

THE POACHER



REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF
THE 2nd EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT
DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER'S OWN
ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE and NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Vol. 1. No. 3. - March, 1961

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The POACHER

The JOURNAL of

The 2nd East Anglian Regiment

(Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire)

No. 3

MARCH, 1961

Vol. I

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2nd East Anglian Regiment

(Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire)

[10, 48 and 58]

Army List—September, 1960

(Amended)

Regular Army

Lt.-Colonels
†Baily, R. P., *O.B.E.*, *p.s.c.*
(*T/Col.*, 23/5/60) 14/4/53
†Barlow-Poole, B. H. *M.C.*,
p.s.c. 14/4/56
Martin, G. V., *M.C.*, *p.s.c.*
4/1/59
(*T/Col.* 26/1/61)
Danby, G. A. C., *M.B.E.*,
p.s.c. 1/2/60
Noble, A. G. R., *M.C.*, *p.s.c.*
1/4/60
Erskine-Tulloch, R. P. S.
j.s.s.c., *p.s.c.* 15/12/60

Majors

Hyde, E. F. D., *p.s.c.* 1/7/46
Kitchin, E. W., *M.C.* 5/8/47
Greaves, R. R., 11/3/49
Cotton, G. J. S., *p.s.c.*, *j.s.*
(*T/Lt.-Col.* 2/10/59)
28/1/50
Girdwood, J. A., 28/1/50
Fennell, A. I., *p.s.c.* 22/8/50
Drew, G. S., *p.s.c.* 27/1/51
Sergeant, R., *p.s.c.* 25/8/51
Haslehurst, M. R., *p.s.c.*
10/2/52
Roche, R. C. R., *M.C.*, *p.s.c.*
2/7/52
Lee, B. S., *p.s.c.* 3/7/52
Power, A. A. G., 24/8/52
Cole, G. D., *M.C.*, *j.s.s.c.*,
p.s.c. (*Lt/Lt.-Col.* 27/8/60
7/10/52
Chamberlain, M. A. *M.B.E.*,
p.s.c. (*T/Lt.-Col.* 10/3/60)
24/10/52
Greener, R. C. C., *p.s.c.*, *j.s.*
31/12/52
Long, D. F., 22/10/54
Chambers, W. R., *p.s.c.*
13/8/55
Bird, A. P. H., 24/3/56

Regular Army—contd.

Willbridge, A. L., 16/4/56
Clark, H. W., *p.s.c.* 17/11/56
Shipley, G. E., *p.s.c.* 25/3/57
Moore, H. H., 23/10/58
Barstow, J. M., 22/6/59
Randell, C. H. E., *p.s.c.*
23/10/59
Francis, A. D., *p.s.c.* 4/2/60
Dymoke, J. L. M., *M.B.E.*,
p.s.c. 1/9/60
Knox, T. C. S., *p.s.c.*
5/11/60
Yates, G. R., 14/2/61

Captains

Cheston, P. R., 20/12/52
Hughes, J. A. (*T.Maj.*
21/1/59) 24/3/54
Gardiner, C. J., *p.s.c.*
(*T/Maj.* 22/1/59) 21/6/54
Garnett, J. A., 15/7/54
Turnill, E., *p.s.c.* (*T/Maj.*
11/3/59) 21/10/54
Barthorp, M. J., 29/10/54
Henwood, L. J. (*att'd R.M.P.*)
22/12/54
Walter, P. F., *M.B.E.*, *M.C.*,
(*T/Maj.* 10/4/59) 30/9/55
Gerrard-Wright, R. E. J.,
16/12/55
Akehurst, J. B., 16/12/55
Worthy, P., 16/12/55
(*Adj.* 1/6/60)
Thomas, B. C., 5/11/56
Miller, N., 9/2/57
Whitney, R. W., 3/8/57
Evans-Evans, A. G. P., 3/8/57
Annear, W. J. B., 3/8/57
Paul, L. C. J. M., 14/11/57
Tubb, N. A. K., 22/11/57
Wetherall, J. P., 25/11/57
Pool, W. K., 8/2/58
Dale, C. J., 8/2/58
Growse, J. P., 8/2/58
Tadman, J., *p.l.* (*att'd A.C.*)
31/7/59

Regular Army—contd.

Barthorp, R. E., 31/7/59
Surtees, P. H., *M.C.*,
15/1/60
Wilford, D., 16/2/60
Taylor, E. M. C. D., *M.C.*,
23/4/60
Woodiase, J. R., 21/10/60
Aris, M. A., 4/2/61
Parker, J. K., 4/2/61

Lieutenants

Robinette, J., 22/6/57
Taunton, P. D., 29/7/57
Spacie, K. (*att'd Para*)
29/7/57
Edwards, P. W., 29/7/57
Porter-Wright, J. (*att'd Para*)
16/12/57
Lumby, C. W. T., 16/12/57
Dollery, C. P., 1/2/58
Kitchin, R. F., 27/7/58
Malpas, E. A., 27/7/58
Ford, K. G., 21/12/58
Drummond, R. J. M.,
21/12/58
Spacie, I., 20/12/59
White, J. G. P., 20/12/59

2nd Lieutenants

Ross, P. K. R., 20/12/57
Hastie, R. C., 25/7/59
Winckley, J. B., 23/7/60
Everitt, J. A. G., 16/12/60
Wright, M. S., 16/12/60

Quarter-Masters

Bourne, A. R., 26/6/51
Leeson, J. H. F., *maj.* 1/10/52
17/3/54
capt. 26/3/57
Gascoyne, F. W., 19/7/54
capt. 16/12/57
Macklam, C. H., *M.B.E.*
11/4/56
maj. 24/5/57

Regular Army—contd.

Vessup, E., 1/1/57
Culbert, C. P., *maj.* 21/7/57
Morgan, J., *lt.* 1/1/57
11/5/59
(*Seconded to O.T.C.*)
Beard, T. W., *capt.* 22/9/59
2/6/59
Edwards, J. E., *capt.* 21/3/60
lt. 1/4/60

Regular Army

Short Service Officers

Majors
Groundsell, L. D. (*Emp.*
List (4)) 8/8/54
Colvin, L. H. B., *M.C.*,
(*Emp. List* (4)) 19/5/59

Captains

Gough, J. McK., 20/11/60
Lieutenants
Uzzell, J. L., 12/8/60
Sherwell, G. T., 24/6/60

2nd Lieutenants

Isaacs, P. J., 6/2/60
Finch, T. I. M., 7/5/60
Pickard, R. F., 28/10/60

Quarter-Master

Clarke, W. T. G., 24/3/47
maj. 16/2/55

Extended Service Officers

Major
Davies, M. A. W., *M.B.E.*,
M.C. (*Emp. List* (3))
14/1/56

Captains

Temple, G. P. (*Emp. List* (3))
2/9/50
Bailey, E. B. (*Emp. List* (3))
8/4/53

Territorial Army

The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment

Hon. Colonel
Cholmeley, Capt. (Hon. Col.)
Sir Hugh, J. F. S., *Bt.*,
D.S.O., *D.L.*, *J.P.* 18/8/52

Lt.-Colonel

Sanders, G. M., *T.D.*
15/12/58

Majors

Spratt, U. G., *T.D.* 1/11/48

Bishop, F. C., 6/4/49
Marshall, H. D., *T.D.*,
M.B.E. 21/4/49
Bennett, A. J., *M.B.E.* 1/9/53
Turnbull, J. W., *T.D.* 1/6/57

Captains

Staples, R., *T.D.* (*A/Maj.*
1/1/58) 14/5/52
Gammage, G. S., 1/11/53
Foster, B. S., 1/11/53

Hart, T. N., 31/7/56
Stanton, R. A., 3/7/57
Clarke, D. F., 27/1/59
Phillipson, P. N., 21/11/59

Lieutenants

Spurr, R. C., 6/12/53
Taylor, R. M., 30/9/54
Graham, J. C. (*A/Capt.*
1/1/60) 16/6/55

Merrikin, P. M., 23/10/55
Swallow, J. F., 22/12/55
Wiles, N. M., 20/1/56
Colvin, M. A., 22/3/56
Batten, D. O., 25/1/57
Dawson, G. H., 16/5/57

2nd Lieutenants

Ellwood, C. J. S., 1/12/58
Green, P. D., 29/11/59

The Northamptonshire Regiment

Hon. Colonel
McMichael, Lt.-Col. (Br. Col.)
R. K., *O.B.E.*, *T.D.*, *J.P.*
2/7/51

Majors

Foster, G., 20/7/48
Pallash, H. H., 28/2/56
Williams, V. C. M., 7/1/57
Boe, J. L., 5/2/57
Barber, F. G., 17/7/59

Captains

Careless, R. W. (*Res. of Off.*)
19/5/44
Green, J. W. H. (*A/Maj.*
21/12/56) 19/6/50
Agutter, T., *T.D.* 15/7/50
Ellison, D. R. B., 8/5/55
Dowdy, D. H. B., 1/8/55
Hodgson, M. G. H. (*Res. of*
Off.) 22/12/59

Hogg, J. C., 23/12/59
Fitton, R. A., 20/1/60

Lieutenants

Bacon, A. J., 18/4/54
Bryant, P. W. (*A/Capt.*
11/10/58) 2/12/54
Quash, J. (*A/Capt.* 12/10/58)
28/12/56
Skilbeck, R. S., 4/1/57

Rawlinson, A. J., 18/1/57
Spurrell, A. P., 11/3/57
Branch, T. C. G., 19/12/57
Lawrence, D. J., 2/2/58
Hardwick, J. M., 13/3/58
Bensa, G. R., 20/6/60

2nd Lieutenants

Pearce, R., 26/3/59

EDITORIAL

It has been announced that the 1st Battalion goes to Osnabruck early in July for a tour of duty in B.A.O.R. This is an excellent station. The married man gets extra allowances in B.A.O.R. and cigarettes cost 1s. for 20, and whisky is 10s. 5d. per bottle.

Recruiting is still top priority and it cannot be too strongly stressed that the career now offered to young men by the Army is a first-class one with good pay, security and a full and interesting life.

We were in Northampton Army Information Office a short time ago, and as we came out we saw a young man in plain clothes sitting in the waiting room. We asked him if he was going to join the Army—"I'm in it", he said "I joined for nine years six months ago", on being asked how he liked the life he replied, "Smashing—just the job". What was he doing in the information office, we asked, "I'm waiting for my pal—he's inside signing on—I brought him along" he replied.

And that's just what all you young regular soldiers ought to do, bring your pal along and get him signed on as a Regular.

You like the Army, so why not tell your friends and persuade them that it is a good life and a good career? The best salesman is the man who has first hand experience of what he is selling and believes wholeheartedly that what he is selling is good value. And that is you.

It's no good trying to sell the Army to the chap who only likes the office stool, the eight to five chap. He doesn't want adventure—he has no desire to see the world. But for any young man who likes travel, adventure, games and an open air life, there is nothing to beat it. So if you are one who likes all these things and you are not afraid of hard work, then you probably have friends like you. Get them to come along and take what used to be called "The Queen's Shilling"—(now its £6 9s. 6d.) and join up with you in 2nd East Anglian Regiment. You won't always be at Watchet—you'll be moving round the world before long. Ask the chaps in the Regiment who were in Hong Kong if they liked it. Our guess is that the majority would go back there tomorrow if they could—perhaps they will soon, who knows? Anyway, you are off to Osnabruck soon on the first stage of seeing the world.

There is one thing that is certain about the present day Army—There will be no redundancy—You'll be paid for a seven-day week and not four or three days only. If you sign on, you know that you will have a good income and good life for 22 years or more, and a good pension and terminal grant at the end. Its financial stability we all want, and you get it in the Army. At the end of 22 years you should be eligible for a pension for life of from £3 10s. 0d. to £4 0s. 0d. per week and a terminal

grant of about £550 to £600, depending on your rank at the end of your time.

So we say to you Regular Soldiers, bring your friends along and get them to sign on and serve with you in 2nd East Anglian Regiment. They won't regret it.

And to the National Service man we say this—jobs are not so easy to get now in civilian life so why not stay in the Regiment with your friends? You can sign on tomorrow if you see your Company Commander. Then you needn't worry about finding a civilian job, or being made redundant when you have found one. You will have a steady well-paid job for the next 20 years—and that's more than a lot of young men get.

Birthday of the Colonel-in-Chief

On the occasion of the birthday of the Colonel-in-Chief, December 25th, the following telegram was sent to her at Sandringham:—

"All ranks 2nd East Anglian Regiment send their loyal duty and devotion to their Colonel-in-Chief and wish her many happy returns of her birthday."

COLONEL.

Good News!

For those going to Osnabruck

With a down payment of 20 per cent British Servicemen in Germany, Holland and Belgium can now buy a new car from N.A.A.F.I. on easy terms.

The scheme offers low H.P. charge (6 per cent per annum spread over a maximum of three years); free life cover where comprehensive car insurance is arranged through N.A.A.F.I. and protection against liability for Purchase Tax and Import Duty in the event of owners returning prematurely to the U.K.

Servicemen being posted to Europe will be able to order their car in this country before they leave and make repayment while in Germany. Delivery may be taken in the UK and the car used in this country for some months prior to posting.

N.A.A.F.I. will finance the purchase of the car and any extras and accessories, plus any reasonable freight charges and transit insurance if Servicemen are posted elsewhere and the car has to be transferred before all instalments are paid.

Personalia

We congratulate Capt. and Mrs. M. A. ARIS on their marriage which took place on January 7th, 1961, and we also congratulate Capt. M. A. ARIS on his promotion to substantive rank.

We congratulate Capt. T. AGUTTER, T.D., on the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.

Mr. H. W. BIRD, ex-R.S.M. The Northamptonshire Regiment, has been appointed Mayor's Sergeant of the Borough of Northampton.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. J. L. BARRONS on the birth of a son.

We welcome 2/Lt. P. BARTHORPE to the Regiment. He has been granted a T.A. Commission with 5th Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.).

Capt. E. B. BAILEY is going to Malaya for duty with the Singapore Guard Regiment in April, 1961.

