the middle of the night, to say nothing of the journey

up the Dhala road, managed to supply most, if not all, of the needs of the Battalion. No praise can be too high for the Quartermaster’s Department, who coped in very difficult circumstances and at some very odd hours.

On 22nd April “B” Company Group consisting of “B” Company with some attachments of Signalmen, Motor Transport, and Support weapons, moved to Thumier. This convoy consisted of some seventy-five vehicles and took some nine hours to get to Thumier—the normal time for the journey being about five hours. On arrival the Company was responsible for the defence of the Thumier Base Camp.

On 26th April they searched a village near the camp finding some rather ancient rifles and one modern Spanish pistol. During this period some signs of dissident activity in the form of rocks rolled on to routes to impede vehicles were seen but the Battalion had no contact with the enemy.

In the meantime certain other units had been deployed from the Thumier Base Camp to begin operations against what were still believed to be disorganised tribesmen. Patrols of “A” Squadron 22 Special Air Service had entered the area to obtain information about the enemy and possible areas for airmobile operations using helicopters or parachute troops. “J” Battery Royal Horse Artillery were in action shelling Rebel areas, and elements of the Federal Regular Army (FRA) were in picquet positions on the road between Dhala and Thumier. 45 Royal Marine Commando was preparing to move into the area to dominate the Danaba Basin. All seemed to be going well

and according to plan with most of the difficulties administrative in nature. This impression was very quickly shattered.

On 25th April, a landrover carrying the Commander FRA Group, set off a mine which killed two of the Officers riding in the vehicle and wounded three others. As a result "C" Company was ordered to Thumier on April 28th to take over part of the picquet duties North of Thumier to release part of the FRA for a flanking move with 45 Royal Marine Commando onto the hills overlooking the Danaba Basin. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel J. B. Dye, MC, was also ordered to Thumier to command the two companies. He flew to Thumier on Sunday, 26th April, 1964 having been warned during a Regimental dance in the Officers' Mess the previous evening. "C" Company plus Battalion Tactical Headquarters moved by road on 28th April. On 29th/30th April a patrol of the Special Air Service who were operating some five miles North-West of Thumier was trapped by a much larger force of dissidents and two of the patrol killed (and later beheaded) and three wounded. They were only extricated after a day of air strikes and Artillery support. It was from this point that any ideas about a "few disorganised tribesmen" disappeared. It was also appreciated that more troops would be needed and the 1st Battalion the King's Own Scottish Borderers was ordered out from the United Kingdom.

Meanwhile the overall plan to gain control of the Radfan developed. The traditional approach up the Wadi Rabwa and into the Wadi Taym over the Rabwa Pass had been rejected as too obvious, and a flanking move into the Wadi Boran and Danaba Basin was used instead. To support this move it was necessary to place guns in the Wadi Rabwa some two thousand yards short of the escarpment on the South West edge of the Danaba Basin and also to make a show of force in the Rabwa Area to keep the dissidents' attention on that approach.

In preparation for this move 2nd Lieutenant P. B. D. Long with part of his 6 platoon of "B" Company and with armoured and engineer representatives took out a fighting patrol on the night of 28th April to the proposed gun area. They found the area unoccupied and going satisfactorily. The next night Lieutenant A. C. Malim and part of 7 platoon ambushed the junction of the Wadi Misrah and Wadi Rabwa. There was no contact with the dissidents on either of these nights.

The guns and the diversionary force moved at 0815 hours on the 30th April with 6 Platoon providing the infantry protection. At 0930 hours the column came under sporadic fire from long range when they were about half way to the objective.

The fire increased in intensity and accuracy as the advance continued and at 1030 hours the leading elements were confronted with a barrier of rocks, well sited to prevent outflanking and covered by automatic fire from close range. This obstacle had been built since the fighting patrol had been there and unfortunately some 500 yards from the site chosen for the ambush on the previous night.

The removal of this obstacle was clearly an infantry task and 2 Lt Long moved forward with his men to dismantle it. While doing so he was wounded, and two of his men, Ptes O'Brien and Spencer carried him under heavy fire back to an armoured car on which he was later carried to the RAP. Meanwhile under supporting fire from the armoured cars of the 4th Royal Tank Regiment and "J" Battery 3rd Royal Artillery Regiment the block was cleared and the advance continued and the objective was gained. The

remainder of 6 Platoon under Sergeant Jones then moved forward with a heavy troop of Saladin armoured cars to help protect the gun area and the guns were in action by 1430 hours.

Sniping of 6 Platoon position and the gun area continued until 2200 hrs. During the night 7 Platoon laid an ambush in the Wadi Rabwa in the area where 2nd Lieutenant Long had been wounded, but no contact was made.

On the 1st May the sniping of the gun position and 6 Platoon continued and a reinforcing column of "B" Company Headquarters and 7 Platoon and another troop of armoured cars was shot at as it moved down the Wadi Rabwa at 1100 hours.

However it arrived at the gun area by 1200 hours without casualties. Enemy positions were hard to locate and any effective retaliation difficult. Sniping onto the gun area and "B" Company positions continued throughout the next two days until the whole force was withdrawn at approximately 1600 hours under cover of an air strike. It had accomplished its task in drawing attention away from the Commando Group which during the night 1st/2nd May had moved via the Wadi Boran onto high ground, nicknamed Coca Cola and Camp Bed, from which they could dominate the Dhanaba Basin. Good artillery support for this move had also been possible from this forward gun area.

On return to Thumier Camp on 2nd May, "B" Company provided escorts and patrols in the Thumier-Rabwa area until committed to operations in the Dhanaba area on 4th May. On 30th April "C" Company had moved out of Thumier Camp and took over the picquets at milestone 27 on the Dhalax Road, which they occupied until 3rd May. The picquets, in platoon strength, occupied commanding positions to secure the road by day and sent ambush patrols onto the road—the rocky bed of the Wadi Hardaba—by night. One of these patrols opened fire on an unknown moving figure on the night of 1st/2nd May and from signs found in the morning, drew blood. The resupply of these picquets was the Battalion's first experience of problems to come as they were maintained by vehicles to a point in the Wadi below the position and from there by camel to the picquet position. "A" Company, after only three hours warning, was moved to Thumier on the 3rd May. The whole Battalion, less certain administrative elements, was thus concentrated in Thumier on the evening of 3rd May, 1964, and was to operate as a Battalion for the rest of its time in Radfan.

Danaba Basin, 4th May-9th May

On 3rd May, 1964 at 2000 hours Colonel Dye gave out his orders for the Battalion's entry into the main part of the Radfan Operations. These orders required "B" and "C" Companies to relieve two companies of 45 Royal Marine Commando on the features known as Coca Cola and Camp Bed on 4th May, 1964. The two features about four thousand feet high flanked the Wadi Boran and dominated the Western side of the Danaba Basin and the entrance to it from the North-West and South. "A" Company was detailed to relieve "B" Company of its defence commitments in Thumier Camp. In addition, it was to carry out a noisy diversionary night attack up the Wadi Rabwa on the night 4th/5th May. The administrative elements under Major Churchill were to remain in Thumier Camp and continue with the task of supplying all troops located there and the Battalion deployed forward, which was to go on to air supply since all locations were accessible only by air or on foot.



Ptes Wilson, Palmer and Beaton off on a routine patrol in the Wadi Misrah.

At 0600 hours 4th May, company reconnaissance parties left Thumier in Belvedere helicopters of the Royal Air Force and were deposited on their various positions. The remainder of the helicopter sorties allocated to the battalion on 4th May were used to lift mortars, ammunition and other heavy items onto the two hills. At 1300 hours the main body of the force left Thumier by transport and moved up the Dhala Road to milestone 29 and then along the Wadi Boran for about three miles to a debussing point some two thousand yards short of the positions. From here they marched and after a climb of about one and a half hours, the two companies were on their positions and the Commandos able to depart.

The Battalion spent an uneventful night except for a grandstand view of "A" Company's demonstration in the Wadi Rabwa which was designed to draw dissident attention from the Commandos moving across the Danaba Basin. This was successful and the Commandos moved onto their new position on the Eastern side of the basin without opposition.

The next day—5th May—was spent flying in water, supplies, two 105 mm guns, the Battalion mortars and ammunition, erecting shade from the sun, and generally getting used to this new existence. The water ration was two gallons per man per day for all purposes; the rations were standard compo. All was delivered by Royal Air Force Belvederes. All loads were prepared by our own Colour Sergeants working in Thumier Camp.

The most eagerly awaited items of the loads were of course mail and NAAFI stores. Demands were many and various, but usually they were delivered.

The soldiers became adept at marshalling the helicopters onto the Landing Pads and it was quite a sight to see a private soldier with nothing but an air panel around his waist—waving in a Belvedere onto a space just capable of taking the aircraft. What we would have done without the helicopters of the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force and Army Air Corps is difficult to say—as any other method of resupply would have been difficult.

"A" Company was released from Thumier Camp on 6th May and moved forward to a position in the Wadi Boran behind "B" and "C" Companies where it took over from the FRA the task of protecting the forward gun area. It was in position by midday and at 1500 hours discovered it also had the task of entering and enforcing proscription in the Danaba Basin.

The area had been proscribed on 2nd May, 1964 and the people of the Mahlai and Dairi tribes informed by leaflets dropped by Shackleton aircraft of the Royal Air Force. Some movement had been seen in the basin then but not much. "A" Company was therefore ordered to send a platoon strength patrol out that night (6th/7th May) to set up a base at the junction of the Wadis Boran and Losum and to investigate the village of Jiora and another unnamed village two thousand yards to the North. The next day the remainder of "A" Company was to patrol into the Basin. From the top of Coca Cola this looked all very straightforward.

The patrol, made up of a section of "dismounted" anti-tank gunners from 4 Platoon and two sections from 3 Platoon, and commanded by Lieutenant R. J. Abbott with Second Lieutenant W. J. Hawkins as



Men of "B" Coy on the top of a Tank belonging to the 16/5 Lancers prior to an attack in the desert West of Aden.

patrol base commander, left "A" Company's position at the Gun Area at 1830 hours, 6th May. They returned at approximately 0200 hours 7th May having had no contact with the enemy. Both villages were empty and it seemed that the proscription order was being complied with.

During the night there had been a change of plan for the patrol to the centre of the Basin. "C" Company was to come down from Coca Cola and join "A" Company in the Basin and proscription was to be a two Company affair commanded by "A" Company Commander. "A" Company less 3 Platoon, left their position at 0630 7th May and, like the patrol the previous night, found the going in the Wadi Boran difficult. They were also delayed by a casualty—Private Allen—who slipped and fell on some rocks. A Scout Helicopter evacuated him 45 minutes later. "C" Company, meanwhile, had left Coca Cola and the two companies linked up at Al Hameidh at 0900 hours. While they had been moving targets had been registered by Tactical Headquarters to cover their subsequent advance and a Forward Air Controller (FAC) moved with "C" Company. After a pause for reconnaissance and planning they set off across the basin. The floor of this basin, which looked so flat and inviting from on top of Coca Cola, was found to be very difficult. It was very broken with steep sided wadis and at about 1000 hours was already very hot and dry. It was quite clear then that this was going to be thirsty work and Tactical Headquarters arranged a resupply of water by air on the final objective.

The two companies advanced across the Danaba Basin leap frogging through each other as they moved

from one natural bound to another. They found the basin to be well cultivated but deserted. They reached the main objective, an unmarked village, in the centre of the Basin at about 1115 hours. It was empty—except for several swarms of bees and lots of flies. As any further move in the heat of the day without a resupply of water was out of the question it was decided to occupy the houses to get some shade and wait for the water. The water arrived at 1315 hours being air dropped by a Beaver of the Army Air Corps. Prior to this at about 1230 hours a change of plan was ordered by the Commanding Officer. "C" Company was to return to Coca Cola as planned, but "A" Company was to remain in the Basin, basing itself in the village. From here it was to patrol to a village about one thousand five hundred yards to the North-West and to keep observation in the basin by day and night. "A" Company investigated the remaining village about a mile away at 1415 hours and at 1530 hours "C" Company began to move back to Coca Cola.

The journey back was a most uninviting prospect and a helicopter lift up onto the hill was requested. This was refused and it was a very tired "C" Company that garrisoned Coca Cola that night. "C" Company were not back on their position on Coca Cola until 2000 hours and the last part of the climb was made in darkness. This climb was a forerunner of many night climbs carried out by "C" Company, which earned them the name of The Night Owls by a BBC commentator. "A" Company were supplied with rations and water by a Belvedere sortie at 1600 hours that afternoon. Their equipment and extra ammunition ferried forward in a Scout helicopter.

The Battalion passed an uneventful night with "B" Company on Camp Bed, Tactical Headquarters and "C" Company on Coca Cola, "A" Company less 3 Platoon in the middle of the Danaba Basin. 3 Platoon and elements of 4 Platoon were in the Wadi Boran guarding the Gun Area. These positions were maintained throughout 8th June while the Battalion prepared to relieve 45 Commando who were leaving for a rest.