2/Lt. R. J. BURFORD has joined the Regiment and is serving with the 1st Battalion.

Brig. G. V. BRITTEN, C.B.E., leaves the British Embassy in BONN this month and is due to retire in June. He is to be employed in the Commonwealth Relations Service.

Capt. R. E. BARTHORP has completed his tour in Nigeria and has joined the 1st Battalion.

Major W. R. CHAMBERS has succeeded Major G. S. DREW as 2 i/c of the 1st Battalion.

We congratulate Lt. M. CLEMENTS, 3rd/4th Cadet Battalion A.C.F. (Northamptonshire) on the award of the Cadet Forces Medal.

We congratulate Lt.-Col. and Mrs. G. D. COLE on the birth of a son.

Major I. H. B. COLVIN, M.C., took up the appointment of Garrison Adjutant, Seremban in November last year.

We congratulate Lt. (Q.M.) and Mrs. C. P. CULBERT on the birth of a son.

Col. J. C. DENNY, O.B.E., M.C., has been appointed Vice-President Regular Commissions Board and took up the appointment this month.

We congratulate Lt.-Col. A. K. DIGBY, D.S.O., M.B.E., on being made a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. He formerly served in the Royal Artillery and is the County Secretary of S.S.A.E.A. in Lincolnshire. He has held this post for many years and during this time he has been closely associated with the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, and given most valuable assistance to the Regimental Association.

Major J. L. M. DYMOKE visited the Bermuda Rifles in January as their guest and acted as President of a board to select candidates for commission in the Bermuda Rifles. He thoroughly enjoyed his visit and found everyone most charming and friendly.

We congratulate Lt. C. P. DOLLERY on the announcement of his engagement to Miss Elaine Carrick, the daughter of the late Lt.-Col. W. E. Carrick, M.C., Northamptonshire Regiment and Mrs. Carrick.

We congratulate Capt. D. R. B. ELLISON, T.D., on the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration, as we also congratulate him on the announcement of his engagement.

We congratulate Capt. and Mrs. A. G. P. EVANS-EVANS on the birth of a son.

We welcome 2/Lt. J. A. G. EVERITT and 2/Lt. M. S. WRIGHT to the Regiment. They have been commissioned from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst and are now serving with 1st Battalion.

Lt. K. G. EORD has completed a tour with the East Anglian Brigade Depot and has rejoined the 1st Battalion. We congratulate him on his marriage which took place on January 28th, 1961.

Major A. D. FRANCIS has been appointed Training Major 4/6 Royal Lincolns (T.A.) and takes up the appointment in April, 1961.

We congratulate Capt. J. McK. GOUGH on his promotion to substantive Captain.

Major R. R. GREAVES has been appointed Assistant Camp Commandant East Africa Command and takes up the appointment in July 1961.

We congratulate Major J. W. H. GREEN, T.D., on the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.

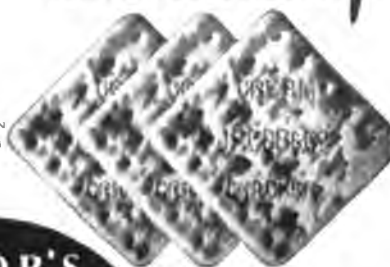


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Capt. J. P. GROWSE has been appointed a Staff Captain at H.Q. Cyrenaica District and took up the appointment in February.

2/Lt. R. C. HASTIE is posted to the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry, and takes up the appointment in July 1961.

We congratulate Major T. C. S. KNOX on his promotion to the rank of substantive Major.

Brig. R. G. W. MELSOME, M.B.E., has now retired and has moved to Petersfield, Hants.

J/Sgt. M. MIDDLETON, J/Cpl. B. WRIGHT, and J/Pte. P. HOLMES, all of the Regiment, were members of the Junior Leaders Bn. cross-country team which won the Army Boys Championship.

We congratulate C.S.M. MOLONEY, Sgt. ELLIS and ex-C.S.M. SMITH, 5th Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.), on the award of Territorial Efficiency Medals.

We congratulate 2/Lt. and Mrs. P. NARBETH on the birth of a son.

We congratulate Capt. J. K. PARKER on his promotion to substantive rank.

Major A. PATERSON, R.A.M.C., the Medical Officer with the 1st Battalion for the last two years, has left the Battalion to become 2 i/c of the Field Ambulance at Warminster. We congratulate him on his promotion.

We have heard from F. A. PATRICK, ex-Northamptonshire Regiment asking to convey his best wishes to all members of the Regiment. He now lives at 16, Cockburn Street, Perth, Ontario, Canada, and he would be pleased to hear from anyone he knows.

We welcome 2/Lt. R. F. PICKARD to the Regiment on first commissioning from MONS O.C.S. He has gone to Kenya for service with 11 Bn. K.A.R.

We congratulate Major A. A. G. POWER on the announcement of his engagement.

Major C. H. E. RANDELL is doing a second tour with the Royal Nigerian Army.

I t. J. ROBINETTE has gone to West Africa for service with the Royal Nigerian Forces. We congratulate him and Mrs. ROBINETTE on the birth of a son.

Col. P. J. E. ROWELL, O.B.E., M.C., late Royal Lincolns writing from Lusaka reports having attended the Passing Out Parade of Police Cadets when John Wenham, son of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Wenham, successfully became an Assistant Inspector of the Northern Rhodesian Police Force. The

Rowell family are in good form, and not beset with the problems in their locality which are common in other parts of Africa.

We congratulate Lt. J. T. SETCHFIELD, 3rd/4th Cadet Bn., A.C.F. (Northamptonshire) on being awarded the Cadet Forces Medal.

Lt. I. SPACIE is to do a tour with the Airborne Forces and commences parachute training in April 1961.

We congratulate Air Commodore D. F. SPOTSWOOD, C.B., D.S.O., on being made a Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Bath. He is the present Commandant of the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell, Lincolnshire. The R.A.F. College Band plays the Regimental March "The Poacher" at every Passing Out parade of the R.A.F. Cadets.

Capt. Philip TANCRED, M.B.E., formerly of the Royal Lincolns, now an R.O. III, has been involved in a car accident as a result of which he has been nearly a month in hospital.

He has now relinquished his appointment as an R.O. III to become a Director of S.T.S. (Office) Supplied Ltd., and resident in Edinburgh. It is presumed he will still be able to visit Lincoln on the occasion of the Lincolnshire Handicap.

We congratulate Capt. and Mrs. E. M. C. D. TAYLOR on the birth of a daughter.

Capt. G. P. TEMPLE assumes the appointment of Staff-Captain "Q" at H.Q. East Anglian District this month.

Major F. STUART THOMPSON has moved from the Isle of Man and now lives in Chester. He is an R.O. III at Headquarters Western Command.

Mr. G. H. TINDALL, Secretary London Branch of The Northamptonshire Wing of the Association has had a spell in hospital for an operation to try and improve the use of his fingers as a result of a war wound. Our best wishes go to him for a speedy recovery and a successful outcome.

Lt. J. L. UZELL, having completed his tour with the Ghana Military Forces, joins the 1st Bn. this month.

Major P. F. WALTER, M.B.E., M.C., is going to 22 S.A.S. Regiment on completion of his tour with 4/6 Royal Lincolns (T.A.).

We congratulate Major-General C. E. WELBY-EVERARD, C.B., O.B.E., on being made a Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Bath. He joined the 2nd Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment in 1930 and served with it throughout the

1939-45 War, and was selected to command the 1st Battalion in Egypt when it was formed upon the amalgamation of the former 1st and 2nd Battalions. His present appointment is Chief of Staff to the Commander of the Allied Forces, Northern Europe, at Kolas, Norway.

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Capt. J. P. WETHERALI has extended his tour in Kenya and now joins the 1st Battalion in July, 1961.

* * *

We congratulate Lt. and Mrs. J. G. P. WHITE on their marriage which took place on December 17th, 1960.

* * *

We congratulate Major R. W. WHITNEY on obtaining a 1st Class Chinese Interpretership and also on his promotion.

* * *

Capt. D. WILFORD has been posted to 22 S.A.S. with effect from June 12th, 1960.

* * *

Major A. L. WILLDRIDGE has had his tour at the A.A.S. Arborfield extended until September, 1962.

* * *

We congratulate Capt. J. R. WOODDISSE on his promotion to substantive rank.

* * *

We congratulate Major G. R. YATES on his promotion to substantive rank.

Regimental Museum Royal Lincolnshire Regiment

Through the good offices of the Military Attaché at the British Embassy, Bonn, we have received an 18-pounder shell case, electro-engraved bearing the badge of the Lincolnshire Regiment, the figure of a girl carrying a basket of roses and some general ornamentation; the open end of the shell case being fitted with a cigarette ash tray.

This was found by a retired Colonel of the Royal Ulan Regiment under Prince August von Wurttemberg, during fighting near Givenchy in March 1918. This German officer as a Lieutenant in the March battle of 1918 in the area of St. Quentin, was ordered to find a suitable airport about 70 km. west of St. Quentin, and a site was found near the village of Flaby le Martell. In a field nearby, were former British trenches and many British soldiers dead therein. Beneath a white blanket lying nearby, he discovered the shell case which being so well engraved, he retained until this day and has sent it to the Museum because he felt the Regiment would like to have it and in his opinion had fought so bravely and incurred heavy losses at the time. Also, being over the age of 70 years he has no relatives to whom he could pass on this interesting trophy.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 8th—15th

2nd East Anglian Regiment visits Lincolnshire

APRIL 17th—22nd

2nd East Anglian Regiment visits Northamptonshire

MAY 9th—20th

Recruiting tour of Northamptonshire

MAY 29th—JUNE 3rd

Commonwealth Technical Training Week. The Regiment will have displays in many towns in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire

EARLY JULY

1st Bn. 2nd East Anglian Regiment goes to B.A.O.R.

JULY 15th, 16th, 17th

ANNUAL REUNION at NORTHAMPTON of Northamptonshire Wing Regimental Association.

Space kindly donated by Pianoforte Supplies Ltd., Simplex Works, Roade, Northamptonshire

Deaths

SMITH

On May 19th, 1960, at 9 Laburnam Grove, Spalding, ex-R.S.M. A. Smith, Royal Lincolnshire Regiment. Aged 87.

EVANS

On October 1st, 1960, Sgt. A. Evans, R.E.M.E. Staff Band and Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

LINES

On October 25th, 1960, at 94 Tudor Avenue, Watford, Capt. A. J. Lines, late Volunteer Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment.

SHIPLEY

On December 2nd, 1960, at Spalding, ex-C.Q.M.S. W. Shipley, late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

THACKRAY

On December 3rd, 1960, after an operation due to a rugger injury, 2/Lt. R. F. Thackray, 5th Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.).

GIBSON

On December 12th, 1960, Mr. Josiah Gibson, late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment. Aged 81.

DYSON

On January 9th, 1961, suddenly in his office at Gainsborough, Lt. Eric Dyson, late 5th Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.).

Obituary

Ex-R.S.M. A. SMITH

Albert Smith joined the Lincolnshire Regiment in 1892 and was posted to the First Battalion and spent a considerable time abroad. He took part in several expeditions, and he retired with the rank of Colour Sergeant.

At the outbreak of the 1914-18 War he volunteered at the age of 41. Re-joining the Lincolnshire Regiment he was promoted Company Sergeant-Major.

He was transferred to the 14 York and Lancaster Regiment in September, 1915, on being promoted to Warrant Officer, Class I (R.S.M.).

Stationed at Ripon, R.S.M. Smith, as he was then, went with the battalion to Egypt later in the year, and was at Kantara and El Ferdon.

In March, 1916, he went to France where he took part in the Battle of the Somme. Later he was posted to Pontefract and subsequently joined the 3rd Training Reserve at Sunderland.

For a time during the 1939-45 War he was the Regimental Sergeant-Major in the 2nd Holland (Spalding) Battalion Home Guard. He joined as

soon as it was formed in the summer of 1940 and carried on until the age limit caused his resignation.

One of his later appearances was several years ago in the parade of the Spalding branch of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment's Old Comrades' Association after the dedication of their banner. Ex-R.S.M. Albert Smith, then in his 78th year, was there with all the proudness of an old soldier. With a row of medals extending half-way across his breast, he stepped it out with a vigour and sureness as good as any on parade—and many of them were 50 years his junior.

Sgt. A. EVANS, R.E.M.E., STAFF BAND

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Sgt. Evans of the R.E.M.E. Staff Band. He died suddenly on Saturday, October 1st, 1960, during the tour by the Staff Band of Northern Ireland Command.

Sgt. Evans enlisted into The Lincolnshire Regiment as a band-boy in 1926 and served in that Regiment until 1936 when he left the Service and took up employment firstly as a musician and later in theatre orchestras.

He returned to his old Regiment on being recalled to the Colours in 1939 and eventually transferred to the R.E.M.E. Staff Band in 1948 where he has proved to be one of the most popular members.

Sgt. Evans leaves a widow and two daughters to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

Ex-C.Q.M.S. W. SHIPLEY

William Shipley, who died on December 2nd, 1960, joined the T.A. early in 1920 and in 1939 was mobilised for service with the 6th Bn. After the war, he re-joined 4/6th Bn. Royal Lincolnshire (T.A.) continuing to serve until two years ago when age and ill-health made it necessary for him to retire.

He had been a member of the Spalding Branch of the Regimental Association since its formation, and for many years an active member of the Branch Committee.

Messrs. D. H. Linton, J. Walson, N. Dalton and G. Tasker acted as bearers at his funeral which took place at Spalding on Tuesday, December 6th, 1960. Lt.-Col. J. E. Fletcher, T.D., Capt. Guy Bray (Branch Chairman), A. R. Reddin (Vice-Chairman), S. Goodwin (Treasurer), A. Waterfall (Secretary), and S. B. Coles, together with the bearers represented the Branch. The church was almost filled with relatives and friends who had come to pay their last respects to an ordinary man who was ready to make light of any task and help any person in any way he found he was able.

MR. JOSIAH GIBSON

Josiah Gibson joined the 2nd Bn. of the Lincolnshire Regiment in 1896, and that same year became a member of the Regimental Band, and took part with the Battalion in the Diamond Jubilee parade in London in 1897, and the County March. He served with the 2nd Battalion in the South Africa War and was a survivor of Nitrals Nek disaster.

He was discharged in 1903, and re-joined in 1914, and served in France with the 1st Bn. until wounded in July 1916 during the Somme Battle.

2/Lt. R. F. THACKRAY

It is with great grief that we have to record the sudden death of Roger Thackray on December 3rd, 1960, after an operation as a result of a rugby injury.

Roger, who was only 19 years of age, was commissioned into the Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.) on March 1st, 1960, immediately after leaving Felstead School where he was head boy. At the time of his death he was an undergraduate at Cambridge University.

Although he had not been with Battalion long he had proved himself to be an outstanding young officer. To his parents and family in Great Stukely we offer our deepest sympathies in the loss of a son on the threshold of a most promising future.

Mr. E. DYSON

Eric Dyson, who was head of the legal firm of Barton and Dyson, served as a Subaltern in the 5th (T.A.) Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment in the First World War.

On May 20th, 1915, he was in the trenches on the Somme manned by the 1/5th Bn. which were blown up by a German mine—killing 11 men and wounding 22, four others being missing. He himself was buried for 14 hours but was dug out miraculously unhurt.

Among those present at his funeral were Col. O. Dixon, Mrs. H. B. Riggall (representing Col. Riggall), G. Wilmot and P. W. Coulson, formerly of the 5th Bn.

Recruiting

In the last three months, three major tours have been made in Lincolnshire and in Northamptonshire and Huntingdon by our recruiting team. Altogether 34 towns have been visited.

The recruiting team consists of some 75 officers and men (which includes the Band and Drums) and is fully equipped with a selection of all the weapons in the Infantry Battalion, wireless sets, vehicles, photographs and literature. All our display tables have been made by the Domestic Pioneers and our Regimental Signs, etc., have been made by civilian signwriters.

Two recruiting vans, converted three-ton trucks, have also been made by the Domestic Pioneers. These vans, with a small, specially selected crew, are based in Lincoln and Northampton respectively and operate in support of the recruiting team.

Through the good offices of the town clerks, clerks to Urban, Rural and Parish Councils, the Press, the City and County Police, car park attendants and many others, excellent sites, splendid co-operation and much publicity has been given the

team. What they could not be assured of was good weather.

The Mayors and Chairmen of Councils of the various boroughs and towns where the Regiment's display has been on view, have paid official visits, visits which were much appreciated.

It was felt at one time that the ideal site for the displays was the local market place, however experience has proved that this is not always the case, a halt near to a canning or sugar beet factory has often proved equally successful.

The efforts of the team have not been wasted and in the past three months we have averaged 14.5 recruits per month. The figure for the first three weeks of January (the time of going to press) is 19 and that does not include National Servicemen who have signed on for a regular engagement.

Our aim is 30 recruits a month, and we appeal to all readers of this Journal to help us achieve this figure by persuading young men to enlist in 2nd East Anglian Regiment.

Ration Trials Castlemartin

In October, the 1st Battalion was ordered to carry out for the War Office, trials of an experimental lightweight composite ration. The aim of the trials was to test the acceptability, adequacy and convenience of the new ration under active service conditions. The number of new rations available was limited to sufficient for about two companies. The camp and training area at Castlemartin in South Wales were allotted for this purpose. The Commanding Officer saw in the trials a good opportunity to give two companies a period of tough military training. Accordingly, "B" and "C" Companies, each about 100 strong, together with a skeleton Battalion H.Q., a small umpire organisation and an "enemy" platoon from "A" Company, moved to Castlemartin on October 1st. With the military observers and scientists from the Army Operational Research Group, the total force was about 300.

The trials were divided into three phases. The first was to be a five-day period during which the old and familiar "compo" ration was to be eaten. The aim of this was to obtain a fair comparison between the experimental ration and an existing type of field ration, rather than a comparison with barrack messing.

The trial requirement for phase two was for a continuous six-day exercise on a company cooking basis. Companies were expected to cover a distance of 72 miles on foot during the course of the exercise, as well as to fight and dig each night or day.

One company was to live on the new ration for the first three days and on *compo* for the second three days; the second company *vice versa*. Cigarettes and tobacco were admissible, but not beer, chocolate, or any form of nourishment not in the



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ration. It was, however, clear that it would not be practicable to try to make companies fight over 72 miles in the Castlemartin training area, which is only about six miles by two. The Commanding Officer therefore decided to use all the temporary training areas available in Pembrokeshire and to make companies fight for each of them. The exercise was based on a Uno/Congo setting and although the immediate task was always to be clear to the companies, the overall enemy picture was deliberately to be confused throughout. There were, of course, the usual restrictions on the temporary training areas but by arrangement with the local farmers, who were most co-operative, it was in fact possible to stage a number of realistic battles and to provide reasonable freedom of manoeuvre.

Phase three of the trials was to be a 24-hour reconnaissance patrol exercise on the training area, when section cooking was to be practised.

In phase one, "B" and "C" Companies went out each day from the camp to the training area, where they carried out some active company training.

During this phase all ranks fed in the main cook-house.

Phase two (exercise "Hard Tack") started with a move in double-decker buses by a circuitous route to a concentration area in a sodden and boggy field about 25 miles away. Fantasian parachutists were then reported to have seized an airfield about 12 miles to the south, and "B" Coy. led off at a hot pace on an advance to contact. Soon it started to rain and it was not long before a steady downpour set in. "B" Coy. attacked the near edge of the airfield across a series of boggy fields and through some huge, thick hedges, but although soaked to the skin, they were firm about an hour before last light. "C" Coy. were able to do a brief reconnaissance and their first attack went in by night.

The next threat came from the Fantasian parachutists who had landed on an airfield about six miles to the S.E., and "C" Coy. led off the next day. They had a hard series of platoon battles on the approach march, including the crossing of a small river on a rope. Even so, they were able to secure the approaches to the airfield, which "B" Coy. then had to take by night. This was most probably the most spectacular battle of the whole exercise. Small parties of the enemy kept appearing out of buildings which had not been cleared and "B" Coy. had a hard fight before they could dig in.

After more rain, the next threat developed after first light from a country mansion across Milford Haven. A platoon of D.U.K.W.S. was called up and a crossing was made. Another hard day's battling in light rain cleared the area of the mansion. Then Fantasian commandos were reported, to the south, and a quick move back across the Haven was necessary. After a pause to dry out, there was a difficult and opposed daylight advance westwards to where the Fantasians were firmly established in the area of a former coastal defence blockhouse. The attacking companies were able to reorganise and to start digging by last light. They had, however, omitted to clear a building on the cliff-edge

to a flank (it was marked in paint "W.R.A.C. only"!). A small party of enemy came to life from this building after dark and the companies spent a jittery night. At first light an enemy attack came in from the west where more Fantasians had apparently landed during the night. Unfortunately, a flock of sheep were on the start line and were driven forward in front of the attack. Consequently, a platoon of "C" Coy. had temporarily to act as shepherds and persuade the sheep to go into a field where they could be safely left.

The battle then swung south towards the Castlemartin training area, about half of which was cleared by last light the next night. "B" Coy. obtained reasonable comfort based on some extensive farm buildings but "C" Coy. were miserable in a thick and very wet wood called Cuckoo Rock. There was, however, some interesting patrolling that night.

The next day, the attacking companies cleared nearly all the Castlemartin area but spent an extremely uncomfortable night in pouring rain out on bare hills. With a dawn attack by the now desperate Fantasians, exercise "Hard Tack" came to an end.

Phase three, which was called exercise "Square Meal", provided some light relief after the hard slog of "Hard Tack." The training ground at Castlemartin was split up into 12 areas in each of which was a section or a platoon H.Q. group from each of the opposing companies. The object of the exercise was to observe and to locate the opposing section or platoon H.Q.

Thus ended what is so far the most valuable period of field training which the new Battalion has done. It is a great pity that there were not enough of the experimental rations to have allowed the whole Battalion to take part. Nevertheless the aim was achieved, and the scientists and observers were only too delighted to find a unit keen to carry out the trials under battle conditions. As a result, their activities were most unobtrusive although obviously some interference was necessary. For example, what did O.C. "B" Coy. say to the scientist who handed him 90 buff forms when he had just got his company on to a bare hill feature half an hour after last light in pouring rain? And what will they deduce from the man in "B" Coy. who said he disliked very much every item in a particular meal yet said he would like more of everything? One can only admire the persistence and thirst for accurate information displayed by the observers and scientists, although perhaps it will be many months before they have sorted out all the data which appear on the little buff forms which they filled in so industriously. All the same, the evaluation of the comments on the new ration are awaited with interest. But what will certainly be remembered best is a fortnight of good soldiering.

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1st Bn. 2nd East Anglian Regt.

(Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire)

In November, after less than six months in being, the new Battalion faced its first annual Administrative Inspection. Had anyone in the Battalion any doubts as to how we were shaping, these were at once dispelled by the results. Every member of the Battalion can be well satisfied with the very good report received. In particular, "Excellent" gradings were obtained by the Quartermaster, Lt. C. P. Culbert, for arms, equipment and stores, accounting and for mobilisation stores, and also by the messing officer, Capt. T. W. Beard, for messing administration. This reflects the high standard set by these officers and their staff.

In fact the only feature of the inspection which was other than good was the weather; the parade had to be abandoned after the inspection by Major-General J. H. Cubbon, C.B.E., the G.O.C. South Western District.

The results give clear indication of the success with which amalgamation has been carried out, and for this, much credit is due to everyone in the Battalion, but in particular to the late Commanding Officer, Col. G. V. Martin, M.C. He has left for his successor an excellent Battalion.

Up to the present we have had to accept the disadvantage of being split between two camps: on the outskirts of Taunton and at Watchet. This has imposed difficulties on administration and on sport, where combined with that of waterlogged playing fields, it has made the task of officers in charge of the various sports even more complicated than usual, and has resulted, unfortunately, in the cancellation of a large number of fixtures. One sport, boxing, was, of course, unaffected by weather and the outstanding sporting event of the end of last year was the inter-company novices' competition.

Dispersion was also the keynote in training. At different times there have been detachments of the Battalion in Cumberland, Norfolk, Devon, Somerset and South Wales. Variety in training has, however, been not only geographical, but has ranged from ration trials ("B" and "C" Coys.) to courses at the Army School of Civil Defence at Millom ("A" and "C" Coys.) and range classification at Okehampton, where despite the weather, some excellent results were achieved.

Other activities have included flood relief and

potato picking as well as the almost continuous tours, by the recruiting teams, in Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire.

The disadvantage of having the Battalion split will disappear in February, when falling numbers will make it possible, for the first time, for the whole of it to be united at Doniford Camp. We must thank 8 Trg. Bn., R.E.M.E., at Norton Manor Camp for their great hospitality first to the Band and later to "B" Coy., during their stay there.

With the Battalion concentrated once again, and with the New Year well begun, two tasks confront us, first, to carry out certain internal reorganisation, and then to train as a Battalion on this basis. With this end in view, the period up to the end of March will be devoted to training up to Company level. Companies and Battalion Headquarters will be visiting Okehampton in February to carry out familiarisation training on short range transport aircraft, and we shall go to Barry-Buddon in Scotland for two weeks in March for Company training, and more aircraft training. In addition, some 200 "casuals" will fire their annual range course at Willsworthy in February.

Over and above this programme of training, our recruiting effort will go on at its present tempo. Results up to date have been encouraging, but we cannot for one moment reduce our effort. For without a steady flow of recruits of a good quality, our present high administrative standards, the good state of Battalion training which we intend to achieve this year, and our successes in sport will count for nothing in a year or two's time. This is clearly our task, not only in the present quarter, but throughout 1961 and beyond.

OFFICERS' MESS

It has been a busy quarter for the Officers' Mess as for every other part of the Battalion, but whenever the Companies have been on the move the Mess staff have kept the Mess going at Watchet. We have had two guest nights. The first in October when we entertained officers from 2 Infantry Brigade Group at Plymouth and the second, a particularly memorable one on December 6th, when we dined out our late Commanding Officer—Col. Martin. The first guest night was a hectic affair

and when the Mess was finally cleared (of officers) it resembled the arena of a bantam cock fight. The second was less hectic—but let us hasten to add no less enjoyable. It was marked by the excellent speeches by the Second-in-Command (Major Drew) and the reply on his farewell by Col. Martin.

On December 10th, we held a quite excellent ladies' guest night. We all wined, dined and danced to our fill finally summoning our carriages at 4 a.m. We do thank Michael Aris and Bill Pool particularly for the organisation and Sgt. Poole and his staff for making it so agreeable. Also Susan Dymoke and Ruth Pool who did the flowers "after the late Constance Spry". We do not, however, congratulate quite so heartily the unhappy man who tipped all the lovely flowers into the dustbin next morning. Thanks to a rescue operation by Geoffrey Yates who spent most of one morning upside down in a dustbin, we salvaged the finest chrysanthemums.

The P.M.C.—John Dymoke—spent most of the quarter studying various parts of the United Kingdom. Even now not content with that he has gone to Bermuda for three weeks to help Brinsley Thomas commission officers into the Bermuda Defence Force. All these remarks were to explain why Geoffrey Yates spent the morning in the dustbin. He was organising a large Mess cocktail party on December 13th. We invited over 200 guests, a large number of them local landowners who are kind enough to let us use their land for training.

On the 14th we entertained the Warrant Officers and Sergeants to drinks before luncheon and two days later we packed our bags and disappeared on a fortnights' Christmas leave.

At the beginning of the quarter we said goodbye to Rocky Roche, our P.M.C. We wish him the best of luck. John Robinette is off to West Africa. We congratulate him and his wife on the birth of a son. We wish them lots of luck in their next job.

Major and Mrs. Drew have left us for Nottingham. Good luck to them and we hope, as they have a house nearby, to see something of them in our last six months at Watchet.