Warning Orders for the move across the Danaba Basin were issued by radio at about 0800 hours on 8th May and at 1015 hours reconnaissance and advance parties from all companies were sent forward in Scout Helicopters to the new positions on Cap Badge and Gin Sling features. "B" and "C" Companies were relieved during the day by companies of 1 FRA and they and Tactical Headquarters left Coca Cola and Camp Bed and moved down into the Wadi Boran. This was completed by 1800 hours and a re-supply of water by Scout Helicopter successfully made to the companies there. They then took their evening meal. 3 and 4 Platoons of "A" Company moved down the Wadi Boran from the Gun Area behind Coca Cola and joined "B" and "C" Companies. At about 1930 hours the Commanding Officer, after a frustrating day with his communications, his set and operator having been delivered to the wrong peak during the move of the reconnaissance parties, issued orders for the move forward. The plan was for "A" Company to move directly across the basin to the village of Hagif and then climb up to Cap Badge. "B" Company with Tactical Headquarters and the elements of "A" Company still detached were to move round the Southern and Western sides of the Basin to Hagif and then climb up to Cap Badge; "C" Company was to precede "B" Company but to turn off earlier and go up onto Gin Sling. Moves were to be timed by Company Commanders to arrive at the bottom of the position by 0430 hours so that the climb up could begin at first light and be completed before the sun became too hot. Guides from 45 Royal Marine Commando and the Battalion Reconnaissance party were to be at the dispersal points from 0400 hours.

It is interesting to note that for this move "A" Company were supplied with hockey shoes delivered by airdrop and ordered to discard their ammunition boots as the climb up to Cap Badge and the position itself was mostly bare rock. "B" and "C" Companies and Tactical Headquarters had already been re-equipped with rubber DMS soled boots.

The night move across the Danaba Basin began as planned and "A" and "C" Companies arrived at their RVs on time and were up on Cap Badge and Gin Sling by approximately 0615 hours. "B" Company and Tactical Headquarters who had the longest march had difficulty in locating the RV and selected their own route up to Cap Badge and did not arrive until about 0730 hours. This climb up onto Cap Badge and Gin Sling was the most severe the Battalion had so far experienced and anyone who had not already reduced himself to light scales did so quickly thereafter. On arrival at Cap Badge it was discovered that the plan had been revised. This was in keeping with the Regimental Honour Badge motto 'Montis insignia calpe' which people outside Battalion Headquarters translate as 'Haven't you heard it's all been changed.' "A" Company only was to occupy Cap Badge, "C" Company to occupy Gin Sling but was to lose the Reconnaissance Platoon which up to now had operated as the third rifle platoon of "C" Company. "B" Company plus the Reconnaissance Platoon was to go

down into the Wadi Taym and set up a patrol base in the village of Al Naqil, known as Pegasus Village after its capture by 3 Parachute Battalion on the 5th May. After this battle the village had been abandoned by both sides. Now it was to be the base for the Battalion to enforce proscription in the Wadi Taym. The Reconnaissance Platoon was remounted in its vehicles and used as a mobile force. "B" Company went into a harbour area on Cap Badge for the day, "A" Company, complete once more, and "C" Company occupied their new positions at once—and Tactical Headquarters erected its aerials on Cap Badge. The helicopter Landing Pads on the new positions were a flurry of activity for the rest of the day as Commando heavy stores went out and rations, water and heavy weapons for the Battalion came in. "B" Company moved off for Pegasus Village at 1630 hours and were established there by last light. At 2015 hours a patrol from 7 Platoon led by Lieutenant A. C. Malim left Pegasus Village to search the village of Al Haisera on the Southern side of the Wadi Taym. The patrol returned at 0300 hours on 10th May having found the village unoccupied, but containing a brand new issue manpack carrier, and a selection of ancient rifles and ammunition. Many of these rifles were found during these searches.

Thus the Battalion entered the Radfan operation proper—having served its apprenticeship in the Wadi Rabwa, Coca Cola and Camp Bed, and was now about to operate in virgin territory so far not entered by security forces at any time.

Wadi Taym, 20th May, 1964

The Battalion's activities in the Wadi Taym between 10th and 20th May fall into two parts. First the patrol on the wide, flat fertile floor of the Wadi itself—with excursions into the foothills of the mountains containing the Wadi—and secondly the garrisoning of Cap Badge and Gin Sling features to dominate the Wadi. The task was fairly uneventful and was enlivened mainly by a continuous stream of VIP's, reporters and photographers who came to visit the combat area. Two Ministers, Mr. Duncan Sandys and Mr. Hugh Frazer, and a host of senior officers came to visit us and expressed their admiration for the achievements of British troops in the conditions of climate and terrain. "C" Company were more than "enlivened" on the evening of the 11th May when, after a dissident attack on Gin Sling, artillery DF's were checked and found to be very close to 10 Platoon's position. "C" Company Commander was very tense about the whole thing on the radio and not at all mollified when the Forward Observation Officer remarked "they always seem closer at night".

"B" Company having occupied Pegasus Village (NAQIL) on 9th May, continued their proscription activities at first light on 10th May. At 0600 hours 6 Platoon and the Company Commanders Group began searching the group of villages on the southern side of the Wadi to the West of Ahl Haisera. This task was continued in the afternoon of 10th May when it was considerably eased by the arrival of the reconnaissance platoon and their landrovers. The platoon had passed from command of "C" Company and walked down from Gin Sling to join "B" Company in Pegasus Village where its vehicles had been lifted by Belvedere helicopter. One 120mm Mobat was also flown in. This was the only means of getting vehicles into the Wadi Taym at that time, and it was 7 days before the Engineers made a track from the Rabwa Pass. These six vehicles provided a troop lift of up to about twenty and a reserve of mobile fire power.



Mr Duncan Sandys, Secretary of State for Commonwealth and Colonial Affairs chats with Pte B. C. Wallace of the 1st Battalion.

Their use as unarmoured personnel carriers halved the time required to enforce proscription in the Wadi Taym.

The investigation of the South-Western part of the Wadi by "B" Company was completed on 11th May. They found three old women who had been left behind by departing Daibanis and the usual collection of ancient rifles, miscellaneous ammunition and empty cases and paper. These were usually dignified with the titles of documents but were probably house-keeping accounts and personal letters. No one ever told us what they revealed to the translators. The old ladies were a different problem and were evacuated by the Political Officers. On 11th May Headquarters Radforce was dissolved, and Brigadier R. L. Hargroves returned to his duties as Commander Aden Garrison. Much had been achieved by Radforce in its one months' existence, and as one of the founder members of the club we were sorry to see its demise. Operational command of all forces in the Radfan passed to Headquarters 39 Infantry Brigade Group, commanded by Brigadier C. H. Blacker, OBE, MC,

which had been flown from Northern Ireland for the purpose.

On 12th May, "B" Company turned its attention to the East and North of the Wadi Taym. While searching the village of Danaba 7 Platoon came under fire from the hills to the North West at a range of about one thousand five hundred yards. An unmarked village in the area from which the fire came and the hills above and around it were shelled by the 105s of 7 Royal Horse Artillery and three rounds of 120mm fired by the Mobat. This stopped the firing and the patrol continued its task. Again old weapons and papers were found but no grain or people. During the firing, Private Phillips of 7 Platoon was slightly wounded in the hand and Sergeant Finn's rifle butt was smashed by a bullet.

After these excursions on the Wadi floor it was decided to rest "B" Company and replace them by "A" Company. This change over was made on the morning of the 13th May and "A" Company was "down" and "B" Company "up" by about 0900 hours. On arrival at Pegasus, "A" Company Com-

mander was ordered to send a platoon to garrison Urshaidi at once. 1 Platoon was therefore moved up in two lifts by the Reconnaissance Platoon. DF tasks were selected and registered and 2/Lieutenant D. Voy and his platoon installed in what became their home for a week. They discovered that the village was permanently on fire but apart from this—and a few flies—quite comfortable. The afternoon of 13th May was spent by 2 Platoon searching the village of Uwaitif. The usual haul was found, also a collection of flags. These were immediately categorised as "Rebel Unit Flags" but were later discovered to be burial flags.

Immediately they returned from 2 Platoon's patrol the reconnaissance platoons vehicles were required to assist "C" Company in placing 10 Platoon in Long Village. Both ends of the Wadi were now garrisoned by detached Platoons.

By now it was apparent that the centre of operations was the Wadi Taym and orders were given for Tactical Headquarters to move into Pegasus Village on the morning of 14th May. This HQ, which on Coca-Cola had consisted of the Commanding Officer, Sergeants Shanks and Corporal Beecham now contained the IO Lieutenant Keep, who up to that time had been employed with HQ Radforce, the Regimental Signals Officer, extracted from Aden and the Second in Command as the "Great Administrator". On occasions even the PR1 and Ingleby Jefferson as Forward Air Control (FAC) were heard on the air.

While Tactical Headquarters were moved down into Pegasus by a mixture of march route and helicopter lift, "A" Company patrolled via Al Dhireqa and Wali to Habil Al Jabr without opposition or finding anything of interest. They did locate a large and very clean house (by local standards) about midway between Pegasus and Habil Al Jabr villages. This was called "Suffolk House" and seemed an ideal future site for Tactical Headquarters.

An attempt was also made to get vehicles on to the flat tops of three low ridges that ran South from Suffolk House and Al Jabr towards Dhabra and Al Qura. This proved impossible and the attempt was abandoned. That night it was decided to move "A" Company forward to Al Jabr, and Tactical Headquarters forward to Suffolk House.

The move of "A" Company and Tactical Headquarters was completed on the 15th May. The dismounted anti-tank platoon under Lt R. J. Abbott, which had been with "A" Company since 4th May moved to Tactical Headquarters as defence platoon and the Reconnaissance Platoon was based at Tactical Headquarters. "A" Company in Al Jabr was reinforced by the attachment of a Mortar Section under Capt P. D. Stone. Patrolling began again on 16 May at 0730 hours when a force consisting of the Reconnaissance Platoon carrying the Anti-Tank Platoon, as infantry, two sections of 2 Platoon and a troop of Ferret Armoured cars of the 4 Royal Tanks, all under command of 'A' Company with an FOO in support, moved out from Al Jabr Ridge 1 which ran north and south to the east of Wali and Al Dhireqa ridges. They reached the end of the ridge about 800 yards from Al Qura some 1,200 yards from Dhabra and established an OP without opposition. The move along the ridge had been carried out on foot as vehicles could not get up the wadi sides. Here they were visited by Major A. W. J. Turnbull, temporarily commanding the battalion, who arrived and departed unmolested by Scout Helicopter. At about 0945 hours, just as the Secretary of Defence (Air) Mr. Frazer, MP, was preparing to leave Al Jabr to visit the posi-

tion by Belvedere, dissidents fired some twenty shots at the position from the hills to the south. The VIP visit was immediately cancelled. Captain Rodney Cotten of "J" Battery Royal Horse Artillery quickly arranged retaliation by the gunners and the enemy ceased firing. Some members of the patrol claimed that the fire was from an automatic weapon and once again the difficulty of locating targets in this very rugged and broken country was emphasised. Artillery and mortar retaliation is the only answer and is much disliked by the rebels. After occupying the OP, for some fifteen minutes after the firing ceased, the patrol withdrew under cover of artillery fire at 1100 hours.

As a result of this patrol it was obvious that another approach to the Dhabra area would have to be found as vehicles could not be got across the Wadi and also the route was dominated by the dissidents. Certain watchtowers and houses that could be used as block houses by the dissidents would have to be destroyed before any real penetration was possible. Therefore a patrol by "A" Company less one platoon, a troop of Ferrets of 4 Royal Tanks, the Reconnaissance platoon, an anti tank detachment and Captain Jefferson as FAC, was ordered for the next day, 17 May. It was to investigate Ridge II.

Orders were given out by the Commanding Officer at 0730 hours on 17 May from an OP on Al Jabr. At 0815 hours the armoured cars and reconnaissance platoon moved out to search the village some one thousand yards south of Al Jabr. Immediately they were in position Tactical Headquarters Group and the FAC moved up behind them and controlled the Hunter Strike on to selected watchtowers and houses. While this was going on, "A" Company set off to search and clear two small villages which were unmarked on the map. This they completed without incident and were joined in the second village by Tactical Headquarters and the reconnaissance platoon which had found a vehicle route to the east of Ridge II. The CO then ordered "A" Company to go forward and clear and occupy "two houses" which were about some 300 yards away towards the Wadi which separated the position from Dhabra village. 2 Platoon occupied their house eventually, but 3 platoon, although unmolested, found their house was not all what they expected.

This house was in fact a line of three houses running away down the slope. Each house had been strengthened and prepared for defence and a whole group of houses connected up with well dug crawl trenches. It was in fact a well constructed reverse slope defensive position which could fire east and west and covered the approaches to Hajib via the Wadis Ma'ibrin or Mahq. Had it been occupied, clearing it might have been an expensive business. After clearing the village it was occupied until 0430 hours when 3 Platoon returned to base. Each house in the village was then subjected to a HESH round from a Mobat. At 1600 hours Brigadier Blacker flew in to see the position and then the patrol withdrew arriving in base at 1830 hours.

Activity on 18th May was mainly in the "C" Company area on the north side of the Wadi in the Habil Sabaha area, where during a search of the villages there were some stocks of grain suitable for grinding and a 3 inch mortar dial sight were found. Also on the 18th May orders for the temporary relief of the Battalion from operations were received. "B" Company handed over on Cap Badge to troops of 1 KOSB and moved down to harbour the night with "C" Company at Pegasus village. The next day on 19th May



Tea making under difficulties.

—twenty-eight days after leaving Aden—“B” Company moved out of the Wadi Taym over the Rabwa Pass and returned to Waterloo Barracks that evening. The same evening a warning order was issued for a patrol in the Wadi Taym—this time some four thousand yards due east of Al Jabr towards the junction of the Wadi Taym and Wadi Bana.

This patrol made up of exactly the same force as that of 17 May left Al Jabr at 0730 hours 19th May and moved eastwards with “A” Company’s platoons searching the sides of the Wadi and the reconnaissance platoon, the armoured cars and Tactical Headquarters moving on the Wadi bottom. The going was very good for both the marching troops and vehicles, and by 1030 hours the permitted limit of advance—the maximum range of the 105s—was reached and a halt ordered. This was in a delightful area with a stream (the first found by the Battalion) running through it and green fields and shady trees. Not quite Kew Gardens but very near it by Radfan standards. Here the patrol halted in the shade and awaited further orders. A section of mortars was moved forward to give fire support beyond the range of the guns. At

about 1430 hours a liaison officer from HQ 39 Brigade Group appeared in a helicopter and forbade further advance or establishment of troops in this very pleasant and easily accessible area. After a little “chukker” forward by the Reconnaissance Platoon and 2 Platoon to the entrance to the Wadi Bana the patrol withdrew to the uninviting prospect of another night with the rats in Al Jabr. “A” Company arrived there about 1600 hours and were told that they would be relieved next day by 45 Royal Marine Commando.

Meanwhile “C” Company searching their area, discovered three old women and a sick man hidden in a house in the village of Dakka. Efforts to get the Political Officers to evacuate them failed and a guard of an officer (Lt P. J. S. Child) and a half platoon was left with them as it was hoped someone might try and contact them during the night. This complicated “C” Company’s move out the next day particularly as twenty people—old men, women and children and 400 rounds of ammunition were found in the area the next morning. All were handed over to 45 Commando to arrange evacuation. That night “A”

and "C" Companies placed their last ambush patrols out in the Wadi Taym and saw and heard nothing. Patrols had been sent out night and day and at no time was there any evidence that proscription of the area was not complete.

The next day "C" and "A" Companies were relieved by 45 Commando and in a flurry of overloaded Landrovers moved out of the Wadi Taym to the Rabwa Pass. Here they went on foot for some two miles and then boarded the transport which was to take them to Aden. "C" Company arrived in Aden at 1630 hours on 20th May and "A" Company at 2015 hours that evening. The Reconnaissance Platoon were the last to get back arriving at 1000 hours on 21st May and only a small holding party was left at Thumier.

This completed the Battalion's first spell in Radfan. It was a tired and dirty, even smelly battalion, that arrived back in Waterloo Barracks. It was also a much harder, fitter and infinitely wiser Battalion than that which had left. After a clean up and kit check, replacement of losses and deficiencies they were ready to go again in 72 hours. In fact, except for "B" Company they did not go back for a further 8 days.

The Wadi Nakhelain 24th-28th May, 1964

As a result of operations in the area of the Wadi Taym and Bakri Ridge it was believed that dissident tribesmen had moved south of the Jebel Radfan. It was also known that the Wadis Naif and Nakhelain were used as routes into the area by camel train from the Yemen. It was decided to send an armoured infantry force into this area. This force was commanded by CO 4 RTR with "B" Company Group consisting of "B" Coy reinforced by a section each of mortars and assault pioneers under command. Its task was to dominate by aggressive patrolling the areas between the Wadis Naif and Nakhelain.

On 24th May this force moved from Aden along the Adn-Dhala road to a point just south of Al Milah. There it left the road and followed the Wadi Am Saibia. The main body had great difficulty in negotiating the Wadi bed and "B" Company Group arrived at the patrol base at the junction with the Wadi Nakhelain at approximately 1700 hours.

The late arrival of the main body led to patrol task being changed. It was intended to penetrate to Wadi Nakhelain for some 7,000-8,000 yards, but because of the long distance involved the patrol, found by 5 Platoon, was ordered to go only half way to its original objective. This they did, returning to base at first light, reporting that they had neither seen nor heard any movement but that there were camel tracks and that the going was not good.

"B" Company itself was deployed in a tight perimeter protecting the armoured car patrol base. Apart from providing detachments and patrols this remained the main Company task throughout the period that the patrol base was occupied.

On 25th June 7 Platoon was ordered forward some 7,000 yards to the Wadi junction and set off with the mortar section at 1530 hours, 4th RTR who had sent armoured patrols forward that day were unable to withdraw their "B" Squadron from the Wadi Nakhelain until 1845 hours because of dissident activity and breakdowns. As a result the patrol programme was again recast. 7 Platoon were halted and established a base some 4,000 yards up the Wadi from the main base and sent a standing patrol another 2,000 yards up the Wadi. The night was uneventful and nothing was heard of the many dissidents reported

earlier by the 4th RTR. The mortar section returned with B Squadron for the night to the main base.

On 26th June, '64, the mortar section again went into the Wadi Nakhelain with B Squadron, meeting up with 7 Platoon who protected the Group whilst the mortars put down harassing fire on the feature above the Wadi junction. The squadron group withdrew from the Wadi by 1230 hours. 6 Platoon was told to take up a position a mile up the Wadi Nakhelain from the main base by 1700 hours to stop movement in and out of the Wadi Nakhelain. 5 Platoon was detached under command of a troop of B Squadron to investigate the immediate area of the Wadi Niaf by day and night patrols. They were in position by 1700 hours.

On Wednesday, 27th May just before first light a reconnaissance patrol sent out by 6 Platoon returned. It had been 2,000 yards up the Wadi Nakhelain but had seen nothing. The patrol commander had, however, heard coughing as he was returning. Shortly afterwards a picquet commander in the platoon base saw two armed men who appeared to have been following the patrol in. They were challenged and fired upon, but bolted. They dropped a pipe and tobacco pouch. The picquet commander thought that they were in uniform but was not sure.

A patrol of 5 Platoon up the Wadi Niaf reported that it was used extensively by donkeys. A camel train was stopped but proved to be carrying brushes for sale in Thumier.

At last light a reconnaissance patrol from 7 Platoon again went up the Wadi Nakhelain, leaving from 6 Platoon position. Soon after dark there was torrential rain which continued throughout the night. In spite of this the patrol completed its task which was to confirm the existence of a track leading up out of the wadi on to the high ground to the north-west at the end of the wadi.

On Thursday, 28th May, '64, 6 and 7 Platoons returned to the main squadron base at 0700 hours. They were late in as the wadi beds were transformed into fast moving rivers and movement by night was dangerous.

The whole Company then withdrew to Milestone 13 and thence returned to Aden arriving back at approximately 1300 hours, after an interesting, active but somewhat inconclusive five days.

Wadi Misrah-Jebel Hariyah. 30th May-19th June, 1964

After a period of 8 days rest and refitting in Aden the Battalion less "B" Company returned to the Radfan on 29th May. "B" Company rejoined the Battalion on 31st May after its efforts in the Wadi Nakhelain.

On arrival in Thumier, the Commanding Officer was given the task in a joint operation with 2 FRA of proscribing the Wadi Misrah and securing the Jebel Hariyah. This was the last area in the Radfan remaining under dissident control and a successful operation would mean that the whole area would be under control of the Government forces for the first time. The capture of the Jebel Hariyah was particularly significant, being the spiritual home of the Radfanis and standing at 6,000 feet was the highest mountain in their tribal area.

After a day spent on aerial reconnaissance the Commanding Officer issued orders at 2200 hours to cover the outline of operations and the general development of the plan. This was:—

Phase 1—Picquetting of the south side of the Wadi by "C" Company by first light 31st May and clearing of Wadi to Moba'a by "A" Company by midday 2nd June, '64.

Phase 2—Picquetting of the north east side of Wadi by 2 FRA and clearance of the remainder of Wadi to the junctions of Wadis Misrah, Tramaré and Bulbar by "B" Company.

Phase 3—Securing of FRA ridge feature by 2 FRA followed by establishing of "C" Company on Ice Cold.

Phase 4—Seizure of Jebel Huriyah by "A" Company.

This plan was subject to variations as developments became apparent and no timings were given for phases 2 to 4.

On 30th May "A" Company with a section of 3-inch mortars, the reconnaissance platoon and an Assault Pioneer Section moved from Thumier Camp to the junction of the Wadi Misrah and Wadi Bigair. Here it formed a patrol base from which it was to patrol eastward up the Wadi Misrah on 1st June, '64. At approximately 0230 hours 31st May this picquet was approached by five persons. The picquet opened fire without effect. This picquet had the task of covering "C" Company on to their night objective.

"C" Company consisting of 9 and 10 platoons only, left Thumier Camp at 0100 hours to secure the south side of the Wadi Misrah to cover "A" Company operations in the Wadi bed. They moved up the Wadi from Thumier and up the south side of the hills forming the southern side of the Wadi Misrah. No personal reconnaissance of the route had been possible by Captain D. L. Clarke—the Company Commander—and he had to rely entirely on a briefing by the Commanding Officer who had carried out an air reconnaissance. This reconnaissance had shown that the most practicable route had at the top a very difficult section requiring marking by tape and possibly ropes to assist the soldiers in the ascent. The company was therefore preceded by a party of experienced rock climbers drawn from all over the Battalion and led by Lieutenant M. G. Turner-Cain. Despite the lack of reconnaissance and the difficulties of the route the company was established on the main feature of Hill Two covering the western end of the Wadi Misrah by 0610 hours on 31st May, '64. Roping was unnecessary but taping of the more difficult parts of the route by the pilot party proved invaluable.

No further moves were made in daylight on 31st May but at last light on 31st May 1 Platoon left "A" Company patrol base and moved down the Wadi Misrah to clear and occupy the village of Shaab Al Kasab. This was reported as empty and secure by 0015 on 1st June, '64. During this patrol and at the crucial time when the village was being entered and investigated "C" Company's position reported movement around their position and fired flares. This light embarrassed 1 Platoon's operations and caused an acrimonious radio exchange between Captain Clarke and Major Deller. 1 Platoon hid up in the village and hoped someone might appear, but no one did.

On 1st June at 0700 hours "A" Company Group reinforced by a heavy troop of 4 Royal Tank Regiment (two Saladins and two Ferrets) and a section of engineers advanced up the Wadi Misrah to link up with 1 Platoon. This they did at 1030 hours and

the Wadi Misrah was declared open for traffic to Shaab Al Kasab. The Wadi Misrah to this area was heavily cultivated and well developed with adequate wells and a complicated irrigation system. No inhabitants were met and the evacuation of houses seemed to have been less hurried and more thoroughly carried out than in previous areas of operations. At last light 2 Platoon pushed forward to Mogga where it occupied the village as a platoon ambush and prepared to remain there for two nights. Immediately after occupation an Arab civilian wandered into their position and was arrested. He was evacuated for interrogation but was later declared a "raving lunatic".

During the night 1/2 Jun "C" Company position on Hill 2 was fired upon from a position some 800 yards to the south east along the ridge. It was therefore decided to occupy this "bump" during the night 2/3 June to protect the present position and allow further movement south eastwards on the Wadi floor. The 2nd June was spent by "A" Company searching and clearing all the villages in the Wadi Misrah west of the 90 Eastings. No movement forward of the line was permissible as the area was reserved to air control. During the search little was found and once again the villages showed signs of methodical and unhurried clearing. However, 72 tins of potatoes and green beans were found which made a very welcome addition to the menu.

During the night 9 Platoon (Lt P. J. S. Child) left "C" Company's position at 8991 and after a journey of some three hours along a narrow ridge, established themselves on Pinnacle by 0500 hours. No enemy opposition was encountered during the advance which secured the southern side of the valley for a further advance in the Wadi itself.

At 0700 hours on 3rd June "A" Company supported by the heavy troop of 4 RTR, the reconnaissance platoon and a section of assault pioneers moved forward to search the village of Mas Hagar, and to resupply 2 Platoon in Mogga where they were to remain for a further 24 hours. After the main body of the Company had passed Mogga and after the route had been checked for mines, a landrover of the recon platoon set off a mine in the Wadi bed. This vehicle was destroyed and another one parked nearby was badly damaged. Pte Impey the driver of the parked vehicle was wounded in the head, arm and leg and was evacuated by helicopter. Pte. Sands, the driver of the destroyed vehicle, was badly shaken but was blown clear by the explosion. Both men were saved from further injury by the sandbagging of their vehicles. It is also interesting that the vehicle which exploded the mine was the fifth vehicle to pass over the route. The explosion of the mine destroyed our element of surprise in the search of the village and it was found deserted except for five skinny cows. On 4th June "B" Company was phased into the operations and passed through "A" Company to continue the advance eastwards down the Wadi Misrah. Two companies of 2 FRA were at the same time moved forward to the area of Mogga and from there climbed to the ridge which formed the northern side of the Wadi and secured these with a number of picquet positions. As these picquets came into position "A" Company moved eastwards through Mogga at approximately 1000 hours. They cleared the Wadi as far as Al Sarafa by 1700 hours and established themselves there for the night.