Then finally we all wish Col. and Mrs. Martin the very best of good fortune at Bury St. Edmunds, and look forward to many visits from him as Brigade Colonel.

We welcome our new Commanding Officer and Mrs. Erskine-Tulloch, and also Raymond Barthorp recently returned from Nigeria.

Congratulations to James and Louise White, Ken and Jane Ford and Michael and Sheila Aris on their marriages. At the moment they are all having glorious honeymoons, but will soon be returning to Watchet when we look forward to welcoming the lucky brides in our large and ever growing family.

Congratulations too, to Paul Dollery and Robin Drummond on their engagements.

SERGEANTS' MESS

High on the list of news is the happy report on the completion of the interior structural alterations to our Mess. Through the able workmanship of our Clerk of Works, Mr. Bryant, and the civilian con-

tractor, Mr. Batten, the finished result finds us very much more comfortably off. Briefly, this now leaves us with the main ante-room extended by 12ft in length, the new bar room widened by 6 ft.; and a completely new bar of generous dimensions. We now also boast a very snug TV room, and an efficiently fitted-out and secure silver room. The bar and ante-room are joined together by means of glass panelled swinging doors which, although lockable, are removable on the occasion of social evenings. The bar room also boasts of two new windows one of which is a double french window now opening on to a garden and a lawn for use in the summer.

Added to all this, and with grateful acknowledgement to Col. Martin for his enthusiastic support, additional carpets and furniture have been produced. The dining room is now resplendent with its everyday appearance of a long polished table, candlelabra, silver, illustrated table mats, etc., with again suitable furniture to enable members to enjoy their tea or coffee by a fireside after a meal. We have now the appearance of what a Sergeants' Mess should be, and this is proved when members are to be seen enthusiastically showing their visitors from room to room.

Members who have left us recently include the following, and for the reasons shown: C.S.M. Swift (R.S.M. 4/6 R. Lincolns, T.A.), C.S.M. Gell (R.S.M. Bde. Depot), C.S.M. Phillips (C.S.M. 4 Suffolks, T.A.), S/Sgt. Thompson (Recruiting N'ton), Sgt. Love (Para.), Sgt. Winkle (Recruiting, Kettering), Sgt. Bett (R.E.M.E.) Staff Band), Sgt. Willoughby (A.S.C.D. Millom), Sgt. Sherriff (Reg. Rel. 8 yrs.), Sgt. Quick, R.A.E.C. (S.W.D.), Sgt. Smyth (Bde. Depot).

Our best wishes go with them, along with a sincere thanks for the part they played during the first six months of this new Regiment's life.

Promotions, too, have occurred recently, and all were marked in the appropriate manner! Our congratulations go to R.S.M.s Gell and Swift, S.Q.M.S. Littleton, R.A.P.C., and Sgts. Smyth and Scotney.

The Christmas round of parties is now over and although the Bn have been on privilege leave from December 16th to January 4th, there were enough members locally to form successful gatherings in the Mess at Christmas and on New Year's Eve. Many were the engagements in the ten days preceeding leave and the usual All Ranks' dance on December 8th, and the Corporal's dance on the 9th, were well attended.

A special word here in appreciation to all those willing hands that went towards making our "draw night" such a first-class evening. The draw committee of S.Q.M.S. Littleton, Sgts. Dunn and Ashworth worked hard towards selling tickets and selecting a beautiful display of prizes. Over 2,230 tickets sold, resulted in 125 prizes to the value of £153, being given away, in groups of about 25, between dances. A magnificent buffet, arranged under the eyes of S.Q.M.S. Nisbet and Sgt. Stubbs, A.C.C., more than made its mark, especially when highlighted by silver centre pieces and spot lights from above!

Our thanks go to Lt. (Q.M.) Edwards who, since his promotion last August has seen fit to mark the occasion by presenting a very fine visitor's book to the Sergeants' Mess.

A quantity of Mess silver from the two former Regiments has now been loaned to the Brigade Sergeants' Mess, and was seen on display there by the R.S.M. on his visit to a passing out parade. in November.

Sergeants ("Olly") Oliver and ("Tommy") Barker have joined the ranks of those who come under the heading of "Married Families", each were recipients of a clock affixed to which were inscription plates. To them, our congratulations and may their future years be happy ones. We understand too that Sgt. (Bob) Hill has entered for the "Marriage Stakes" by getting himself well and truly engaged. Here's hoping he finds the course a smooth one, and that a certain Army form in the B.O.R. awaiting his signature, does not prove to be too great an obstacle! ("Years to do?").

We welcome the return of Sgt. (Tony) Parnham from his sojourn at the Depot R.W.K. where, for a few months, he has been assisting on the trg. side. (Anyone interested in a "written-off" T.R. 2?).

On January 14th, 1961, we held a ladies' guest dinner night when we were able to give them some acknowledgement for their support to the Mess, and, in recognition of the trials and tribulations that are their lot!

Visitors to the Mess during October/December have included the Colonel of the Regiment; Major-General J. H. Cubbon, C.B.E. (G.O.C., S.W.D.); Brig. J. N. Thomas, D.S.O., M.C. (Bde. Comd.); Brig. G. Iaing, C.B.E. (Dep. Comd. S.W.D.); Col. A. W. Innes, O.B.E., M.C.; and Lt.-Col. A. G. R. Noble, M.C. For four days in November Q.S.M.I. (Reg) Marks, A.P.T.C., came to renew the acquaintance of those he knew when he was for many years attached to R. Lincolns.

In conclusion, we bid farewell to Col. and Mrs. Martin, offering them our congratulations and best wishes for the future appointment which will still have close contact with us. To Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Erskine-Tulloch, we extend a loyal welcome from the Mess. We await his bidding.

CORPORALS' CLUB

Our first official function since Amalgamation was a dance held in the gymnasium on December 9th. Including guests about 300 attended. We would like to thank the following members for their hard work in making such a success of the occasion, Cpl. Smith, L/Cpl. Slater, L/Cpl. Lewis, Cpl. Crawshaw, L/Cpl. Allsopp and the R.A.P.C. N.C.O.s, with a special word of thanks for the cooks who provided a splendid buffet.

The Regimental dance band kept our feet tapping all the evening. Our President, Cpl. Smith, presented a bouquet to Mrs. G. V. Martin on behalf of the members.

"A" COMPANY

In October, the Company divided itself into three groups. Major Clark, Lt. Ford, C/Sgt. Veitch, Sgt. Ashworth and one party went off to a remote village in Norfolk called Little Snoring, where "A" Company set up the neutral organisation for a large exercise being carried out by a Brigade Group of the Strategic Reserve. 3 Platoon, under the command of 2/Lt. Finch, went on the ration trials to Castlemartin to act as enemy during exercise "Hard Tack". On this exercise, which lasted seven days, the platoon was split up and sections commanded by Cpls. Edwards, Green, and Starling were detailed to represent platoons, and sometimes even companies of Fantasian parachutists. The platoon did, however, have the opportunity to work as a platoon for the defence of the Rat Island peninsula and for two first light attacks. The third part of the company remained in Watchet where a great deal of preparation was done for army certificate of education third class and for the annual range course.

Early November saw a return of the whole company to Okhampton Camp for annual range classification. After our return to Watchet, we lost Major Clark and Capt. Evans-Evans as part of a general post of officers and Major Francis took over in time to move most of the company to the Army School of Civil Defence at Millom in Cumberland. The training here was a strange venture into something which so far has been quite outside our military experience. We could not have foreseen how much we should enjoy learning about knots and lashings and rescue in all sorts of improvised ways from awkward positions in ruined buildings. The work was practical and interesting and we all gained a great deal from the course. Sgt. Jennings' platoon particularly distinguished itself on the night rescue exercise. The company expedition up to Scafell Pike had to turn back about half-way up the mountain due to cloud conditions, but the following day the weather was perfect and the Company Commander and Ptes. Morris and Warrington reached the top without difficulty.

We congratulate the company team on a gallant effort in the Bn. cross-country race and particularly Ptes. Watchorn and Patrick who came 5th and 13th respectively. We congratulate Cpl. Holland on his promotion; 2/Lt. Narbeth and Cpl. Gunton on the birth of their children and L/Cpl. Jones and Ptes. Goodhand, Gridley, Codd and Redding on getting married, and we welcome 2/Lt. Burford who has joined us after service in West Africa.

"B" COMPANY

Life has been relatively uneventful during the last three months. We moved into winter quarters at Norton Manor Camp at the end of September, occupying the accommodation vacated by the Band who returned to Watchet. This period of splendid isolation ends in early February when the run-down of National Servicemen makes it possible to fit the

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whole Battalion into Deniford Camp. Our hosts at Norton Manor, 8 Training Battalion, R.E.M.E., have made our stay with them most enjoyable and we shall be sorry to leave. The gay nights at the social centre will probably be missed by more than one member of the company.

The annual rifle and L.M.G. classification was fired at Willsworthy during November. The new classification course for the S.I.R. is considerably easier than the previous one, with over half the rounds fired at figure targets at one hundred yards or under. The easier course, combined with hard work by N.C.O.s in running the company through ten days pokey drill and dry shed training, enabled 85 per cent. of the company to classify as marksmen and the remainder as first-class shots. Results on the L.M.G. were lower with 57 per cent. marksmen and the remainder also first-class shots. 2/Lt. James was unfortunate enough to fall from the parapet into the butts half-way through this period and broke his leg. He is still in plaster but hopes to be able to take a bath any day now.

Before going on Christmas leave the company won both the novices' boxing competition and the inter-company cross-country, the only two competitions so far held. Of the company boxers, Ptes. Milkins, Rushby, Wood and Kent subsequently gained places in the Battalion novices' team while 2/Lt. Denton, L/Cpls. Cooledge and Purple and Ptes. Jamieson, Price and Kerfoot are now training in the Battalion cross-country team.

The company has not lost many men since September but another major reorganisation is about to take place with the bringing forward of National Service Release. By the end of March, 51 National Servicemen out of 73 will have left and the company will have reorganised on an almost all-regular basis.

We wish L/Cpl. Cooledge, Ptes. Clark 50, Taylor 41, Loveder, Smith 239, Sanchez, and Nicholls the best of luck on their return to civilian life and congratulate Lt. White, Cpl. Huddleston and Pte. Marren on their recent marriages.

"C" COMPANY

In early October the company of a hundred strong spent a hard but worthwhile fortnight training, and testing the new rations at Castlemartin. Every day on top of his particular military tasks, which were considerable, each man had to complete a yellow form giving his personal views on the meals he had eaten that day. As, almost invariably the forms were issued (Tactically!) in pouring rain and the middle of the night, it is to everybody's credit that they were handed back to the War Office Research Team legibly and correctly completed the following morning. There wasn't even a suggestion to the team that the paper could have been put to some other use. The sharp end of the company should, and probably did, consider themselves lucky to get three cube meals a day. It was no easy task for the Second-in-Command to locate the hub in the centre of a wood, miles off any road on a pitch black night. And, of course, no lights were used. We all only pray that as a

result of this War Office experiment we never see P.O.M. or soap powder (I think they call it macaroni cheese) again in our 22 years Regular Service. One might have said the same about hard tack biscuits, but as they have been in vogue since Marlborough's day, there is no reason why they should change in 1960.

During their brief stay at Watchet the company produced a team of novice boxers. They put up a quite excellent effort considering the short time, and are to be congratulated on their plucky performance. The following represented the company: 2/Lt. Isaacs, 2/Lt. Winkley, L/Cpl. Langham, L/Cpl. Perkins, Ptes. Gendle, Copland, Upton, Bannister, Matthews and Sanderson.

In early November the company moved to Millom in Cumberland for a fortnights' Civil Defence training. The routes selected by British Railways and "Q" Movements (that poor unhappy body of scapegoats) was nothing short of a masterpiece. Taunton-Paddington-by underground to St. Pan-ras-Carlisle-Millom. The straight journey, Taunton-Millom was ruled out as being too easy, and therefore had training for officers in charge of large bodies of soldiers. Surprisingly enough nobody dropped off in London or got his kit bag (and suitcase) jammed in an escalator, and we all arrived bright and cheerful at Millom after a round trip of Britain lasting 20 hours. All at Government expense, too.

The Civil Defence Training was worthwhile and instructive and "C" Company should now be capable of treating themselves or anybody else for shock, tying every conceivable knot and lashing except a granny, and lowering stretcher casualties from a six-storey building without causing instant death. Besides training during the week, at the week-end 45 "Volunteers" set out to climb Scafell Pike with the Company Commander, but not the same number reached the top. The remainder took a look at the Lake District and beyond from Black Combe, an equally enthralling summit.

Millom was followed by a long week-end on leave and the company returned on November 23rd in time to move to Okehampton the same day for the annual range classification. While at Okehampton on one of the non-firing days, we overcame the hurdle of several of our physical efficiency tests. On our return most of these were completed, and we also carried out platoon map reading exercises and sections tackled the assault course. However, duty company was soon with us again, and together with potato picking and flood relief our time was fully occupied on matters other than training. The farmers may have been sorry when December 16th arrived, but there was considerable excitement in the company as we all made off in our different directions for Christmas leave.

SUPPORT COMPANY

By the time these notes are in print Support Company will have ceased to exist. For many it will be a sad day. Support Company has always regarded itself as a Corps d'Elite, with more than its

fair share of Regulars, far less than a fair proportion of "hard cases" and, we think, most of the talent of the Battalion. Virtue is, however, not without reward, and the skimmed milk of the Rifle Companies will be enriched by the double cream of both the 3-in. Mortar and A/Tk. Platoons.

The Assault Pioneers transfer to H.Q. Company to join their domestic brethren, while the exact destination of the M.M.G. Platoon is still uncertain.

Our "Swan Song" took the form of two cadres, an A/Tk. cadre run by Lt. P. W. Edwards and a 3-in. Mortar cadre run by Sgt. McColgan. We trust that the students will maintain the high standards set by their instructors.

Noteworthy among many National Servicemen to leave the Company and the Army is our Company Clerk, Pte. Byron, who has served the Company very well. We wish him every success.

M.M.G. PLATOON

We must firstly say goodbye to Lt. J. Robinette who is going to the "Dark Continent" to serve with the Royal Nigerian Army. We wish him and his family every success in the future.

The platoon have gathered again after an enjoyable Christmas leave and have launched themselves "with much gusto" into the training courses which seem to be sprouting everywhere. We congratulate L/Cpl. Lawe on his promotion to L/Cpl. and hope he will go on to greater things in the future. We also congratulate Pte. Marsden on his marriage. We say goodbye to Ptes. Farr, Mourton, Lawrence, Kilburn and Wootton and wish them every success in civilian life.

A/TK. PLATOON

Since our last notes were written we have said farewell to Ptes. Lamming, Turtle, Willerton, Tripp and Little. We wish them all fortune in their struggle for existence in the great outside. Now assembled, somewhat depleted, after our Christmas leave, we are in the throes of a cadre. When these notes appear we shall be scattered among the Rifle Companies, regretfully since we were rather comfortable as a platoon, but nevertheless curious to see how the new system works.

MORTAR PLATOON

Since our last entry in the POACHER our numbers have become practically none existent. To the arduous and worries of civilian life have gone Cpls. Smith and Forskitt; L/Cpls. Atkinson and Hopkins; and Ptes. Goodman, Stokes, Wright, Norden and Sease. Only the ever-present regulars remain!

We also say goodbye to our Platoon Commander, Lt. C. P. Dollery, who has left to try his luck in Training Company, and we welcome Lt. P. D. Taunton to the platoon and wish him every success on his course at Netheravon.

As always we came through the "Admin." with flying colours but not without the usual last minute flap. We returned to Okehampton in November to fire the annual range course and our shooting, although not brilliant, was satisfactory. At the time

of going to press we are busily running a cadre to train new blood.

SIGNAL PLATOON

Since our last contribution the Signal Platoon has taken part in exercises at Castlemartin, and are at present half-way through a cadre for wireless operators.

Castlemartin was great fun, even though the weather was bad at times. All wireless operators took part and the platoon also established a link with Watchet by skywave, run by Sgt. Smith and Misseldine at Watchet, and by Cpl. Robinson and L/Cpl. Cobb at Castlemartin. It was admitted that the wireless worked better to Watchet than the telephone.

Since returning, the platoon have been attached to Rifle Companies in order to classify on both S.L.R. and L.M.G., whilst the R.S.O. and the N.C.O. instructors have been drilling voice procedure and teaching the wireless set 62 to a cadre of 20. The results to date are very promising and we are hoping that the platoon will be well up to standard by the time the Battalion moves to Scotland on training.

Recently we have said goodbye to two regular soldiers who have served with the Signal Platoon for many years. The first is Pte. Ayton, who left us whilst we were at Castlemartin; not one of the most outstanding operators, he did, however, on that occasion send a perfect message of farewell over the wireless to us. We are very sorry to lose him. The other great loss is S/Sgt. Thompson who has left to take up a recruiting post in Northampton. He has been in the Signal Platoon for a great many years and we shall miss his cheery approach to all problems. The platoon would like to wish him the best of luck in his new job.

M.T. SECTION

We have been spending most of our time preparing vehicles for inspection; the original Land Rovers held by us were handed over to another unit, and Austin quarter-tons received instead. Now we are again in possession of Land Rovers. One of our members is at present in hospital owing to a crash on a civilian motor-cycle—we wish Pte. Howard a speedy recovery.

Faces continue to change, new arrivals are too numerous to mention individually but we hope that they enjoy their stay with us. Seventeen members have left us since the last publication, notably Pte. Odlin, who for the last two years has been a reserve for the Division in the Army motor-cycle trials, and Pte. Shepherd, who is well remembered for his expert use of the spray gun. We have entered teams in several motor-cycle trials, but unfortunately we have not gained any trophies. We will, however, continue our efforts.

Sgt. Peacock ably filled the chair for two months whilst the M.T.O. attempted to obtain recruits and improve his knowledge on the mysteries of Messing. Many smiling faces are to be seen since the notification that dates of N.S. releases are to be brought forward.

We have a certain Sergeant who states he would not have applied for redundancy had he known of the unit's impending move, maybe with the cash grant he will take a holiday and visit us.

Congratulations to the following on safe driving awards: Cpl. Cooper, five-year medal; Pte. Durham, two-year diploma; L/Cpl. Motley, Ptes. Bates, White, Blanchard, Robins and Downing, one-year diplomas. A certain Corporal lost his chance of an award in the latter end of 1960 and had to forfeit £3 10s. 0d.

REGIMENTAL BAND

Our most important date since the last journal notes was November 8th, when we were inspected in every aspect of our work by the Inspector of Army Bands, and the Chief Instructor, Kneller Hall. We received a "Good" grading, and went off to Lincolnshire the next day for a two weeks recruiting tour.

In accordance with the plan to reduce the Band to a figure nearer to the permitted establishment, five members have been transferred to other bands. Sgt. Bett transferred to R.E.M.E.; Bdsm. Arnott to The Royal West Kents, Bdsm. Candler to The Royal Tank Regiment in B.A.O.R.; Bdsm. Moralee to The Royal Engineers at Aldershot; and Bdsm. Saitta to The Welch Regiment.

A very successful party was held at the London Inn, Watchet, on December 15th, at which our guests were Major and Mrs. R. Chambers and R.S.M. and Mrs. R. Bayliss.

DRUMS

Since Amalgamation the strength of the Corps has steadily decreased and at present we number 35.

In July the Corps took part in the Bath United Service Tattoo and earned many congratulations. A visit to Bury-St.-Edmunds in August for an inter-services recruiting drive was enjoyed by everyone, in spite of the very bad weather, which cancelled the Beating of Retreat. Okehampton was a pleasant break from drumming and the training organised by Training Company was great fun. On December 7th we held our Christmas social which was most successful. Lt.-Col. Martin attended and we wish him success in his new appointment.

Soon all the National Servicemen will have departed for "civvy street". To them we say thank you for their services and wish them every success in the future. Finally, congratulations to Cpl Scotney on his promotion to Sergeant.

BOXING

The inter-Company novices' competition was held on October 19th, 20th and 21st, 1960, in the gym. There was an almost embarrassingly large entry, and many boxers had to fight twice in one day. The standard was, as usual, very mixed, but even in those bouts where skill was lacking, courage was not. The result was a win by "B" Company from "C" Company, but what is perhaps more significant in this supposedly decadent age is that so many volunteers came forward to "have a go."

We must thank the many officials, especially those from other units, for giving up their time in helping to run such an efficient competition.

Shortly afterwards, on November 2nd, we were faced with the semi-final of the South-West District inter-Unit novices' boxing competition against 8 Trg. Bn., R.E.M.E. 8 Trg. Bn. produced a most efficient-looking team of much more experienced boxers, and it was no disgrace to lose by 16 pts. to 11. Our only winners were Pte. Holmes and I./Cpl. Percival, while Pte. Rushby won a special heavy-weight contest outside the competition.

WIVES' ASSOCIATION

Since the last notes some 30 of the wives have learned how to set about keeping our families away from radio-active dust after an atom bomb attack. We had this talk on Civil Defence at our November wives' club meeting. In December we were sorry to have to say goodbye to Mrs. Martin. On behalf of all the wives Mrs. Drew presented Mrs. Martin with a pigskin jewel case, and a scroll of signatures. The presentation rounded off a very pleasant evening as Mr. Goddard, hairdresser from Minehead, gave a very interesting talk on the care of the hair, and he and his wife also gave a demonstration of Old Time Dancing.

On December 17th we had a bus trip to Bristol where the bright lights of large department stores made a welcome change from the damp Somerset countryside. It is noteworthy that three husbands braved this shopping spree!



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General

The reorganisation of the T.A. is now common knowledge and the 4/6th Bn. R. Lincolns are in no way affected by amalgamation. This is undoubtedly due to our considerable increase in strength over the past 18 months. There is no doubt also that should our strength ever fall below 300 we shall be in grave danger of being disbanded or amalgamated. Apathy towards the constant problem of recruiting must be fully guarded against.

The annual administrative inspection was held during the week-end December 10th and 11th. The report, a very favourable one indeed, has just been received. The Bn. welcomes R.S.M. Swift from the 1st Bn. and at the same time bids farewell to R.S.M. Cressey after 26 years' service. We wish him well. We hope to welcome him back, however, as C.S.M. "C" Coy.!

Training

Now we are clear of the Bn. C.D. training year we have reverted largely to infantry training coys. concentrating largely on recruit basic training during drill evenings and weekends. Progressive programmes cater for the trained soldiers, cooks, Signals, Intelligence, Regimental Police and Sp. Platoon. Weekend cadres will continue until early spring.

Exercise "Angry Poucher"

This was held in late October in Sherwood Forest with 10 Para. under Lt.-Col. G. C. A. Gilbert, M.C., formerly of the Royal Lincolns. Capt. Peter Field and Capt. Mike Rushby, both former officers of our 1st Bn. were also on the enemy side. R.S.M. Swift opened his innings in the Bn. by being captured, what was worse he allowed the Training Major's camp to be taken also. This vehicle with a 10 Para crew disguised as R. Lincolns later did a tour of the Bn. and Coy. C.P.s. An angry Training Major retaliated by pinching Col. Gilbert's Land Rover. The exercise which ended by a number of most realistic dawn attacks on Bn. H.Q. and two of the rifle coys. was a great success. We hope to meet the same enemy again in the new training year.

Exercise Escapade II

This was a large scale escape and evasion exercise in which the Bn., with units under command, was made responsible for a larger sector of East Lincolnshire. The enemy were Royal Marine S.B.S., 23 S.A.S. and R.A.F. aircrew. R.A.F. launches ferried escapees from S.B.S. folboats to a R.N.

frigate further out to sea. We as a Bn. discovered that we have a lot to learn about patrolling. It is hoped to put this matter right in the current training year.

Recruiting

A steady intake of recruits has continued throughout the winter months and the Bn. strength now stands at 455. Inevitably we are having to lose some of the older men who stood by the T.A. in the difficult post-war years. In this category we have recently lost Sgt. Hobday, Cpl. Hibbett, I./Cpls. Cross and Bell. During the past 12 months 33 members of the Bn. have joined the regular services, ten of these to the East Anglian Regiment. One of these, O/Cadet Jacques, formerly of the Intelligence Section, shortly hopes to be commissioned into our 1st Bn. from Mons O.C.S.

"A" COMPANY

A number of changes have taken place within the Company during the past three months. After almost nine years' service with the T.A. our Company Commander, Capt. T. N. Hart, has transferred to the Reserve. In his place we welcome Major A. J. Sudlow who has transferred to the Regiment from the 5th Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, where he was Second in Command. We are also sorry to hear that Lt. J. F. Swallow, Platoon Commander at Bourne, is transferring to the Reserve owing to pressure of business. Recruiting has been going along very well especially at Spalding where we have had seven recruits in two months, most of them ex-Servicemen. On December 22nd the T.A. Centre at Spalding received a visit from the Press who gave us a very good write-up in the *Spalding Free Press*. This, we hope, will increase recruiting still further.

At Stamford the Christmas festivities commenced rather early in December as we were due to be "hosts" to the G.P.O. Parcels Depot from 14th to 22nd. On December 3rd we held the children's party which was presided over by our old friend Mr. George Tee as Father Christmas. In spite of the heavy rain some 30 children of all ages attended. After playing a number of games they all sat down to a wonderful tea. Each child received a present and went away with their faith in Father Christmas renewed for the coming season. In the evening about 60 members, wives and guests sat down to a most excellent Christmas dinner served by candlelight. After dinner Lt. P. M. Merrikin, on behalf

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of the Company, presented a silver candlebra to Capt. T. N. Hart on his retirement. A social followed and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

On the Sunday morning we held our annual Christmas .22 shoot. After numerous novelty shoots, for which almost everyone got a prize, we shot off for the Hart .22 Cup. At the end of the first round there were four "possibles", C.S.M. Downes, C/Sgt. Seamer, Sgt. Barsby and Pte. Richardson. These four shot again in an atmosphere that can be described as "electric". It was a very close match with Sgt. Barsby winning with another "possible". Our thanks to C.S.M. Downes, C/Sgt. Seamer, I./Cpl. Joyce, Ptes. Blades and Tibbott and all the other members for their hard work put in to make the children's party and the dinner the successes they were.

It was with deep regret that we learned of the death, shortly before Christmas, of our old C.Q.M.S., C/Sgt. "Nip" Shipley who, although forced to retire from the T.A. due to ill-health, still kept in touch through the Club at Spalding where he could be found on any drill night. Many of the Regiment will remember "Nip" who had 39 years' T.A. service. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow and family.

"B" COMPANY

Bearing in mind the time of the year, this has been a period of steady activity in the Company. We have had a considerable number of young recruits with no previous military experience and we are working to a progressive training programme designed to give these recruits a sound basic training. In particular, the Sleaford detachment has flourished and their keenness has set a high standard. The Company took part in the Bn. exercise in the Dukeries training area in the autumn in which they were involved in a successful and exciting fighting patrol. We also took part in the Bn. exercise "Escapade" in which several of the young recruits acquitted themselves well.

We were well represented in the Bn. team in the Brigade inter-Bn. competition at Beckingham. Cpl. Thompson was a Section Commander in the winning rifle platoon. Remembrance Sunday was marked by a Bn. parade at Boston with the Band and Drums. It was an impressive parade under the Commanding Officer.

We have suffered a handicap in that C.S.M. Johnson sustained an accident at work. Happily he is now well on the way to recovery and we look forward to his full participation in Company affairs shortly.

"C" COMPANY

The last quarter of 1960 was monopolised by two main events—the annual administrative inspection and the Company Christmas activities. However these apart, there was still a great deal of work to be done and much of our work involved preparation for ceremonial duties. Early in December the majority of the Company motored down to Boston to join the Bn. Armistice Parade. The Service of Remembrance was held in the very beautiful Parish

Church, universally known as the "Stump". The Regimental Colours were on parade and the new members of the Company appreciated being on the parade and seeing the Colours marched up to the altar.