Consequent on observation obtained by 9 platoon's occupation of the Pinnacle feature it was decided to occupy the Crag feature which would give cover and observation down to the main junction of the Wadis Misrah, Bulbar and Tramare. This task was allotted to the Reconnaissance platoon who returned to Thumier to deposit their vehicles. They were then lifted by helicopter to 9 platoon's position on the Pinnacle on the afternoon of 4th June, '64, and came under command of "C" Company. During the night of 4/5 June they moved on foot from the platoon position along a very narrow ridge to an area beneath the Crag's feature and from there upwards, it was necessary to use ropes. A rigid rope was fixed by the platoon commander and Pte Sadler, up which the rest of the platoon scrambled on to the high point of the feature to establish the position by 0500 hours 5th June '64.

At first light on 5th June under cover of the picquet on the Crag's, "B" Company continued its advance to the main Wadi junction which was reached at 0945. At 1530 hours armoured cars of 4 RTR passed through "B" Company's forward position and investigated the Wadi Tramare and Wadi Bulbar for about two to three thousand yards without opposition.

The companies of 2 FRA picqueting the hills to the north of the Wadi Misrah had conformed to "B" Company's advance and were in positions to cover the approaches down the Wadi Tramare to the Misrah junction. The advance by "B" Company and 2 FRA completed Phase 22 of the joint 1 E. Anglian/2 FRA plan and 6th June was spent in planning for phases 3 and 4 and in regrouping and adjustment of positions. "B" Company pushed forward two additional picquets to cover the Wadi junction and "C" Company were relieved in their picquet positions by 3 Company 1 FRA. Pressure was maintained in the forward area by a patrol of 4 RTR into the Wadi Tramare and Bulbar which had no contact with the enemy.

At first light on 7th June 2 FRA began their part of Phase 3 with 5 Company advancing onto the Shaab Sharah feature to secure it to cover "C" Company advance to the area known as Ice Cold. At approximately 1000 hours the FRA came under fire from 20 men located on the top of Shaab Sharah. All efforts to advance were held up at 1250 hours when the FRA Company came under fire from three different parties each with an automatic weapon and a total estimated strength of 40-50. Also to continue the advance would have required a descent of 400 feet followed by a climb of 600 feet under enemy fire and observation. It was decided to call on air and artillery fire support and the area was struck by rocket and cannon and by artillery from 1500 to 1730 hours. The CO of 2 FRA then decided to continue the advance with a fresh company at first light on 8th June, '64. This meant a delay of 24 hours. At first light on 8th June 2 FRA continued their advance and found the enemy had disappeared and by 0730 hours were secure on Shaab Sharah.

The Commanding Officer and the Group Commander FRA went forward by helicopter and it was discovered that the next objectives in the operation at Ice Cold were unoccupied. It was decided to alter the plan and send a Company of 2 FRA to pass through the position on Shaab Sharah and occupy these features. After some delay this plan was agreed

to by HQ 39 Inf Bde Group and the advance continued at 1330 hours. At 1430 hours the features at Ice Cold were secured and 5 Company 2 FRA established on them. Reconnaissance by the Commanding Officer and "A" and "C" Company Commanders followed at approximately 1700 hours and it was decided that "C" Company's plan to move up that night would stand, that Tactical Headquarters would move by helicopter on 9th June and that "A" Company would move up on foot to arrive by 0800 hours 10th June. The assault of the Jebel Huriyah would take place during the night of 10/11 June '64. The Jebel Huriyah was still occupied by enemy who fired at aircraft dropping water to 2 FRA and at the Ice Cold position. Objectives of phases 2 and 3 of the original plan were therefore secured by 1600 hours and the plan telescoped.

"C" Company's move to Ice Cold via the Wadis Bulbar and Manama involved a three hour march up a steeply rising and very rocky wadi bed and was completed by first light on 9th June. Tactical Headquarters flew in on the morning of 9th June, the Commanding Officer and "A" and "C" Company Commanders carried out an aerial reconnaissance of the Jebel Huriyah by Beaver on the morning of 9th June and it was decided to approach the feature from the western end using one company to secure the ridge and one to take the Jebel Huriyah plateau itself. It was also decided to secure at once the eastern end of the feature by platoon picquet. This was achieved without opposition by the Reconnaissance Platoon by 1600 hours. By 0800 hours on 10th June "A" Company had arrived at the assembly area at Ice Cold joining Tactical Headquarters and "C" Company. During 9/10 June the build up of supplies and ammunition to support the final advance had gone on and 48 hours stocks were held in the assembly area after the assault forces moved forward. During the move of this platoon, a Wessex helicopter of the Royal Navy crashed killing Private Fox and injuring five others. At 1400 hours the Commanding Officer gave out orders for the final move on the Jebel Huriyah. This was to be done in darkness but with a Shackleton of the Royal Air Force dropping flares to silhouette the objective to the advancing troops. The advance was to be supported by the 105's and 5.5's of the Radfan Artillery Units and the Battalion 3 inch Mortar Platoon and to be carried out in two phases. Phase 1 was the advance of "C" Company over the start line secured by the reconnaissance platoon along the ridge running up to the main feature to secure a start line and FUP for "A" Company who were to carry out the final seizure of Jebel Huriyah in phase 2. Preliminary moves would begin at 0100 hours on 11th June and "C" Company would cross the start line at 0200 hours. It was expected that "A" Company would cross their start line at 0315 hours and be secure on the Jebel Huriyah by 0415 hours. "C" Company set off through the reconnaissance platoon positions at 0200 hours. The going was more difficult than anticipated and the advance fell behind schedule.

However, despite some very difficult ground "C" Company reached their final objective by 0410 hours for "A" Company to pass through. The Commanding Officer and "A" Company Commander were close up on the tail of "C" Company and "A" Company, headed by 3 Platoon, crossed the start line at 0420 hours. They headed straight for the highest point and a lone tree they could see on the dark mass of

Jebel Huriyah. At 0450 hours the leading platoon was secure on top of the Jebel Huriyah plateau after climbing up the steep sides. 1 and 2 Platoons quickly passed through to secure the whole feature and the Commanding Officer and his command rover group followed immediately behind them. Occupation of the 6,000 foot feature was complete in time to watch the street lights of Aden go out 40 miles away. Helicopter resupply began at 0600 hours and by 1200 hours all necessary food, water, ammunition and equipment, including a flag pole and Regimental flag were on top of the Jebel Huriyah. At 1215 hours the forward sections of 2 Platoon were sniped at from the basin below Jebel Huriyah. 3 inch mortars fired back and the firing ceased. This was the end of resistance in the area.

From the Jebel Huriyah position the fertile agricultural basin could be dominated and for the next six days it was patrolled by all three companies of the Battalion, "B" Company having come up to join the Battalion on 12th June. On 13th June '64 at 0630 hours 6 Platoon of "B" Company (Sgt. Jones) was established by helicopter on the forward rim of the Huriyah Basin. From there it dominated all the Wadis connecting the Radfan area, Dhanrari area and the approaches to Jebel Widina, Arnolds Spur and Wadi Dhibsan. Two Russian type grenades were found concealed in the rocks on this position. The platoon was sniped at on 17th June but artillery retaliation soon stopped this.

The Battalion occupied the Jebel Huriyah until 19th

June. The last two nights were memorable for bitterly cold rain storms that broke over the hills at about 1800 hours each day. With only a groundsheet and a piece of hessian great ingenuity was needed to keep dry. It was amazing how popular the Command post shelter became on these occasions with visiting Company Commanders.

On 18th June relief by the IRA began and "B" and "C" Companies returned to Thumier by helicopter. At Thumier they transferred to trucks and were in Aden at 1615 hours that day. "A" Company and Tactical Headquarters and 4 Platoon left on 19th June and were lifted by helicopter into the Wadi Misrah at Al Sarafa and taken by vehicle from there. They arrived in Aden at 1630 hours. 7 Platoon did not return until about 2000 hours that night as they were delayed by weather conditions and only some inspired flying by the Scout pilots of the AAC got them off their detached position on Ice Cold that day.

Thus the Battalion completed its second period in Radfan. It had the satisfaction of knowing it had secured all its objectives and had demonstrated that the British soldier is capable of operating efficiently in this environment. The appreciation of the results were expressed in a signal to the Brigadier from General J. H. Cubbon, GOC MELF, who said, "The capture of the Jebel Huriyah by 1 E. Anglian is a splendid achievement and we all admire the tremendous effort which this demanded from all members of the Battalion. Please pass my heartiest congratulations to them".

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

BATTALION REVIEW

Ger Tor and Hare Tor, Black Down and White Hill, Wild Tor and Rough Tor; descriptive names imprinted on our memories. "A prominent hill or rocky height" is the Oxford Dictionary's definition of a tor; Dartmoor abounded with them and the conquest of each was compared by some with the expeditions to Everest, K.2 and Kanchenjunga. In spite of their profusion only a few of us were confounded by them. The Adjutant bogged his vehicle on the first exercise and the RSM trapped his between two rocks a few days later; the Drums made a small map reading error and were rescued from the top of Standon Hill only minutes before the clouds and dusk descended. Apart from these few mishaps Camp was a great success. The exercises were arduous and exhilarating and the administrative machine worked smoothly and efficiently.

The Battalion was accommodated in comfortable huts in Plasterdown Camp near Tavistock, together with HQ 161 Inf Bde (TA) and several other units.

For the first few days companies trained alone while Bn HQ and A and B Echelons took part in Brigade Signal and Administrative exercises. After this, exercises followed one another in quick succession and there was little respite. So tired were the officers at their "Last Supper" that nodding heads were propped in cupped hands and the normally effervescent chatter was stilled.

Army and Royal Navy helicopters took part in two exercises, and on one occasion Battalion Headquarters looked on in envy while Rifle Companies were lifted from Willsworthy back to Plasterdown Camp at the end of a tiring day. Major Raywood spent most of Camp "painting pictures"; he is now a highly qualified umpire. The Battalion is delighted to have him back. WWII Groom joined the advance party having completed his first ten days of annual training with the unit occupying Plasterdown Camp before us. Sgt. Vincent took over from him and succeeded in meeting the needs of the many hungry mouths. So fit did certain members of the Battalion feel after Camp that a walk across Ireland was planned for their leave. Sadly, circumstances prevented them from setting out on the expedition.

Lt Col A. W. J. Turnbull, MC, has now taken over command. Summer holidays are finished and training for the Brigade Competitions has started in earnest. The annual winter exercise this year will take place on the 16th and 17th January, and Camp will be at Shornclyffe from the 5th to the 19th June. Plans are afoot to send the Signal and Reconnaissance Platoons to Skye for the first week of Camp.

Potential officers now join as officer cadets and applications to join are flowing in. North Walsham has suddenly become a source of recruits and HQ Company has started a recruiting drive in the area. Thetford is being examined as a possible location for a new TA Centre. D Company is due to run a NCO's cadre in November and December at Dereham, Norwich and Stanford PTA; two teams of PSI's will visit companies during the winter months to give concentrated weapon training instruction; and an officers day is due to be held on the 4th October. Major Grant is busy co-ordinating training and is preparing the winter exercise; Major Raywood will be instructing the officer cadets. The Band, now led by S/Sgt Baker, and the Drums, under Drum Major Housego, are busy preparing for the Band Competition; morale in both is high and they have been playing and marching each week under the expert eye of Capt Thompson, the new Band President, once a Bandmaster himself. The Drums are now up to their full establishment and are equipped with scarlet and peaked hats. In addition to its normal activities the Battalion has been asked by Brigadier Bulwer-Long, OBE, MC, the High Sheriff of Norfolk, to provide a Guard of Honour for HM Judges at the Cathedral on the 4th October. The Judges will be attending the Assizes in Norwich.

In the immediate future the Battalion faces a week-end in the open at Stanford PTA preparing for the Brigade Competitions, followed by a second week-end at Fingringhoe taking part in the Competitions. Only the owls will have seen the stealthy shapes that barely deepened the shadows of shrubs and trees around Kings Lynn as B Company's men practised for the Patrol Competition. We now know the patrol will take place in daylight!

OFFICERS' MESS

At Plasterdown Camp we shared the Mess with 927 Coy RASC, a most satisfactory arrangement particularly when it came to trying to obtain the unobtainable—a map of training areas in Cornwall. It was perhaps unfortunate that our training kept us away from the Mess, more so than usual, as the Mess facilities, particularly the kitchen which even met with the approval of Freddie Graham, were most satisfactory.

Training permitted only one Dinner night at which we were pleased to entertain Col E. le Hunte-Ward, a local resident with many years' service with 9th of Foot, and also the officers of our supporting Battery of 308 Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry. The visit of the Colonel of the Regiment gave us a splendid excuse to prove once and for all to our friends of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire what they miss by living south of the Rivers Waveney and Wissey when we entertained the Colonel and officers of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment to luncheon.

No report of the Mess activities at Camp could possibly go without a mention of the Shark Fishing Expedition. The writer seemed to take it in turns with the Commanding Officer to spin for mackerel, while the other was for one reason or another forced to try and spot the mackerel "over the side of the boat". A small armada of 4 boats had set sail from Looe at 10-30 on Sunday morning to return some 8 hours later, pale-faced and sharkless, a trip some twenty miles into the Channel. Most of us were pleased to get our land legs back and after an excellent dinner at an hotel not far away, we were ready to resume our role as soldiers of the Queen, and to leave the sea entirely to her sailors.



Men of the 4th Royal Norfolk being moved to another area of the battlefield by helicopter.

SERGEANTS' MESS

On arrival at Plasterdown Camp amid the Dartmoor mist and rain we found our mess without electricity but with water running everywhere. This was not an auspicious beginning. However, next morning the RSM was seen looking at unoccupied buildings and a new location was agreed. Under the guidance of Sgt. "Pickford" Savage, drawing on his civilian trade, and Sgt Holmes, our caterer, the mess members turned to and moved the furniture from the tent to a building amongst our sleeping quarters. Life was then far easier.

We played the Officers' Mess at football, and although the officers used every trick in the book and even turned out the Battalion Fire Truck, they lost. Perhaps tying their goalkeeper, the Commanding Officer, to a chair helped; so did our smoke screen.

After the match we all adjourned to the Sgts Mess and then to the Officers Mess to quench our thirst, and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking them for their splendid effort. All in all it was a most successful camp as far as the mess was concerned.

After our return the holiday season was upon us and PSI's disappeared on six weeks' leave. Life has been quiet but further parties have been planned and so we look forward to the future.

In closing we wish Lt. Col. and Mrs. Robertson all the best in their new station and we welcome Lt. Col. and Mrs. Turnbull to the Bn. and hope their stay is a happy one.

HQ COY

Just prior to Camp this year a number of us were inveigled into a skeleton exercise to be held on the training area of Stanford. The name of this tactical gem was "Cauldron Edge". Making their debut on this occasion were the Assault Pioneer Platoon and to mark it they were given a box of TNT to play with. Though sundry loud bangs were heard nobody was hurt which fact somewhat disappointed the prophets of doom. Later in the camp the rain, which had been indented for by WOII Hiscock, made its presence felt. Have you tried breakfast in the rain at 0400 hours? Take our advice and don't. At about midday the Suffolk & Norfolk Yeomanry gave us a demonstration shoot with their 25 pounders.

Camp this year was at Plasterdown near Tavistock and later than is normal for us. Our arrival was heralded by a downpour of rain which seemed an ill omen. When members of the advance party told us that they had experienced three continuous days of rain, the outlook seemed dismal indeed. However, by Monday the sun appeared and continued to do so for most of the daylight hours of the remainder of the Camp period. Training this year was at Brigade level and consisted for most people of battalion and Brigade schemes. The Assault Pioneers however were on a cadre for the first week, travelling every day to Tregantle in Cornwall, an old stamping ground for some of the older hands in the unit. The remainder of the Company, meanwhile, were getting to know the Tors and Moors very well; Pte Raby claimed to have climbed every Tor on Dartmoor. At the end of the first week we lost quite a number of people who

for one reason and another could only get one week off from work. Though reduced in numbers the remainder soldiered on for the rest of Camp.

Since our return home things have been rather quiet owing to the holiday period being in full swing. However, a quick look at the training programme for the Autumn seems to indicate that we will soon be working in top gear again.

'A' COMPANY

September finds the Company at the highest active TA strength it has ever enjoyed and with new recruits presenting themselves every week our new Company Commander, Capt J. M. Shearman, TD, has had a most encouraging start to his duties. Much of this addition to our numbers has been due to the leadership of Sgt. Barnes and his ability to keep up an interesting recruits training programme throughout the summer.

Camp at Tavistock was hard work but enjoyable and gave the Company the opportunity to savour most aspects of infantry work even if everywhere in Devon seemed to be uphill there and back. Mr. Lee-Warner interested himself in lost property, the CSM in map-reading and Major Boulton in blind grenades. A football team under new sports officer Pte Varney drew with a "B" Coy side after a spirited game, and look forward to a return match to settle the issue. For many the off-duty highlight was that evening visit to "The Leaping Salmon". How do you get a 3-tonner into a pub yard that is out of bounds to anything bigger than a moped?

Recent week-end training has shown that the Company has grown out of its normal transport allocation. Despite this Messrs Amis have improved their standard of cooking and shown us a sound profit on domestic economy. We have at last visited "D" Company's Drill Hall where we met with much hospitality on our week-end stay but the contact of boot and stretcher on their highly polished floors proved too much of a nervous strain on CSM Pillar. It looks as if this means back to the woods. . . .

'B' COMPANY

The holidays are over. Today I started work and this evening I find a letter waiting for me saying that these notes must be written. The road to the Britannia and Castle is paved with broken resolutions. While writing each set of notes I vow to keep a diary. When the time comes to write the next set the diary is non-existent and a panic tour of the TA Centre begins. "Where is a copy of the last B & C?" "Where is the file of Training Programmes since May?" "Who remembers a funny happening on that range week-end at Swaffham?" I really must keep that diary. I wonder if I could persuade anybody else to do it . . . Perhaps I could force somebody to do it . . . Would a bribe work? No—I am too poor—The task is too enormous.

The Company football team is now a member of the King's Lynn Sunday Football League. They have adopted the title of "The Holy Boys". So far I have not dared to ask what it means or where it came from. It doesn't seem very suitable! So far two matches have been played, one of these was a very narrow defeat but it must be confessed that the most "holy" part of the last match appeared to be our goal mouth.

Following that principle of war which suggests "Intelligent anticipation by all levels of Command" the Company has spent much of the August close season practicing for the Bde Night Fighting Patrol Competition. We were too clever by half! All is

changed now and the Competition is to be held in daylight. While confident of the outcome of the competition prayers are being offered up for a total eclipse of the sun on that day. "B" Company is now resplendent in combat suits purchased through the Battalion. Everybody is very pleased about this and the Company Commander is beginning to look a little more happy now that most of them have been paid for!

We hear that Lt N. J. Davies, Sgt Chilvers and Sgt Clarke are to constitute a Colour Guard on Remembrance Sunday. We think we can explain this. We are not so sure about the Guard of Honour which Lt Davies is to lead when the Judges parade in Norwich. We hope that they do not notice too many of their regular customers in our ranks.

Quite recently the bar has been redecorated as part of a bigger plan. Sgt Chilvers has been the moving spirit here and we hope in time to produce an atmosphere of soft lights and sweet music. At a Sunday mid-day presentation of a tankard to C/Sgt Watson (TA) to mark the completion of 12 years' service, this was not quite the tone that was set! We have reason to believe that the C/Sgt. will not soon forget that day!

'C' COMPANY

Our PSI's suddenly reappeared from their longest leave ever.

The period under review has been rather quiet but the memories of Camp are still with us; our Mortar crews will not forget their experience of firing mortars flat on their stomachs.

Our "Everreadies" have told us some wonderful tales about their activities up country in South Arabia. As they all returned penniless it has yet to be discovered on what they spent their money in those barren hills.

We have had one range day and we were fortunate to discover a promising recruit in Pte Chatten who was a marksman on all three weapons.

We have had to do without the services of some of our regular attenders owing to their civilian jobs, but they are now beginning to reappear. Lt. Gedge is back after a spell in the smokier parts of smoky London and denies that his umbrella was swapped for a razor or that any violent exercise was taken.

2/Lt Palgrave-Moore and Ptes London and Aldous have joined the Company at the Norwich end and C/Sgt Hutson, Sgt Howes, Cpls Bean and Kindley-sides, L/Cpls Budrey, Bokenham, Searle and Overton have been promoted.

'D' COMPANY

Since the last issue of these notes was published the two main items of interest have been Camp and the opening of our magnificent new TAC at Dereham. Both of these events will presumably receive specialised coverage elsewhere in this edition of the Journal but we must add a few comments, relevant or otherwise.

For training at Camp the Company joined forces with "A" Company and soon became proficient at inventing nicknames of such local features as Hanging Stone Hill and Great and Little Kneesett—nicknames which were not always in the RSO's signal handouts. During the first week the Anti-Tank Detachment under Sergeant Thompson distinguished themselves by being undistinguished; i.e. by concealing their gun position so successfully that the CO assumed they were using another training area. The detachment also had a useful shoot on the RAC range

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at Lulworth Cove and they were able to see the effect of the Hesh round on a solid target.

The Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk duly performed the opening ceremony of the new TAC on the 23rd July and after inspecting the Guard of Honour, a static demonstration and the interior of the buildings, he joined with the many guests of the Company in some excellent liquid refreshment.

The Brigade Competitions are with us once more, and at the time of writing the Anti-Tank Detachment, having completed the firing part of the competition at Lydd, are lying second to the Suffolk/Cambridgeshires.

It remains to be seen whether they can pick up the necessary points in the siting and concealment section of the competition, or whether they will "remain to be seen".



THE SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

OFFICERS' MESS

It is unusual to mention in these notes only two changes in the membership of the Mess since the previous issue. We were sorry to see the departure on retirement of Maj (QM) Day, but we take this opportunity to welcome his successor, Capt (QM) Morgan. We hope that Maj Day will enjoy his retirement and that Capt. Morgan will find equal satisfaction during his period with the Regiment.

At Camp we had an almost full complement of officers present and were pleased to be joined for the fortnight by Major Gregory and the officers of 161 Infantry Brigade Workshops. The most notable Regimental event of the fortnight was the visit of the Colonel of the Regiment, Lt General Sir Richard Goodwin, and we were happy to share with the officers of the 4th Royal Norfolk Regiment the opportunity to entertain General Goodwin and Major Howgego to lunch.

The coincidence of Guest Nights for all the major units may have led to a notable reduction in the consumption of "Bombay Oysters" among the senior officers of all units but it also produced a dearth of guests. Despite this we were delighted that a few officers from other units were able to take dinner with us and later increase their knowledge of the fall-out hazard from underwater nuclear explosions.

Mr. Parker, the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridge and Col Mason the chairman of Suffolk TAFA, were among the many guests who made a fleeting call to take coffee in the Mess when visiting the unit. We wish we could have seen more of them.

Because of wide dispersement of members it is frequently a matter of mention and concern that

the Mess does not have more frequent corporate functions out of camp. In the near future we hope that the Officers' Ladies Dinner and the monthly Mess Lunches will do something to rectify this.

SERGEANTS' MESS

A very busy time was spent at Plasterdown Camp, Devon, from the 6th to 20th June, '64. During this period we did quite a lot of interesting training which included a couple of nights on the Moors.

During the visit of Lt-Gen Goodwin the Mess was packed at lunchtime when he and his distinguished entourage called in. The General renewed several old acquaintances who remembered him from years gone by when he commanded the 1st Bn the Suffolk Regiment during the War; in fact on D-Day.

Some very pleasant evenings were spent in the Mess during Camp. On one occasion we entertained the junior NCOs of the battalion for the evening. This was considered a great success; in fact the sergeants' mess is now regarded with less awe than formerly.

On another evening we devoted ourselves to entertaining the members of the Mess of the Royal Norfolk Regiment (TA). At the same time we had the pleasure of a visit from the Plymouth Branch of the Old Comrades Association of the Suffolk Regiment which included ex CSM Osborne and ex-Sgts Peck and Cox.

During these entertainments we discovered some unhidden talent in our midst, namely in the person of Sgt Joe Fincham who had, up to now, been sheltering in the Orderly Room as a clerk; in fact we are not quite certain that there are not some more candles under the bushel in that "Holy of Holies". Everyone agreed that he kept the parties going.

We offer our congratulations to C/Sgt Ben Emmerson on his promotion to WO II and to Cpls. Pettingle, Allum and Burgess on promotion to Sgt. We would like to mention that Ben Emmerson relieves WO II Randall ("Jungle"), who has reverted to the rank of sergeant at his own request. We understand, although he will never admit it, that *age* had something to do with this move.

Certain changes have taken place recently among the Permanent Staff. RSM Charlesworth has been posted to the 1st Bn Bedfordshire & Herts Regt (TA) and RSM Parrott has taken his place. WO II Downes is due to leave us on 1st September '64 and his relief WO II Conboy, is already with us. We wish them all the best of luck in their new appointments.

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

The Battalion carried out its annual training at Plasterdown, Devon from 6th—20th June this year. Training was intensive under the direction of Brigadier N. St G. Gribbon, OBE, Commanding 161 Inf Bde (TA). Additional interest this year was provided by helicopters on exercises. Certain older members of the Orderly Room afforded themselves the opportunity of a flight in one of these. Camp was concluded without any major disaster and enjoyed by all in spite of rather variable weather.

In July, 7 members of the Unit visited Bisley as part of a representative team of 16 men from 161 Bde (TA). No trophies were won, but the team far from disgraced itself and every effort is being made to provide a similar contingent for next year's Bisley.

During August the Bn had the unique opportunity (for a TA unit) of firing a live "Baby Viper" on Fingringhoe Ranges, Colchester. This together with Bangalore Torpedoes and other Pyrotechnics provided



An "Ever Ready" in the Radfan Area. L/Cpl H. Edwards of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment carried out his annual training with the 1st Battalion.

the major interest for some 200 members who attended the week-end training.

The Bn "Ever-readies" have undergone training overseas. Four of them went to BAOR and one to the 1st East Anglian Regiment in Aden.

The next major event is the Brigade Competitions on 19/20 September. The Bn has already won the Anti-Tank firing competition held recently on Lydd ranges.

In October the Unit commences its Civil Defence and Survival Training programme in preparation for its next year's Camp at Devizes.