December saw a great deal of preparation in readiness for the annual administrative inspection. The Brigade Commander visited the Company on Sunday, December 11th, and found the full Company on parade and training in full swing. The Company signallers, under Sgt. Gant, had established an outstation some 15 miles from the drill hall and were conducting a signal procedure exercise. Sgt. Evans and Cpl. Cross were running a weapon training circus, whilst Sgt. Major Reeve had the Coy. cooks studying the theoretical aspects of the production of "all in stew". Not to be outdone the rapidly growing Coy. Section of the Regimental Band, under I./Cpl. Fuller, were playing an unidentified overture in the background.

Christmas activities followed close on the heels of the administrative inspection and were most successful. The Company Christmas .22 shoot was won jointly by Sgt. Couldstone and Pte. Scales. The children's party, organised by Sgt. Evans and Sgt. Whitfield, catered for some 50 children and they all had a fine meal and took home a present each. Our thanks go out to Santa Claus (C/Sgt. Flett) and I./Cpl. Hardy who provided a film show.

"D" COMPANY

Since last October, we have only supplied one further candidate, Pte. Metcalfe, to the Regular Army; this is most unusual for this Company who usually manage to supply two or three a quarter. Pte. Metcalfe who has been with us now for some two years, won the prize for the best all-round recruit at camp for 1960, and we wish him luck in his new sphere. Happily recruiting during this period has exceeded our losses, five more recruits have joined us. Congratulations to Cpl. Hiles, D.S.M., on the well-earned award of a Lord Lieutenant's Certificate. Cpl. Hiles has more than earned this award as he has always been a most conscientious N.C.O. and is first-class value in helping the training of young recruits.

We have had several interesting exercises. The first was "Angry Poacher" against the 10th Parachute Battalion from London and although the Company captured the opposing C.O.'s jeep, their position was so well camouflaged and defended that the enemy finally failed to put in an attack against it. The second exercise "Escape and Evasion" with the R A F., took place in the Louth/Horncastle area and "D" Company group were in the area where not much enemy activity took place. However quite a lot of useful lessons were learned.

At Christmas the three main events took place as usual. First the annual prize shoot for which 60 prizes were given by local business men and friends of the Company. The winners were C.S.M. Ventress and Pte. Slee and both gained a "possible"; these were the only two "possibles" obtained this year. The annual children's party took place on the Friday before Christmas and after tea the usual

film show was followed by a visit from Father Christmas and all children were given a present. Father Christmas was admirably carried out again by C.S.M. Ingall and C.S.M. Ventress was in charge of the films. The object of the exercise was to make every child sick, after leaving the Drill Hall and judging by the amount of sweets, ice cream and lemonade that was consumed we hope this was achieved. Finally the annual ball on New Year's Eve. Although having to finish early this was once more a great success. All tickets had been sold weeks before the event and the usual carnival spirit prevailed, and we were pleased to have as our guests, Air Commodore Pritchett and Major Peter Walter, M.B.E., M.C.

SUPPORT COMPANY

The past few months have provided good opportunities for the waterproof qualities of boots and groundsheets to be tested. There is no better place than Sherwood Forest for this to be done. In late October the Company joined the rest of the Battalion in a friendly but at the same time most realistic battle against 10th Para. Bn. (T.A.). Robin Hood could not possibly have imagined such activities so close to his headquarters, but at least he would have seen that a high proportion of the contestants were the right type for his sort of organisation.

More recently in January, the Company took part in the Battalion exercise "Escapade II". During the weekend January 7th and 8th, the Assault Pioneer Platoon returned to one of their favourite haunts around Major Kine's farm near Horncastle and carried out a number of demolitions.

From all reports it seems that the Brigadier's annual inspection went well within the Company. We all appreciate the tremendous amount of work put into this each year by the administrative sections of Company and Platoon Headquarters. Ptes. Williamson and Jennings have recently joined the Company and in making them welcome we have to say farewell to Cpl. Dolby and L/Cpl. Seaman, Cpl. Seaman has joined the Artillery, Regular Army, and takes our very best wishes with him.

The Joint Broadgate Companies Christmas party for the children was most enjoyable as usual. About 130 children were entertained, leaving very little food for Father Christmas' supper after they had gone.

We believe that the reorganisation of the T.A. will have begun to take effect when our next notes are written. Too soon will the Company be split to form the Support Platoons of the Rifle Companies, but we hope that the members of the Company will continue to be centered on the Broadgate Drill Hall for some time to come.

H.Q. COMPANY

We welcome to the Company Ptes. Gregory, Fields, Pratt, McSweeney and Rhodes as recruits, and Sgt. Tanser, Cpl. Gray, L/Cpls. Dalton, Jackson, Wilson and Weston all of whom have transferred to the Bn. from the Royal Corps of Military Police detachment in Lincoln, who on the reorganisation of the T.A. have been disbanded. We hope

they will have a long and happy stay with us. We are sorry to lose R.S.M. Cressey who returned early in 1961 to civilian life after 26 years' service, and in his place we welcome R.S.M. Swift. The Company continues to contribute to all Battalion activities. We took part in the Bn. exercise with 10 Parachute Bn. (T.A.) on the Proteus training area, where many useful lessons were learnt; the Signal Platoon especially realised how vulnerable line can be against sabotage. The Band and Drums took part in the Brigade competition, but could do no better than come second. The Drums have lost quite a lot of stalwarts and we were weaker on the ground than in previous years; however, active recruiting is taking place to remedy the situation. The Band and Drums also played for the O.C.A. church parade at Boston and the Remembrance Sunday, where the parade was also at Boston. This year there was no parade for the Brigade Commander's inspection. Instead he visited the Company carrying out training at Broadgate and appeared satisfied with our training and administration. Credit is due to C.S.M. Esberger, C/Sgt. Plumley, Sgt. Mellers, Cpl. Chapman and Pte. Hodson who put in a tremendous amount of hard work preparing for the inspection. As mentioned earlier in these notes we have now a complete Provost Section, under Sgt. Tanser. This addition to the Company is very welcomed as we have been without a Provost Section for many years and the experience of R.M.P. training will be invaluable.

Another welcome department which is about to expand is the Officers' Mess staff. We will shortly have a staff of four privates living in Lincoln, which will ensure the smooth maintenance of the Mess throughout the year.

The Lincoln Companies Christmas children's party was held on December 22nd. C/Sgt. Toyne again worked very hard with the organisation and Mrs. Clarke had the task of selecting over 100 presents. Tea was followed by games and the arrival of Father Christmas (Sgt. Mellers) with presents for all.

We congratulate: The Commanding Officer and Sgt. Scotney on their awards of the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate, the Padre on his promotion to Major, Lt. Colvin on his promotion to Captain, C.S.M. Lowery on the first clasp to his T.E.M., Sgt. Scotney on his award of the T.E.M., Cpl. Turrell on his promotion to A/Sgt. and Cpl. Chapman on his promotion to Corporal.

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1st BATTALION, 2nd EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT



Top: Castlemartin rations trials. R.A.S.C. Transport of an unusual kind adds spice to training

Below: Rations trials. Not even the Platoon Commander knows the nutritional value of a worm sandwich!

Top: "Exercise Hard Tack." The evacuation of wounded

Below: Rations trials. Macaroni and Cheese

1st BATTALION, 2nd EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT



1—Motor Cycle Trials. Pte. Odlin, M.T., in training. 2—Flood Relief. Admiring on sandbag wall. 3—Exercise "Hard-Tack." The river crossing—another way of avoiding wet feet. 4—Corporals' Club. Cpl. Smith presents a bouquet to Mrs. G. V. Martin at the Corporals' Club Dinner

5th BATTALION (T.A.)



A group of diners at the New Year's Eve Dinner-Dance, the first Social event organised by Support Company at its new T.A. Centre at Huntingdon



5th Battalion Football Team. Winners of East Anglian District Cup

Back row: Capt. J. G. Hogg, Sgt. S. Shailes, Pte. T. Kennedy, Cpl. B. A. Wilson, Sgt. B. S. F. Jackson,
Pte. J. McCafferty, Cpl. A. Horncastle

Front row: Pte. A. G. G. Benns, Pte. J. Taylor, L/Cpl. H. E. Roberts, Pte. J. Noble, L Cpl. D. R. Shortland

5th BATTALION (T.A.)



1—Angle view of entrance to the New T.A. Centre at Huntingdon. The white plaque is the Regimental Badge carved in stone. 2—The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. G. A. C. Danby, explains a point on the Vickers Machine Gun to the Mayor and Mayoress of Huntingdon, second and third from right, and the Mayoress of Godmanchester. Also pictured here are Capt. P. Bryant, Sgt. J. Jeffery (P.S.I.), Sgt. W. Holland, Sgt. J. W. Capstaff and Pte. J. Elmers. Photo: Argus Studios. 3—Civic guests at the opening of the Huntingdon T.A. Centre. Left to right: Major H. H. Pallush; Mr. C. B. Harwood; Mr. C. E. T. Lees; The Mayor and Mayoress of Huntingdon, Councillor and Mrs. Smith; The Mayoress of Godmanchester, Mrs. A. S. Pettit and the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. G. A. C. Danby, M.B.E. 4—Inspection by Mayor of Peterborough, 23rd October, 1960.

"R" BATTERY, 438 L.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A. (T.A.)



Photographs: Ralph Meakins

1—"R" Battery. 2—"R" Battery at the Territorial Ball. 3—Presentation of Master-at-Arms to B.S.M. Ballard. 4—Presentation of the Inter-Troop Rifle Cup by Brigadier G. E. C. Sikes to the Northampton Troop

Army Cadet Force

Presentation of Lord Lieutenant's Certificate to Major H. M. Clayton (Administrative Officer) on the occasion of the Trooping of H.R.H. Banner at Lincoln on 1st May, 1960. Band of 4/6 R. Lincolns in attendance

Photo: Lincolnshire Echo



Colonel Harold Riggall, D.L., J.P., presenting the 'Riggall' Efficiency Cup to Cadet B.S.M. R. Beasley of the Grimsby Det. (Lincs. A.C.F.)

Brigadier M. C. K. Halford, D.S.O., O.B.E., speaks to Drummer Peter Hunter on his visit to 3rd 4th Cadet Battalion the Northamptonshire Regiment.





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5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.)

Reorganisation of the Territorial Army

Impending re-organisations are always worrying but the recent one, probably the most drastic for the T.A. since 1937 when most counties had one of their two infantry battalions converted to R.A. or R.E., has luckily been kind to the 5th Battalion.

The fundamental change is that "R" (Northamptonshire Regt.) Bty. of 438 I.A.A., R.A. (T.A.) ceases to be an R.A. unit and amalgamates with the 5th Battalion to form the 4th/5th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.). We sympathise with those in "R" Bty. in losing their Gunner status but if a change had to be made few will disagree that it is only right that the originators of the old 4th Battalion should be given the opportunity of resurrecting their old unit. It is most gratifying that 93 officers and other ranks in "R" Bty. have elected to take this opportunity.

On amalgamation the 4th/5th will adopt the new establishment for an infantry battalion. In this establishment Support Company vanishes and the support weapons are decentralised to form a fourth platoon in each of the four rifle companies. The future layout of the Battalion will be:—

Bn. H.Q. and H.Q. Coy.—Peterborough with a detachment at Oundle.

"A" Coy.—Northampton.

"B" Coy.—Corby with a detachment at Kettering.

"C" Coy.—Wellingborough with a detachment at Rushden.

"D" Coy.—Huntingdon.

The strength, including "R" Bty., will be about 450.

Perhaps the most satisfactory aspect of the re-organisation is that Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire continue to retain, in name and reality, their County T.A. Battalion and all ranks of the 4th/5th will be determined that it will be one that will continue the very fine traditions and past histories of both the old 4th and 5th Battalions.

5th BATTALION REUNION, 1960

The reunion dinner was held at London Road Drill Hall, on October 22nd, 1960, over 250 attended.

The Colonel of the Regiment was present, also the Mayor of Peterborough and the Mayor of Huntingdon. It is with pleasure that we record the fact that there were four previous Commanding Officers of the 5th Battalion present, namely: Col. G. A. Anstee, C.B.E., M.C., D.I., J.P., Lt.-Col. L. N. Quash, M.C., T.D., Lt.-Col. F. R. Wilford, and Col. J. C. Denny, O.B.E., M.C.

Telegrams were received from The Colonel-in-Chief, General G. St. G. Robinson, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., and from all ranks of the 1st Bn. The 2nd East Anglian Regiment (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire).

It was good to see that there were some younger

serving members of the 5th Battalion present and it is to be hoped that more will come along next year. The majority of those present were the older members of the 5th Battalion. Many friendships were renewed and old battles fought again.

The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. G. A. C. Danby, M.B.E., during his speech gave an outline of the Battalion's activities and achievements for 1960. The shooting teams continue to do very well and the Band and Drums have had a very good year. In closing he said how pleased he was to see so many present and hoped for a larger gathering next year.

FREEDOM OF THE CITY PARADE

On Sunday, October 23rd, the Battalion held their Annual Freedom of the City Parade, on the Embankment. There were 150 soldiers on parade with the Colours and Band and Drums. The Colours were carried by Lt. T. C. G. Branch and Lt. R. Pearce.

Before the Mayor arrived, the Colonel of the Regiment presented Territorial Decorations to Major G. Foster and Capt. T. Agutter and Efficiency Medals to C.S.M. Moloney, Sgt. Ellis and ex-C.S.M. Smith.

A general salute welcomed the Mayor of Peterborough (Councillor J. A. Savage), who then carried out the inspection. The Battalion then marched up Bridge Street with bayonets fixed, Colours flying and the Band playing. The salute was taken by the Mayor on the steps of the Town Hall.

After the parade the officers entertained the Mayor and past officers of the Regiment and their wives in the Officers' Mess.