'A' COMPANY

Since the last issue of the Regimental Journal several changes have occurred within the Company. We are pleased to welcome to the fold Lt J. E. Tyler, ex-Royal Army Pay Corps. He has become the platoon commander at our March detachment and is already doing a good job, both from the military and social point of view.

Our second change to be recorded is that, due to age and regulations, our old faithful Stan ("Jungle")

Randall has reverted to sergeant. We thank him most sincerely for all that he has done for the Company during his term as CSM and are lucky to still have a call upon his experience when we need advice.

Following on the reversion of Stan Randall, the promotion of C/Sgt Ben Emmerson to CSM and of Ptes Robinson, Sparrow and Wells to L/Cpl, carries our congratulations.

The March detachment were our hosts at a sausage supper recently. This was much enjoyed, being the third such beanfeast of late. We have found these evenings good for improving attendance and for getting the detachments together.

Pte Colin Woodbridge and Miss Bell were recently married at Wisbech. This may be why Colin's attendance has dropped off somewhat since then and we hope to see a bit more of him when he has established his mastery in his new estate.

'B' COMPANY

The last few months have seen us quite active, with some hectic training for the Battalion Competitions;

most of the drill halls have been well filled on training nights.

A successful training week-end was held at Fordham on August 22/23. This was arranged by Capt Hutt of the Cambs ACF. The annual Company patrol competition was held on the Saturday night and the Haverhill platoon were the winners. On the Sunday morning the first-aid team under Major Walker carried out training with some very realistic casualties.

At the end of August the Company held a Tramps' Ball and barbecue at Newmarket. This was a roaring success and much of the credit must go to C/Sgt Page, Sgt Taylor and his willing band from Newmarket for all the hard work in preparing the marquee.

Congratulations to Lieut and Mrs. Knight of Botisham on the birth of their daughter.

'C' COMPANY

The main event during the quarter has been Annual Camp on Dartmoor. The weather started badly but within a few days it had cleared and the sun shone. Camp food left a bit to be desired—once there was even salt in the tea—but the rations on exercise were first-class. Over all, Camp was very enjoyable.

It seems a pity that we cannot have more week-end Adventure Training, with something concrete in the way of experience to show for it at the end, but the allocation of man/training days limits the scope for such activities.

During July and August attendance always drops off on drill nights what with holidays, gardening, etc. Therefore we have countered this recently by running a driving and M/T course. Already three of our chaps have obtained their civilian licences. We are now extending the course to include maintenance and to this end have bought a 1933 six cylinder car for demonstration. We are anxious to get another and if anybody knows of a car going for scrap or cannibalisation purposes, we would be glad to hear of it.

Most TA Companies face the problem of funds. In that respect this Company is fortunate in having a source of income derived from dances held in the TA Centre from time to time. These are enormously popular in the area and benefit our funds accordingly. The success of this venture is due to our indefatigable CSM, his long-suffering wife and the bunch of stalwarts who lend the power of their elbows. It is nigh-impossible to name them all here, but they know who they are. Let their reward be the knowledge that they are the nucleus of an active and functional Company. May their success continue.

ASSAULT PIONEERS

After a very interesting fortnight's camp we have settled down to normal evening and week-end training.

Annual Camp went with a swing with the Assault Pioneers travelling between Camp and Fort Tregantle daily for training for the first week. Their training was done in conjunction with the Royal Engineers, and we noticed all the pioneers had enlarged heads to hold all the knowledge they had obtained.

S/Sgt Keeble and Sgt Pollen did a good round of shopping midway through Camp, with Sgt Pollen finishing up in The Royal Naval Hospital, and S/Sgt Keeble having a very sore chest for the remainder of camp. They both know what it feels like to be upside down in a car.

The main attraction since Camp was a very good demonstration laid on by WO II Garrod and his

Pioneers of various workings of the Assault Pioneers of which there was a good write up in the local press.

L/Cpl Edwards has returned to the fold from his stay with the 1st East Anglian Regiment, where he reports that he had a very enjoyable time, and he thanks all of 1st East Anglian Regiment, who made his stay so enjoyable.

The main target now, for the Platoon, is the Brigade Competition. All are studying hard in preparation with WO II Garrod dashing between Bury and Stowmarket, complete with pamphlets and stores.

CORPS OF DRUMS

The coming of the summer months with their long evenings have afforded us the necessary scope for additional practice, which we have grasped to our advantage.

Camp brought us in close contact with the Drummers of the 4th Bn The Royal Norfolk Regt. Firm and happy relations have been established between us.

Then came the thrill and experience of playing in the massed bands of the Brigade at Okehampton. This was our first time with the massed bands and we are looking forward to the next. On the 18th of July we played at the Stowmarket carnival; it would appear we were a success as we have been approached to see if we are free on the same date next year. The following day we played flute and Drums for the Annual Inspection of the St. John Ambulance Brigade at Christchurch Park, Ipswich.

As we only attended Annual Camp for one week we completed our camp at Felixstowe with the 2nd East Anglian Regt. With good weather and plenty of hard practice it was a most enjoyable week. Next month (October) we shall be competing in the Corps of Drums competition at Colchester.

Lastly, congratulations to Dmr Snell on his promotion to Drum Cpl.

SIGNAL PLATOON

At Camp the Signal Platoon had a very busy time out in the wilds with the duty companies. We tried out some methods of manpacking the 62 sets; by the time the exercise was over some of the signallers wished that they had never seen a 62 set. Cpl Holden now needs a new combat suit after manpacking the 62 set batteries.

We are now the proud owners of three 19 sets. We spent quite a lot of training on these with the signallers from the Recce Platoon who are now trying to buy some for their vehicles.

In August we had to do some fast moving to get our store up to standard for the QM's hand over; as usual we managed to produce everything on time.

We must congratulate Cpl and Mrs. James on the birth of a bonny girl.

DEPOT, THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

We celebrated the formation of the new Regiment on September 1st by holding a parade taken by Colonel Denny, the Regimental Colonel, in the morning, and in the afternoon a fete was organised at very short notice, which was much enjoyed by everyone, especially the children, every Platoon and Department producing a stall which proved to everyone's amazement a great success.

The same day General Sir Roderick McLeod visited

us to say goodbye on giving up his appointment of GOC in C Eastern Command.

Many changes have taken place, the most noteworthy being the departure of Lt Col Palmer. He will be very much missed by all ranks for what he has been and what he has done whilst he has been here. We all know of the great personal interest which he took in all aspects of Depot life; his cheerful manner and wise counsel will always be remembered. Both to him and Mrs. Palmer we say goodbye with much regret.

We welcome Lt Col H. W. Clark, who comes to us from being 2 i/c to the 2nd Bn of the Regiment.

Major Styles has left to become the Training Major of 4/6th Bn The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, his place being taken by Major Cobbold, 1st Bn.

The recruiting rate has been very good lately and there is now a Platoon over 30 strong awaiting training. Generally one platoon starts every two weeks.

The Junior Soldiers Wing summer camp this year took place in the Lake District. Out of 40 Juniors at Camp, 34 joined the Silver Stage Expedition of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

In the Sergeant's Mess there have been, as is normal, many changes but still the Mess flourishes. QMSs Knox and Fell have left and will be much missed. S/Sgts Wright and Wood have taken their place, whom we welcome.

The Brigade Week-end was held as usual this year in the middle of July and there were more people attending than on previous occasions. The Beating of Retreat which for the first time included four Bands, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th Bns and Depot Bands, was nearly wrecked by a heavy thunderstorm, but it was thankfully delayed until most people were inside the marquee. The numbers attending the Ball had to be curtailed as the Atheneum was not available, so the Ball was held in the Angel Hotel and everyone enjoyed it very much.

Passing Out Parades continue to be held regularly and among those to take the Salute were the Mayors of Great Yarmouth, Thetford, St. Albans, The Lord Mayor of Leicester, and the last one by Lt Col B. J. Palmer, just before he left.

Our cricket season was on the whole quite a successful one, though what we should have done without our captain, Capt Arnott, it is hard to say. His batting average was more than four times that of anyone else. Our wicket played reasonably well but the out-field was not up to standard. The Athletic Team again won the District Minor Unit and was 2nd in the Eastern Command Championships. We came up against some very strong opposition; nevertheless the team did very well and are to be congratulated on their keenness and efforts.

At long last a decision has been made about our future location which is to be the old RAF Stores Depot at Barnham which is close to Thetford. The people in Bury St. Edmunds are sad that they are losing the status of a garrison town which they have been for 87 years, although no move from Blenheim Camp is likely for three or four years while the Barnham Camp is extended to meet our requirements.

Brigade Golf Meeting, 1964

The Brigade Golf Meeting was held at the Flempton Golf Course near Bury St Edmunds on 17 and 18 July, '64.

It began with 18 hole Scratch, Medal and Bogey contests run concurrently. During the afternoon a Stableford foursome was held.

On the Saturday the annual match against the Flempton Golf Club took place. This, for the first time, we lost.

The competitors this year were: Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, CBE, Colonel 2 E Anglian; Colonel J. F. Carroll, CBE; Colonel R. H. Senior; Colonel R. P. Freeman-Taylor; Lt Col C. R. Murray-Brown, DSO; Lt Col P. G. Upcher, DSO, DL, Deputy Colonel, R Leicesters; Lt Col D. F. Coburn, DL; Lt Col B. J. Palmer, MBE; Lt Col H. M. Boxer, MC; Major G. S. Jasper; Major T. E. Robinson; Major J. Hall-Tipping; Major L. C. J. M. Paul; Major A. G. B. Cobbold; Capt H. D. Lucas; Capt W. A. C. Smelt, OBE; Capt C. M. J. Barnes; Capt S. A. J. Rowsell; Lieut H. T. Hutley; Lieut J. B. Winckley.

The numbers over the years have shown an appreciable increase but it is hoped that in 1965 some Territorial officers will find time to join us.

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. J. C. Denny. The winners were:

The Inter-Regimental Cup—The Pompadours.

The Suffolk Cup—Lieut J. B. Winckley;

Runner-up—Capt H. D. Lucas.

The Pompadour Cup—Col R. H. Senior;

Runner-up—Lt Col H. M. Boxer.

The Scratch Competition—Lieut J. B. Winckley;

Runner-up—Lt Col C. R. Murray-Brown.

The Stableford Competition—Col R. H. Senior and Lieut J. B. Winckley;

Runners-up—Lieut Col P. G. Upcher and Lt Col D F. Coburn.

3rd BATTALION NORFOLK ARMY CADET FORCE

The 3rd Cadet Battalion, Norfolk Army Cadet Force, commanded by Lt/Colonel C. L. Archdale of West Winch, attended its Annual Camp at Bodney, Stanford Battle area, from the 1st to the 9th of August, '64, incorporating:

1. Training on a first class battle area;
2. Demonstrations by the Regular and Territorial Army;
3. Assault boat river crossings;
4. Improvised raft, river crossings;
5. Presentation of trophies;
6. Parents' Day.

On disclosure that this camp would be held at Bodney, so close to home, it was a debatable point as to whether it would favourably compare with those previously held in Wales and the South of England. However, it is now a well established fact that provided an interesting and varied programme is prepared and executed, the location of a camp is not such an important factor as hitherto imagined.

Most of our training was based on Frimley Park School instruction with special emphasis on encouraging the cadet himself to exercise his powers of leadership and initiative.

The outstanding achievements by the 3rd Cadet Battalion are:

(a) **The Edward Shield**

A .22 rifle shooting competition for which every ACF Detachment throughout Norfolk competed. The winning detachment this year was Sandringham, who also won it in 1963. "Runner-up" was King's Lynn detachment. This trophy was presented at Bodney Camp by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, Sir Edmund Bacon.

(b) **ACF/CCF Modern Triathlon**

This was held at Chelsea on the 9th/10th of May, '64, where teams from the counties of Cambridge, Essex, Herts, Kent and Norfolk competed. The "runners-up" for this trophy were three cadets from Sandringham Detachment, namely Sgt B. McIlroy, Cadets M. Connor and I. Howe, the result of which was highly commendable.

(c) **East Anglian District Rifle Meeting (1964)**

The shield was presented by the 5th Battalion The Beds and Herts Regiment in 1954 and has since been competed for by ACF Units throughout the East Anglian District. This event took place on Middlewick ranges, Colchester, and the shield was proudly brought back to Norfolk (for the first time) by:

Sgt M. Nobbs and L/Cpl J. Race, Sandringham Detachment;

Sgts G. Clarke and P. Chase, King's Lynn Detachment;

L/Cpl S. Weston, Watton Detachment.

'NEWS OF THE WORLD' ACF SHOOTING COMPETITION

The Army Cadet Force of Norfolk has this year competed for the first time in this competition and finished second, in which a total of 46 counties competed. Command champions were Sandringham Detachment with a total score of 744 points. King's Lynn Detachment was "runner-up" with 731 points. Both teams are to be warmly congratulated.

THE KING'S CUP

The last trophy, but indeed not the least, has this year been won by Sandringham Detachment. This cup was also presented by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, Sir Edmund Bacon, for proving to be the best all round detachment in the Norfolk Army Cadet Force. Captain W. C. Quick, the Detachment Commander, was the joyful recipient.

HISTORY OF THE KING'S CUP

1907—Presented by King Edward VII to the 3rd Volunteer Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regt., for Annual competition.

1948—With the approval of King George VI, handed over (on loan) to the Norfolk ACF for Annual Competition.

1948/49—As an inter Battalion competition, the cup had been won every year without a break by the 2nd Cadet Battalion (Gt. Yarmouth area).

1959—The rules were changed to make this an inter-Detachment competition—Won by Fakenham Detachment, 1st Cadet Battalion. Sandringham were 4th, having been formed as a Detachment for only 18 months.

1960—Won by Sandringham Detachment—Fakenham was 2nd, with only 8 points behind.

HISTORY OF SANDRINGHAM DETACHMENT

1957—Detachment formed by Captain H. E. Nobbs, BEM, and Captain H. E. Quick.

1958—In addition to the Cadets from local villages, boys were enrolled from St. Michael's School, Ingoldisthorpe. The Headmaster was and still is The Rev. R. P. Pott. Detachment strength was 60.

1960—Her Majesty The Queen gave permission for the Detachment to be named the "Sandringham Detachment".

1964—In March, the Detachment was handed over by Captain H. E. Nobbs, BEM, to Captain H. E. Quick.

LESSONS

1.—This result shows what can be done when keen officers and warrant officers really "get going" in the Army Cadet Force. The following have been essential factors to success: The integrity and instructional ability of Captain H. E. Quick, 2/Lieut H. R. Knight (2 i/c), and Warrant Officers R. A. Sheppard, R. Rudd, R. Quick and F. Phillips; Active assistance by the Territorial Army and Civil Defence; Encouragement by the Headmaster of St Michaels School (The Rev. R. P. Pott) and a first class TA Centre.

GUEST NIGHT AT ANNUAL CAMP

Among the guests was Mr P. Garland, Chief Constable of Norfolk County Constabulary who in his address spoke at some length on the assistance given to the Army Cadet Force by police officers, with special reference to Captain H. E. Nobbs, BEM (Police Sgt at Kings Lynn), who having formed the Sandringham Detachment in 1957 and who later won the King's Cup in 1960, has since been transferred to command the King's Lynn Detachment who this year came second in the King's Cup competition.

PARENTS' DAY AT ANNUAL CAMP

This year, a golden opportunity presented itself for the invitation of parents to visit the camp on Saturday the 8th August, and indeed, about 300 visitors were present to see for themselves exactly what life at camp was like. Free transport was arranged from all over the county. The programme was as follows:

- 1—Inspection of Cadet Bedcots and Barrack Rooms;
- 2—Lunch;
- 3—Presentation of trophies by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, Sir Edmund Bacon;
- 4—Boating and raft demonstrations by Cadets;
- 5—Tea meal before departure.

The parents were able to see that the Army Cadet Force is NOT designed mainly for military training, but is a youth movement in uniform, primarily in that it:

- (a) Develops the boy's character;
- (b) Instills in him the qualities of discipline, initiative and self reliance;
- (c) And MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL it teaches him the duties of a good citizen.

The 3rd Cadet Battalion consists of four Detachments, situated at King's Lynn, Dersingham, Watton and Downham Mkt, commanded respectively by Captain H. E. Nobbs, BEM, Captain H. E. Quick, Lieut P. B. Amys, and Lieut H. R. Eatle. The Battalion Adjutant Quartermaster is Captain J. H. Race.

Cadets train at:

The Drill Hall, Providence St, King's Lynn—Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 p.m.; The Cadet Hut, Bexwell—Mondays and Fridays at 7 p.m.; The Cadet Hut, Watton—Wednesdays at 7 p.m.; The Drill Hall, Dersingham—Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Any boy between the age of 14 years and eighteen years who would care to have the honour of serving in this outstanding Battalion, has only to visit Cadet Headquarters as shown above.

SUFFOLK ARMY CADET FORCE

The Annual Camp of the County of Suffolk Army Cadet Force was held from August 8th—16th at Plasterdown Camp, near Tavistock, Devon. A total of 226 cadets commanded by Colonel G. V. N. Chadd, TD, JP—the County Cadet Commandant, were in Camp. The Devon countryside provides a marked contrast to Suffolk, and many found themselves on Dartmoor for the first time. The various training areas provided plenty of scope for realistic exercises and with the weather staying fine for most of the time the Cadets were able to take full advantage of the opportunities. Besides the training schemes worked out by the Area Commanders, the Cadets were able to fire the SLR (Self loading rifle) under the supervision of an expert instructor. There was also a demonstration by Capt. D. Drane, RE (TA) of a method of crossing a stream by means of an aerial rope way, etc. Every morning began with the Commandant's Parade, prayers by one of the Area Chaplains, and a March Past.

On Sunday, August 9th, there was a Commandant's Parade and Drumhead Service conducted by the "A" Area chaplain. Two Detachments, Bury St Edmunds and Lowestoft (North) brought bands to camp and besides taking turns as duty band, they both appeared on parade during the latter part of the week. On the evening of Thursday, 13th August, the band of the North Lowestoft Detachment performed the ceremony of Beating the Retreat.

Band Directors: Lowestoft (N)—Cadet R. S. M. Milne; Bury St Edmunds—SMI L. Green.

Opportunities were found for visits to the ancient town of Tavistock, and further afield to Plymouth, where visits were specially arranged to the Dockyard, where most cadets had the opportunity of seeing over a warship, and to the Royal Citadel. They also carried out training at Tregantle Fort Rifle Range.

Among visitors to camp were Maor Gen W. A. M. Stawell, CB, CBE, MC, JP Hon Colonel; Major Gen P. B. Gillett (Chief of Staff, Eastern Command); Brigadier N. St. G. Gribbon, OBE (Affiliated Formation Commander); Lieut Colonel C. C. Wells, TD (CO The Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regt (TA)); Brigadier G. P. Clark, CBE, DSO (Secretary), and Colonel G. P. Mason, CBE, TD, DL, JP (Chairman) County of Suffolk T & AF Association.

AWARDS

The "Brooks" Stick for the best Cadet NCO in Camp—Cdt RSM Milne (Lowestoft (N) Det.)

The Lucas Tooth Shield—for the Detachment adjudged to have made the most progress during the year—Lowestoft (N) Det. commanded by Major E. F. G. Oakes.

Rose Bowl—for Individual Cert. A Pt. I and II—Cadet Cook J. (Ipswich SC Det.)

Collett-White Shield—For Certificate "A" Pts 1 and

II (Detachment results)—winners, Ipswich SC Detachment.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND ISLE OF ELY ARMY CADET FORCE

During Col Beckett's tenure of Command of the Cambridgeshire ACF he has introduced many new ideas particularly in adventurous and arduous training. He has contributed much towards the improved standards of the ACF in this county, and indeed the country as a whole, by his continuous appeal for a more generous allocation of essential stores and equipment, i.e. "the tools with which to do the job". His tour of command will be remembered by those who have had the honour to serve under him, with gratitude for and appreciation of the tremendous amount of work which he as Commandant has done for our ACF.

His latest innovation was introduced to his staff some months before the annual camp when Col Beckett announced his intention to seek authority to take the Wisbech Sea Cadet Corps Unit to Warcop Camp. This authority was duly received from the Admiralty and War Office and the Cambridgeshire ACF for the first time in its history, went to annual camp accompanied by 3 officers, 2 CPO's and 25 cadets of the Sea Cadet Corps.

During camp the Sea Cadet Corps contingent served for all purposes as a Platoon of 3 (C) Bn, with its own officers and CPO's as Pl officers and NCO's, both in the field and in all other activities carried out in camp. It does great credit to Lieut B. Lawrence, their Commanding Officer, that his Platoon quickly accustomed itself to dry land training and performed all its duties with a skill and enthusiasm which enabled it to hold its own with the other Platoons.

The programme for camp included a 3 day Exercise on Warcop GTA, a demonstration of live firing by Centurion tanks of 3 RTR, a trip to Morecambe and a Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Expedition for 6 cadets in the Lake District.

The recently issued directive by GOC 54 Div/Dist for co-ordinating requirements of the ACF at annual camp of TA modern weapons and equipment for demonstration and PSI's and TA personnel to assist and instruct worked very well. The AFC and OC 54 Div Sig Regt TA (Co-ordinating Officer for the county) and all TA units are to be thanked for all they did in this respect. In addition 104 Med Wksp REME (TA) provided a L.A.D. which proved a godsend in keeping vehicles "on the road".

Visitors to the Camp included the Lord Lieutenant, the Affiliated Formation Commander, Chairman and Deputy Secretary of the TAFA and OC 54 Div/Dist Signal Regt. Attached for the period of Camp was the Chairman of the Cadet Committee and the County Cadet Commandant designate, Col P. D. Storie Pugh, MBE, MC, TD, DL (of Colditz fame) previously Deputy Commander 161 Inf Bde TA.

Towards the end of Camp the Officers and SMI's and SI's assembled in the Officers' Mess Ante-Room and the Deputy Commandant (Lt Col F. H. Keating), presented Col J. G. A. Beckett, OBE, TD, DL, with a silver salver, suitable inscribed, to mark a most successful tenure as Cadet Commandant of the County.

Finally the Brigade, including the Sea Cadet Corps, paraded to bid farewell to the retiring County Cadet Commandant and to receive trophies and awards, which were presented by the Chairman of the County Association, Major General J. R. C. Hamilton, CB, CBE, DSO.



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

Our fourth venture of raising funds for the relief of distress among former members of the Regiment and their dependants has again proved a success. A sum of £411 was subscribed.

Prizes amounted to £53, whilst the cost of postage and printing came to £34, leaving a balance of £324 to further our benevolent work.

Mrs. Turnbull, wife of the Commanding Officer of 4th Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment made the draw at Regimental Headquarters and the principal prize winners were:

1st—Captain B. M. Murphy, 12 Regents Park Terrace, London NW1. £25.

2nd—Mr G. E. Hunn, 1 Union Street, Norwich. £10.

3rd—Mr Turrell, 78 Barratt Road, Norwich. £5.
Captain Murphy also received a prize of £1 for drawing an "also ran".

The organisers are most grateful for the magnificent support of this project.

**THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT
ASSOCIATION**

President:

Brigadier F. P. Barclay, DSO, MC, DL

Secretary:

Major W. G. Cripps

Headquarters:

Britannia Barracks, Norwich, Norfolk NOR 67A

Dates to Remember, 1965

8th January—Regimental Ball at the Norwood Rooms

25th April—Gaza Day Commemoration Service

30th May—London Branch place a wreath on the Cenotaph in London

11th June—Royal Norfolk Regiment Officers' Dinner in London

8th-11th July—Regimental Cricket in Norfolk and Suffolk

16th-18th July—Royal Anglian Regiment Week-end

25th September—Reunion Dinner in Norwich

26th September—Service in Regimental Chapel, 10 a.m.

12th October—Nurse Cavell Memorial Service, Life's Green, Norwich Cathedral, 10-45 a.m.

29th October—King's Lynn Branch Reunion Dinner

11th November—Remembrance Service at the Memorial Cottages, Norwich

12th November—London Branch Reunion Dinner

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL
COMMITTEE**

This meeting took place on Saturday, 26th September and, because of redecorations to the Regimental Museum, was held in the Officers Mess of the 4th Battalion which the Commanding Officer had very kindly offered as alternative accommodation. In addition to the normal business transacted at these meetings the Committee discussed plans for raising additional money for use in relieving distress among former members of the Regiment and decided to organise a sweepstake to be run by the Regimental Association. The race selected is the St Leger.

This sweepstake will take the place of that held in the past under the auspices of the 1st East Anglian Regiment and all profits will go to the Royal Norfolk Regiment Association. The Committee hope that all our supporters will redouble their efforts to make this venture a resounding success.

Another important decision made was in regard to the future title of the Association. Readers will recall that upon the formation of the 1st East Anglian Regiment, Past and Present Association the Royal Norfolk Regiment Association became the Norfolk Section of the new Past and Present Association. Now that the 1st East Anglian Regiment has been absorbed into the Royal Anglian Regiment it has been decided that we shall revert to our former title and be known in future as the Royal Norfolk Regiment Association.

BENEVOLENT FUND

The following is a statement of the income and expenditure for the year ended 30th June, 1964:

Income

	£	s.	d.
Dividends from Investments	512	14	9
Grants from Army Benevolent Fund	219	0	0
Donations	9	11	0
Share of Sweepstake Profits	136	8	6
Excess of Expenditure over Income	96	1	1
	£973	15	4

Expenditure

Grants and Loans	943	3	5
Postage and Stationery	16	5	11
Audit Fees and Bank Charges	14	6	0
	£973	15	4

Assistance was given in 168 cases, a large proportion of which were in respect of persons over 70 years of age including a large proportion of widows.

The investments of the Benevolent Fund comprise 10,053 £1 shares in the United Services Trustees Combined Charitable Fund. The value of each share on 30th April, 1964, was £1 1s. 9d.

REGIMENTAL CHAPEL

It is almost ten years since the Dean and Chapter of Norwich Cathedral formally agreed to St Saviour's Chapel in the Cathedral becoming the Chapel of the Royal Norfolk Regiment.

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The Royal Norfolk Regiment Chapel in Norwich Cathedral.

(By permission of 'Eastern Daily Press')

This is the chapel in the apse at the east end of the Cathedral which was restored as the county memorial to the men and women of Norfolk who gave their lives for their country in the First World War.