OFFICERS' MESS

After the Freedom of the City Parade on October 23rd, the officers entertained the Mayor and Mayoress of Peterborough, and past officers and their wives with pre-lunch drinks in the Mess, this being followed by a buffet lunch in the lecture room. The silver and Colours were on show and the waiters were supplied by Corby under the strict supervision of Sgt. Segasby.

On Saturday, November 26th, a dinner was held in the Mess to say goodbye to Capt. J. B. Akehurst, who was leaving for the Staff College, and we all wish him the best of luck. Major Foster in his speech thanked Capt. Akehurst for all he had done for the Battalion and presented him with the traditional tankard. He said that a number of people thought that he had earned more than just the tankard, and that with all the work in front of him at the Staff College he might find another present of use. He then presented him with a brief case.

Capt. Akehurst replied and presented to the Officers' Mess a seating plan case.

On the occasion of the disbandment of 162 Brigade, a dinner was held on December 3rd, 1960,

for all officers of this Brigade, in the T.A. Centre at Ware. Ten of our officers were present. Our Colours and a sprinkling of our silver were on show.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We rounded up the last quarter of the year in grand style, with the most notable event being the annual mess dinner and dance. It was held in the Sergeants' Mess at London Road, Peterborough, when over 45 members and their ladies were present. Our guests were Capt. and Mrs. J. B. Akehurst, and Major and Mrs. A. A. Pilgrim. We had a first-class dinner, and dancing went on until the early hours. It was indeed a most successful evening and a good time was had by all.

The Mess was well represented at Bisley in July and we congratulate C.S.M. Fred Beales and Sgt. Tom Kilty on their very fine effort in winning the Cambridgeshire Challenge Cup.

With the re-organisation of the Territorial Army we are looking forward to meeting W.O.s and Sergeants who will be joining us from "R" (Northamptonshire Regt.) Battery 438 I.L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), to them we extend a hearty welcome and hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Congratulations to Drum-Major Woods, Sgt. Fletcher and Sgt. Laxon on their promotions, we hope to see plenty of them in the Mess and hope that their stay with us will be a happy one.

We are going to annual camp from April 29th to May 13th, at Epsom. We shall be at full strength in the Mess, all past members will be most welcome at anytime, do look in on us if you can.

Capt. J. B. Akehurst, the Adjutant, left the 5th Battalion for Staff College on December 20th, 1960, and we take this opportunity of thanking him for all he has done for the Sergeants' Mess. May we wish him and Mrs. Akehurst the very best of good fortune for the future.

"A" COMPANY

During the period of training from Camp to Christmas we concentrated on a platoon competition instigated by Capt. Hodgson which proved an unqualified success. Marks were awarded for the attendance, wearing of uniform, 22 shooting results, drill, turnout, recruiting and results of indoor football and shinty matches, all of which produced an air of purpose within the company. The popularity of the competition was proved by an attendance figure of nearly 60 per cent on drill nights during the competition. The whole competition finished on a company weekend training in December. On this weekend all three platoons were set tasks to complete, such as maintaining a guard on the armoury, the setting up of a first aid room, the observing and making a report of activities at various points in Northampton, drawing a map of the Town Hall, proving a visit to the centre of England, a trip on an underground railway, etc. All these tasks were to be organised within the platoon itself. Due to valiant work by Cpl. Denton of 1 platoon and Pte.

Barrick of 2 platoon, the competition moved to quite an exciting climax. Sgt. Freeman's No. 2 platoon proved to be the ultimate winners—congratulations.

The year ended on quite a festive note, a Christmas party being held where we all brought our wives and girl friends, and had a very enjoyable time. A word of thanks must be made here to Mr. and Mrs. Cross who very kindly supplied us with an immense array of food and drink at their pub, which we think really contributed to the success of the party. There was, however, a rather sad note that night for we all took the opportunity of saying "au revoir" to Capt. and Mrs. Hodgson who were leaving after a somewhat short but crowded and very appreciated stay with the company. Everyone in the company joins in wishing Capt. and Mrs. Hodgson the very best of luck. At least they are taking a constant reminder of the company away with them—an alarm clock and pint tankard.

Once again we extend a very warm invitation to any of the readers to join us at Clare Street on any Tuesday or Thursday evening.

"B" COMPANY

Our strength continues to increase, but again the increase of about 10 during the past six months does not show the total number of comings and goings that have in fact taken place.

Our officer strength has been augmented by the transfer of Lt. Crooke from T.A.R.O., and the commissioning of 2/Lt. Barthorpe into this unit. 2/Lt. Barthorpe is no stranger to us, as for the past 12 months he has been O.C. of the Corby Grammar School C.C.F., and during this period relations between "B" Coy. and the C.C.F. have been of the best.

We welcome Sgt. Muir from R.E.M.E. (A.E.R.), I./Cpl. Fordyce (on transfer from a Scottish T.A. unit), Pte. Barclay (on transfer from a local T.A. unit) and Ptes. Braines, Brown, G. R., Bryce, Byrne, Conybeare, Cranston, Creighton, Crawford, Dempster, Gourlay, Hanvey, Fennel, Hackley, Morgan, Scaife, White, T. M., Ellis, Taylor and McPherson (as A.C.C. but permanently attached to this unit), all on enlistment.

Of these who have left us during this period, Ptes. Davidson, McIntosh, Mathers and Proctor, having acquired the feel of khaki, have all progressed into the Regular Army. We are very pleased that Ptes. Mathers and Proctor have joined 2nd East Anglian Regiment—the first from this company to do so. We wish them all well in their new career. Cpl. Lawrence and Pte. Smedley for personal reasons were not able to sign on again with us. We wish to thank them for the work they put in to the company whilst they were with us.

We offer our congratulations to C/Sgt. Gayne on his promotion to W.O.11 and we send our best wishes to Cpl. Wilson and Ptes. Broxton, Helps and Cranston on their marriages.

Since camp our training has been pretty full and varied, augmenting and consolidating lessons learned at camp, and the gradual introduction of Civil Defence training. During this period, our "Q"

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staff has been kept constantly at full stretch. Their first big job was catering for all the participants (including the pipe band of the Brigade of Gurkhas) at the Oundle School C.C.F. Tattoo in July. Then came the reception and catering for members of the Bn. after exercise "Long Walk" later in the year. The culmination of their endeavours came with catering at a combined T.A. and club farewell social for Capt. Akehurst, when over 300 people were present.

On the social side, we have had a busy time. A club outing in August, to the sea; a couple of full scale socials, and numerous impromptu socials during the Christmas and New Year periods. On January 14th we held our children's party, when about 200 children were let loose in the T.A.C. Thanks to the efforts of all helpers some kind of order was maintained, and the T.A.C. is still standing.

Finally, we must mention that, as a result of the reorganisation of the T.A., it is almost certain that members of "R" Battery in Kettering will be transferring to us, and we shall be opening up in Kettering T.A.C. We assure them that they will receive a hearty welcome from all members of the Corbei Highlanders.

"C" COMPANY

The period just after our return from camp was marked by some quick comings and goings. We had hardly got back to Rushden when we discovered that two of us were so keen to get back into khaki that they had decided to join the Regular Army. Sgt. Dixon, our P.S.I., helped to guide their feet in the direction of the right Regiment. We had only just made this loss to our strength good and increased it slightly when one more member was called up for National Service and decided the only thing to do was to sign on the dotted line. The result is that we say "au revoir and good luck" to Cpl. Percival and Ptes. Bottoms and Jubh, and "welcome" to Ptes. Cook, Foy, Hopkins, Jones, O'Connor and Smith, E. W. The Company Commander is now to be heard mumbling strange oaths about "viable Drill Hall strength" and "regular recruiting should count double."

In between changing round military and social activity has gone in much the same. We have continued to be represented in the shooting team and to have taken our part in other battalion activities. We were very well represented in the battalion escape and evasion exercise even by new members who had only just signed on and hadn't been kitted out. Our cooks have done well too, winning the battalion cooks competition, for which we congratulate them, they have also started cooking hot dogs and coffee on drill nights which has proved very welcome.

In the Drill Hall training continues along familiar lines only with more emphasis in Civil Defence, as this is our C.D. training year. However, we do not neglect other aspects of training. Nor have we neglected social activities.

We have had a company dinner and ladies' night

which was voted a success by those present and which we hope to repeat. We have also had our own Christmas social evening and our usual children's Christmas party. Our social events have been helped by the renting of a juke box. We look forward to a happy and busy year's training, and hope we shall take 100 per cent. to camp at Epsom.

SUPPORT COMPANY

OPENING OF NEW T.A. CENTRE AT HUNTINGDON

Doubtless the most important event in our calendar since the last issue of the Journal has been the opening of Phase I of our new T.A. Centre, which took place on the evening of Tuesday, December 13th, 1960. Civic guests for the evening were the Mayor and Mayoress of Huntingdon, Councillor and Mrs. C. G. Smith; the Mayoress of Godmanchester, Mrs. A. S. Pettit, the Deputy Town Clerk of Godmanchester Mr. C. B. Harwood, together with Huntingdon Borough Councillor, Mr. C. E. T. Lees. On arrival at the new building the guests were met by Lt.-Col. G. A. C. Danby, and Major H. H. Pallash. Also present were Capt. J. K. Parker (Adjutant), R.S.M. J. Driscoll and P.S.I. Sgt. J. Jeffery, who later conducted the party around the building. To mark this occasion a full page article and advertising feature was arranged with the local Press. With the added facilities that this accommodation offers we cannot help but improve our position and Support Company looks to the future with absolute confidence.

GENERAL

The semi-quiet period which always follows each annual camp has long since passed and training is going on in earnest in preparation for our C.D. camp this year. All kinds of people (mainly Senior N.C.O.s) have been tipped-off stretchers, allegedly by insecurely tied ropes, the lecture rooms on training nights frequently take on the atmosphere of some of the worst casualty clearing stations, and all this to prepare for possibly worse to come during this first C.D. camp in early May.

Intermingled with this we still manage to maintain our position in the Divisional and T.A.R.A. .22 shooting competitions, which have reached a standard of organised perfection under the control of Capt. Peter Bryant. Pte. G. Beedie has recently attended a course in nuclear warfare at Winterbourne-Gunner and returns full of confidence in the ability to keep us all free of contamination should the occasion ever arise.

SOCIAL

On New Year's Eve the T.A. Centre came through a rigorous social baptism when we organised our first dinner-dance to welcome the New Year. During the dinner Major Pallash presented medals to Sgt. T. Kiltv, Sgt. J. W. Capstaff, C/Sgt. A. Fordham, Cpl. E. Twigden, I./Cpl. R. Adams and Pte. B. Britchford, the company's winning team in the T.A.R.A. small bore championships,

completed during 1960. Much credit for the colourful organisation of this event was due to the hard work and patient effort of Sgt. J. Jeffery (P.S.I.) and a small organising committee who made the evening an occasion to be well remembered.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Lt. Roger Thackray who died on December 3rd, 1960, following an operation at Huntingdon County Hospital. He was 19 years of age, and had recently joined Support Company after leaving Felstead School. He attended our training whenever it was possible to spare the time from his university studies and showed great enthusiasm in everything he undertook. It is truly sad that we should lose him in such tragic circumstances. The funeral, which was attended by Lt.-Col. G. A. C. Danby and Major H. H. Pallash representing the Regiment, took place at Great Stukeley (Huntingdon) Church on Wednesday, December 7th, 1960.

OUNDLIE DETACHMENT

With the accent on Civil Defence Training some members of the Detachment have been attending the local first aid classes run by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and they should be well qualified for their first aid commitments in camp this year.

We welcome A. Underwood to the Detachment and hope that he will enjoy his service, he is another member for the M.T. Section and there are two or three others on the verge of joining so our recruiting continues slowly but steadily along the right lines. We congratulate Sgt. Fletcher upon his promotion, his work with the Signal Section is much appreciated by all who visit us, and with morse the order of the day, there is plenty of work to be done.

We welcome Cpl. Pinchin upon his transfer to us. He is settling down nicely and has a lot to offer. Another old friend returns to us in the form of E. Glackin from "B" Company, and with two cooks on our books we should do well on our small exercises.

The success of the Battalion football team gives a great deal of satisfaction to all members and we congratulate them upon their achievement this season and wish them well in their remaining games.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION

The Intelligence Section has again had a varied programme of events during the past months, from plotting the whereabouts of patrols and prisoners taken during the recent exercise "Long Walk", to assisting the M.T. Section in their map reading tasks, both on M.T. weekends and in theory during normal weekly training periods.

In preparation for camp, we are getting a thorough grounding in Civil Defence and first aid procedure, which promises to be quite a variation from normal activities. All this takes place under the able tuition of Lt. R. Pearce.

Since the last issue, we have lost Sgt. Chandler, who has left us to take up a post in Sweden. His place has been very ably filled by Cpl. Iaxton, with

the relevant promotion to Sergeant. Congratulations to him, also Cpl. Watts and L/Cpl. Bailey on their promotions, and also to L/Cpl. Bailey on his engagement and to Pte. Benns on his forthcoming marriage.

We welcome two new members who have joined the section in recent months, Pte. Johnson transferred from the H.A.C. (Inf.) and Pte. Wayne transferred from R.A.

SIGNAL PLATOON

Since our last annual camp the platoon has been undergoing a period of consolidation. For the past three years we have run cadres with a view to providing trained operators in each company. Having now obtained these operators, training has been arranged to increase their signal knowledge and efficiency. One training weekend is held each month and members of the platoon have found these weekends to be both interesting and enjoyable.

After more than three years as R.S.O., Capt. J. Quash, to our our great regret, has found that owing to increasing business commitments, and the considerable distance between his home at Sheffield and the platoon's home at Oundle, he has had to resign from his post as Signal Officer. During the period he has commanded the platoon it has grown threefold, both in membership and ability. Capt. Quash's term of office as R.S.O. will indeed be a model for all future holders of the appointment, a model which will prove most difficult to emulate.

BAND AND DRUMS

Having completed a very successful summer season—playing nearly every weekend—we are now hard at practice for our winter concerts.