The Regiment wished to furnish it with a special dignity and distinction making it a memorial worthy of its great traditions.

Accordingly there was a series of discussions between the Regiment, the Dean and Chapter and the Cathedral architect to see how this might best be achieved.

The main items agreed upon included a modern underfloor heating system to replace the existing unsightly radiators, college chapel stall seating instead of chairs, panelling along the north and south walls, a reredos behind the altar, improved lighting and new wrought-iron altar rails.

There has been a warm response to the appeal to meet the cost of this considerable work.

It was decided also to place in the floor two stone slabs, appropriately inscribed. One commemorates all those who have given their lives in the service of the Regiment since 1685 and the other specially commemorating the 36 officers and men who died while fighting with the United Nations Forces in Korea.

The oak wall panels have been inscribed with the names of the campaigns in which the Regiment has fought during its existence of nearly 280 years and

ten old colours emblazoned with many famous battle honours have been laid up in the chapel.

The new furnishings were dedicated by Bishop Herbert at a service held in Norwich Cathedral on Saturday, 26th September, at which the Bishop of Norwich was also present. The congregation of some 400 people included many former members of the Regiment, some of whom had not been able to be present at a regimental function for many years. During the service a procession which included the choir, clergy and past and present members of the Regiment, went to the Regimental Chapel for the actual Dedication. All battalions of the Regiment were represented, Regular, Territorial and those raised specially during the two World Wars.

All who were privileged to be present at this service were moved by its dignity and simplicity. In his address, Bishop Herbert referred to his long and close association with the Regiment and paid tribute to its long history of valiant service in all parts of the world.

REUNION DINNER AT NORWICH

The Nuffield Gymnasium in Britannia Barracks is a very large building but was only just big enough to accommodate the 320 former members of the Regiment who attended the dinner held on Saturday, 26th September. More than sixty officers were among those present.

We were honoured on this occasion by two distinguished guests, the Bishop of Norwich, who was paying his first visit to the Regiment, and Bishop Herbert, an old and valued friend of us all.

Despite the large attendance the caterers did a first class job and judging by the very good form of everyone after dinner it was obvious that they were having an enjoyable evening.

We say 'Thank you' to a number of our readers who were unable to attend the dinner, but sent generous donations to ensure that no former member need stay away on account of not being able to afford the cost of a ticket. Thanks, too, to those who helped to convey some of the less agile from their homes to be present on these happy occasions.

LONDON BRANCH

From Mr. S. A. Tuck

The London Branch Annual Cenotaph Parade held in Whitehall on Sunday, the 31st of May was a complete success, over 60 members (some with their families) attended to pay homage to the fallen of the Royal Norfolk Regiment. This year our parade was led by the band and bugles of the Queen's Royal Rifles by kind permission of their band president Major The Viscount Eden. It was most unfortunate that the date for our parade had to be called forward one week and to those who missed this excellent parade I tender my apologies. Amongst those who attended were Messrs S. B. Gray (all the way from Hastings), J. Page, W. Packham, C. T. Hopkins, G. Terry and G. Soper, to mention just a few. My personal thanks to Mr G. Burns who stepped into the

position of Parade Marshal in place of "Dapper Street who was unfortunately unable to attend owing to a family bereavement. Thanks also to Joe Shackles who again paraded with our banner. The wreath was carried to the Cenotaph by Nobby Hooker and Albert Lazell, to the strains of the Last Post and The Reveille. It was good to see Mr and Mrs Edwards and many of our good friends.

I had the good fortune to have the opportunity of visiting The Chelsea Hospital on their Founders' Day. This parade is a most wonderful and colourful spectacle and those "Young" men of the hospital could show many a man how to turn out and march.

My wife and I were guests at the Annual Dinner and Dance of the Dorset Regiment Association (London Branch). We had a wonderful evening and again met a number of friends of ours in the Royal Norfolk Regiment including Major Bollingbroke, MBE, DCM, and Mrs E. M. Bullard, wife of the late Lieut-Colonel Bullard.

We learn that our own Captain M. J. Cozens has had to go into Moorfields Hospital for an eye operation and I am sure everyone will join me in wishing him well.

I have just learnt that this journal will no longer be published after this issue and the Royal Norfolk Regiment Association will be returning to its original title. Whether a magazine will be produced or even in what form one cannot tell as yet, but I know that whatever happens all those who have served in "The Regiment" will give the Headquarters Secretary every support.



THE SUFFOLK REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

REUNION, 1964

The Reunion this year was held at Blenheim Camp on Sunday, 19th July. Instead of the usual Church Service, the day started with the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

It was a warm and sunny day and although numbers were small, was much enjoyed by those attending.

The Band of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment played throughout the afternoon and, joined by the Drums, the day closed with the Beating of Retreat.

We were delighted to see our new President, Lieut General Sir Richard Goodwin, KCB, CBE, DSO, who had flown home from Germany specially for the occasion and many of his old friends had the opportunity of renewing his acquaintance.

We were also very glad to see the late Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier R. H. Maxwell, CB, who has recently handed over the appointment of Secretary, Royal Tournament, and was recovering from a broken hip.

Ex CSM "Flossie" Foreman and ex C/Sgt Smith from Chelsea Hospital, were also present.

We are indebted to RSM Jenks and members of

the Brigade Sergeants' Mess, who, despite the shortage of accommodation, put them up for the week-end.

Ex Sergeant "Mary" Gilbert organised the Bar for all Ranks and did a roaring trade.

The catering was in the efficient hands of Roffs, the Caterer from Cambridge, who produced a very good lunch and tea.

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Albert Clarke on celebrating their Golden Wedding last June.

Mr Clarke will best be remembered when he was Regimental Sergeant Major at the Depot, Gibraltar Barracks in 1923.

He retired from the Army in 1933 and was appointed Assistant Curator at Moyses Hall Museum until he retired in 1953. Mr and Mrs Clarke live at 85 York Road, Bury St Edmunds.

We regret to announce the death of Mr Charles Petch which occurred at Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, SW1, on 29th July, 1964.

Charles Petch who was aged 74, served in the Suffolk Regiment from 1910 to 1931. He was a Chelsea Pensioner and well known in Bury St Edmunds. His brother, Mr Frederick Petch, who left Bury St Edmunds nearly 40 years ago to make a home in New Zealand has recently returned to England. Apart from relatives of the family, the funeral, which took place at Fornham All Saints, was attended by Major R. Q. March, representing the OCA, Mr Gill and Mr Sidney Bushan, who lives in Minden Close.

Mr W. J. Hazleton, MM recently called in at RHQ at Norwich. He is still living at Chepstow. He recalled that he was awarded the MM on the same day that Captain W. L. Simpson won the MC. Both of them were serving with 2nd Bn The Suffolk Regiment at the time.

Ex Drummer F. C. Munnings writes from 5 Fairstead Road, Colchester, that he and his wife are celebrating their sixtieth wedding anniversary on 15th November. Mr Munnings joined the Suffolk Regiment in 1901 and served for 21 years. He was married in St Giles Church, Colchester in 1904 while serving with the Suffolk Regiment.

We apologise for referring in our last issue to ex C/Sgt Brewer. We should of course have said "Ex C/Sgt Brown".

HALSEY HOUSE, CROMER

The undermentioned ex-Members of the Suffolk Regiment have been admitted as permanent residents at Halsey House, Cromer, Norfolk, and would appreciate hearing from any old soldiers who may have served with them :—

Mr C. J. Bowell	1913 to 1919
Mr H Barton	1914 to 1919
Mr A. Bean	1889 to 1907
Mr J. Bartrum	1916 to 1919
Mr W. A. Field	1914 to 1919

IPSWICH BRANCH

Attendances during the summer months have been quite good. Three new members have been enrolled, namely, Messrs Rivett, Gordon and Phillips, all of whom served with the 4th (TA) Bn The Suffolk Regiment during and since World War I. Another new member enrolled is Mr Warne, now serving with

the Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA). We hope he will bring a few of his TA pals along to swell the numbers present. The ladies would also like them to attempt a win at that well know game of "House" !

For the Re-union at Bury St Edmunds, it was unfortunate that so many of our members were on holiday—we could not muster enough for a bus party. However, those who were able went along to talk over the past with old comrades. Major Williams was our representative at the Annual General Meeting and gave us a full report of the proceedings at the following Branch Meeting.

Whilst the Suffolk/Cambs (TA) were in Camp at Tavistock, three members of the Plymouth Branch visited the Battalion one evening. They were Ex CSM "Ossy" Osbourne and ex Cpls Freddie Peck and "Gunner" Cox. They had success in meeting former members of the 1st and 2nd Bns The Suffolk Regiment, namely, ex CSM Smith and ex Sgts Randall, Mowle, Keeble, Pollen and Wyartt now serving with the TA. Another visitor was Major G. W. Blake, MBE, who has recently taken over QM at HQ, Deyon TAAFA at Exeter. On the last day in camp, another well known former member of the Suffolk Regiment visited us—Ex CSM Weekes, now living at Yelverton, Nr Tavistock. He is very fit and upright and still walks about with military gait ! As he says, "In spite of age—I can still hold my head up !" As a hobby he does landscape painting and had entered a competition that week-end.

We were very pleased to see them, Freddie Peck being in much better fettle than when he visited us at Okehampton in 1960. Good luck to you all in the South West.

Now that the darker evenings are creeping in, it can be assumed that our attendances will go down—among the older ones especially—we hope those who can make it will be able to come along and keep the meetings going.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS BRANCH

To all comrades wherever you may be I hope you have all enjoyed this wonderful summer and all enjoyed your holidays, but I'm afraid we have had it now Chums, the nights begin to draw in and there is a nip in the early morning air. The Branch starts its monthly Meetings again this month after the summer recess. I hope we shall have a few more come along. It would be nice to see some more of the old comrades. So take note all you members in Bury, the last Wednesday in each month at the Grapes Inn Club Room. We shall be pleased to see you and your ladies.

We are having a Branch Dinner on 24th October. I have 25 names so far. I hope there will be more.

We have also had an invitation from Mildenhall Branch to a Social on 17th October, so no doubt we shall be meeting some of our old friends. We hope to take a bus load over and have a good evening out.

As most of you may have read it is with deep regret we have to record the death of one of our old Chelsea Pensioners, Charlie Petch (Kipper) as he was known. I have enclosed a brief account of his Army career sent to me by his brother Fred, who is in Bury on holiday from New Zealand. He had not seen Charlie for over 40 years. The funeral was attended by Major R. Q. March, Branch Chairman Mr F. Gill, Mr S. Bushem, Mr W. Everett, Branch Secretary, and a Bugler from the Depot. Our Branch Chairman, Major W. S. Chandler has just returned from Camp at

Tavistock, Near Plymouth. Whilst there he looked up a few old comrades. He met Gunboat Clare, who unfortunately had to get out of a sick bed, but we wish him a speedy return to good health soon. It seems that Happy Haylock objected to Stan crossing a Zebra crossing whilst Happy was at the wheel of his bus. He tore Stan a strip off on his hooter, but he was in great form and wished to be remembered to all. Stan was however told that the Plymouth Branch was not working, owing to the Secretary being ill. Let's hope he will soon be back to good health again and the Branch gets moving again soon.

All the best to all old comrades wherever you may be.

Yours sincerely,

W. EVERETT, Branch Secretary.

LONDON BRANCH

This year's annual Re-union was very disappointing indeed I'm afraid.

Attendance was small indeed—quite a number of the regular attenders being conspicuous by their absence.

Anyway those of us from the London Branch who did attend had quite an enjoyable time, especially Mrs Flynn who met quite a few of her old friends of Trimulgherry days. Nostalgic memories of those very happy days when things moved at a very steady pace!

I do sincerely hope that next year the London Branch will be able to get a coach load for the Re-union and, in this connection, it would be appreciated if the date could be made known as soon as possible. The earlier we know, the better.

Jack Webb is to be congratulated on winning £250 with his Premium Bond number coming up. He spent some of it at our Meeting on September 5th, and I'll swear the beer tasted a lot better too, when he paid for it. Good luck Jack and next time we'll have a bottle of 'Bubbly'.

Our Meeting on the 5th September was a very pleasant one, but the attendance could still be improved upon. We would like to see such old faces as those of Bill Barratt, Mouthy Speakman, Sammy Shields, George Parsons, "Stalky" Reid., "Tich" Moulding, "Nobby" Clarke (FC) who haven't attended a Meeting for quite a long time.

Harry Eade, Albert Chapman and Ray Pike paid us a long delayed visit—still better late than never, and we hope that they will now be regular attenders. "Tubby" Weston has attended all our Meetings this year. He is moving to Debden in Essex, so his attendance will not be too regular. Anyway he has promised to come as often as he possibly can.

Bert Maverige, Bill Goodson and Willie Hall turned up too, but unfortunately "Dolly" Hubbard couldn't make it owing to a prior engagement.

"Shoey" Yarham, Bill North, "Flossie" Foreman and Syd Walker are very regular in their attendance at our Meetings and conversation never runs out.

"Shoey" says he is sorry he missed that "Chota Session" at Ipswich with "Shady" Burrows on 18th July, but hopes to be present next year.

Kind regards and Burra Salaams to all our old comrades wherever they may be.

H.H.