On November 23rd we arranged a social evening at London Road to present a clock to Capt. J. B. Akehurst who has left us for Staff College. After the presentation by C/Sgt. Gordon and a bouquet to Mrs. Akehurst by D/Maj. P. Woods a grand evening was rounded off by dances.

December 11th saw us on the concert platform at "Elwes Hall." As this is central we expected a good attendance but we were disappointed—we managed to hand over £13 to 'The Mentally Handicapped Children', not as much as we expected, but it gave us the opportunity of playing in a first-class concert in a good hall.

On March 19th we were at "Wisbech College" and we had the B.B.C. team with us to give us an audition. So who knows one of these days you may have a Territorial band broadcasting? let's hope it is the 5th Band. An important day in our history will be April 23rd when the Mayor of Peterborough hands over to the Corps of Drums a new Mace presented by the citizens of Peterborough—what a nice gesture—let's hope we may remain worthy of this fine Mace in the future.

Signing on time comes around in January and everybody has signed on again not for one or two years but for four. Our present strength is 51—31 band, 20 drums. We welcome to the Band a new recruit namely, Ken Pollard, a well-known dance

Peter and Ann
buy the first
of many, many days
in the country



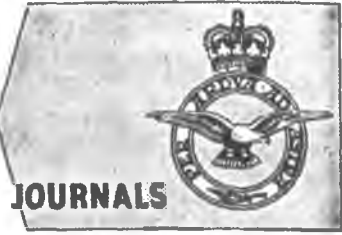
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band leader in Peterborough. I hope his stay will be long and happy and also hope that he will bring a couple of his band along so we have a complete dance band.

We take this opportunity of thanking the 1st Bn. The East Anglian Regiment for their 250 scores of music. We never have below 27 for practise now—it must be the new music! The Drums are also hard at it with six new marches in preparation for the drums competition.

We congratulate I./Cpl. Roberts of the Drums for the part he played in the Divisional football final won by 5th Battalion—his contribution was four goals.

“R” (Northamptonshire Regiment) (438 L.A.A. Regt. R.A. (T.A.))

REORGANISATION OF TERRITORIAL ARMY

With the general announcement that the Territorial Army was to be completely reorganised, it was anticipated that “R” Battery might well be faced with a change of role. A large number of T.A. Gunner Regiments were nominated for amalgamation into the new role of the Territorial Army and 438 L.A.A. Regiment found themselves included in the list.

The initial reaction was one of some disappointment, particularly as it was felt that the Regiment was functioning with more than a little success. The 1960 annual camp had proved this beyond any shadow of doubt, but upon serious reflection and after carefully studying the general facts and thoughts behind the national reorganisation, it was quite apparent that the outline proposals were sound.

As further details were made available the final proposals were received with pleasure, and it was formally announced on November 15th that “R” Battery would amalgamate with the 5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment to form the 4/5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.). “R” Battery will in effect amalgamate with “A” and “C” Companies at Northampton and Wellingborough respectively.

It is therefore worthy of note that after some 23 years, “R” Battery is reverting to its old role of the County Infantry. In 1937 the old 4th Battalion was converted from Infantry to Royal Engineers, and renamed 50th A.A. Battalion R.E. (T.A.), to be followed in 1939 by a further change of name and arm, and 50th A.A. Searchlight Regiment R.A. (T.A.) was born. The unit has remained Gunners ever since but will now have completed the full cycle and from April 1st, 1961, will again join the County Regiment.

We are pleased to record that two survivors of the old 4th Battalion, Lt.-Col. J. T. Lewis, T.D., and B.S.M. F. Tebbutt are still serving with the present

Regiment and have completed the full cycle. Unfortunately both are now retiring but theirs must be a unique achievement which we are very proud to acknowledge.

So ends a further chapter in the history of the old 4th Battalion and the Gunner Regiments and perhaps it will suffice to report the following comment from Brig. G. E. C. Sikes, D.S.O., the Commander 42 A.G.R.A. (T.A.) on his last administrative inspection:

“*Training*—The unit did not fire their guns this year and went instead on a fortnight's mobile training. This has proved an advantage, and I am satisfied that they are sufficiently flexible to take the change of role in their stride. Their training is always realistic and imaginative.

Secondly, administration. I have always commented on the uniformity of standard of this Regiment, in spite of the widespread sub-units. This remains the case and I am aware of the work involved in achieving this. Morale is high and a measure of this is the fact that virtually all ranks are accepting their amalgamation with determination even with a measure of sadness. All aspects of administration were good and turn out and condition of guns in particular merit praise.

Overall classification—very good.”

We like to think this is a fitting tribute to the Commanding Officer and the Regiment.

ADMINISTRATION INSPECTION

The annual inspection took place on November 30th at Northampton. The equipment, stores and offices were inspected in the daytime and the Battery paraded in the evening for inspection by the Commander 42 A.G.R.A., Brig. G. E. C. Sikes, D.S.O., who then presented warrants to B.S.M.s Tebbutt and Ballard, and cups to the winners of the annual rifle competition.

All aspects of the inspection were good and a lot of credit for the turn-out of the equipment, stores and M.I. must go to the P.S.I., B.S.M. Cleary, the Nos. 1 and volunteers.

A small informal social evening followed the inspection and this was arranged by B.S.M. Tebbutt and Sgt. Butcher.

TRAINING

With the knowledge that the Battery would be converted to Infantry, the training in the New Year has taken on a new aspect and we are grateful for the assistance readily given by Lt.-Col. Danby, M.B.E., and the P.S.I.'s of the 5th Battalion. A lot of ground will have to be covered in the shortest possible time in order to reach a state of efficiency. The specialists should have little difficulty in converting to their corresponding infantry trades but a lot of basic knowledge will have to be learnt in the next few months. We face the prospect with relish.

ANNUAL TERRITORIAL BALL

The Territorial ball was held on December 2nd at Franklins Gardens Hotel, Northampton, and was arranged as a Regimental ball, preceded by a cocktail party. Guests included Col. The Earl Spencer,

T.D., Brig. and Mrs. G. E. C. Sikes, Brig. and Mrs. D. E. Taunton, Brig. R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E. Parties were brought by the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. J. T. Lewis, T.D., Lt.-Col. G. A. C. Danby, M.B.E. (and officers 5th Battalion), Col. M. Jelley, Lt.-Col. A. Allebone, Lt.-Col. J. H. Johnson, Lt.-Col. R. A. Fell (and officers from 566 Company, R.A.S.C.) Major V. A. Harding, Major C. A. Hodgkinson and officers ("P" Battery), Major R. G. Wilkes and officers ("Q" Battery) and Major R. C. Jeffery and officers ("R" Battery). This was a most enjoyable evening and dancing continued until 2 a.m. All arrangements were made by Major R. C. Jeffery. Although 438 Regiment is to be disbanded, it should be noted that the Territorial ball will continue and will be held this year on December 1st.

OFFICERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

A small party was arranged at Wellingborough on January 3rd for Battery officers and members of the Mess. This was attended by Lt.-Col. J. T. Lewis, T.D., and Major and Mrs. J. Boe. This was a most enjoyable informal evening and was arranged by Capt. D. F. Hooton, T.D.

BATTERY SOCIALS

Several small troop social evenings have been held at the T.A. Centres; perhaps the most enjoyable was one held at Wellingborough, when several challenges were thrown out and accepted by the other outstations. Sgt. Pell of Kettering proved himself in the .22 range by recording a 100 per cent return, and the Kettering Troop were declared

ANNUAL REUNION, NORTHAMPTON

The Northamptonshire Wing, The Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire Regimental Association will be holding its

ANNUAL REUNION
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Friday, Saturday and Sunday
14th, 15th and 16th JULY, 1961

winners, closely followed by Wellingborough. Other games followed in the club and the whole evening, arranged by Capt. Hooton, was successful.

The children's Christmas party took place on January 14th at Northampton and was very ably organised by Capt. K. Parry, assisted by a disguised B.S.M. Tebbutt, Sgt. Butcher and other N.C.O.s. Two entertainers were used and the magician was able to baffle the majority. He was last seen disappearing with his kit into the Battery office to change, closely followed by several boys determined to have a closer inspection of his paraphernalia. Mr. Edgar Ward proved his ability to more than cope with 50 children ranging from the age of four to eleven, and this turned out to be the best children's party held yet.

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Addresses of the Secretaries of the various Branches may be obtained from the Regimental Secretary at Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road, Northampton or at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln

If you are a "Life Member" of your own Regimental Association, you automatically become a Life Member of the others, without further subscription—although voluntary subscriptions are always acceptable.

On leaving the 2nd East Anglian Regiment and taking up residence in any place or near to where the Regimental Associations have a Branch, you will be

welcomed as a Branch Member. In any case, advise the Regimental Secretary of your place of residence and he will put you in touch with a Branch.

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Army Cadet Force

Lincolnshire

NORTHERN COMMAND BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force were runners-up to West Riding by 18 points to 23. This is an excellent effort and is most encouraging.

Cadets taking part from Lincolnshire with results are as follows:—

Class "F"—Under 15 years

6st. 7lb.—J. Braithwaite, Lincoln, beat R. Lenehan, W. Riding.

7st. 7lb.—W. Heenan, W. Riding, beat D. Burnett, Lincoln.

8st.—B. Hall, W. Riding, beat M. Glover, Lincoln.

9st.—J. W. Riggall, Lincoln, beat P. Pendergast, W. Riding.

10st 7lb.—I. S. Brackenbury, W. Riding, beat D. Fletcher, Lincoln.

Class "B"—Under 17 years

9st. 7lb.—K. Moses, Durham, beat D. J. Chamberlain, Lincoln F.S.

Class "C"—Under 18 years 3 months

8st. 7lb.—L. Kato, Lincoln, beat D. Nicholson, W. Riding.

The following walked over in the Classes shown:

Class "F"

7st.—J. Kerr, W. Riding. 8st 7lb.—S. Smith, Lincoln. 9st. 7lb.—Appleyard, W. Riding. 10st.—E. McCutcheon, Lincoln.

Winners of "Foresters" Trophy for runners-up—Lincolnshire.

Everyone in the Cadet Force of Lincolnshire wish these boys all success in their forthcoming tournaments.

WINTER TROPHY COMPETITION

This is a new competition which was tried out on December 17th, 1960, and proved most successful. It was a team competition, based on getting as many cadets as possible to take part.

Results were as follows:—

22 Shooting

1st No. 1 Area; 2nd No. 2 Area.

Assault Course

1st No. 2 Area; 2nd No. 3 Area.

Basket Ball

1st No. 1 Area; 2nd No. 2 and No. 3 Areas tied.

Boxing

1st No. 1 Area; 2nd No. 2 Area.

WINNERS OF CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY

No. 1 Area.

Runners-up

No. 2 Area.

Winners of Boxing Trophy

No. 1 Area kindly presented by The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment).

BOXING RESULTS

Class "F"—14 years

Burnett, J. (Metheringham Det.), beat Pearce (Grimsby Det.).

Braithwaite (Barton Det.), beat Burnett, J. (Metheringham Det.).

Burnett, D. (Metheringham Det.), beat Payne Carre's Sch. Det.).

Glover (Scunthorpe Det.), beat Wiffen (Barton Det.).

Smith (Havelock Sch.), beat Green (Barton Det.).

Riggall (Grimsby Det.), beat Trafford (Metheringham Det.).

Tyrrell (Grimsby Det.), beat Barraclough (Carre's Sch. Det.).

Riggall beat Tyrrell (Grimsby Det.).

McCutcheson (Scunthorpe Det.), beat Fletcher (Scunthorpe Det.).

Davey (Havelock Sch. Det.), W.O.

Class "A"—15 years

Diaper (Scunthorpe Det.), W.O.; Wright (Carre's Det.), W.O.

Class "B"—16 years

Pell (No. 1 Lincoln Det.), W.O.

Class "C"—17 years

Kato (Barton Det.), W.O.

The trophy created so much interest that it has been decided to make this an annual event. The trophies were presented to winners by Brig. F. A. H. Ling, D.S.O., the A.F.C., who stated that he had enjoyed the show very much indeed.

LORD LIEUTENANT'S CERTIFICATES

The Lord Lieutenant of the County, The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Ancaster, I.I., T.D., J.P., has awarded Lord Lieutenant's Certificates to the following for outstanding and voluntary service in the Army Cadet Force, and we offer them our congratulations:—

Officers

Capt. Jack Ottley, Headquarters Staff; I.I. Sydney Pearson, Gainsborough Det. (Lincs. A.C.F.).

W.O.s

S.M.I. Ronald William Steeles, Grimsby Det. (Lincs. A.C.F.); S.M.I. Albert Henry Stothard, Brigg Det. (Lincs. A.C.F.).

RETIREMENT

It is with regret that we say goodbye, on his retirement, having reached the age limit, to Capt. Jack Ottlev, who has been employed as A.A.I. for the north of the county for many years.

Capt. Ottlev served in the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment from 1919 to 1947 during which time he was awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, the King George V Coronation Medal, 1939/45 Star, Defence Medal and War Medal.

He was commissioned in 1940 as Quartermaster and was made T/Major in 1944. Capt. Ottley is a most likeable fellow with a good sense of humour and always set a good example to the Cadet Force. SHOOTING

We are pleased to report that the Grimsby Det. (Lincs. A.C.F.) have qualified for the final stage of the *News of the World* competition. We wish them all success in the final.

CADETS GOOD DEED

At Christmas time the Branston Cadets toured the village carol singing and raised money for the old folk of the village. In this they were most successful and a parcel of tea and sugar was delivered to 20 of the old folk in Branston. In each parcel was a Christmas message as follows:—

Branston

At Christmas Time our thoughts grow bold
Then we remember we grow old
Lest we forget, this gift we send
And hope our thoughts will too transcend."

NORTHERN COMMAND FOOTBALL TROPHY

The result of the Army Cadet Force Northern Command football trophy—semi-final, Lincolnshire 1, Northamptonshire 0. On the final Lincolnshire were defeated by County Durham, 5 goals to 1. These matches were played at Harrogate on Sunday, December 4th, 1960.

NEW UNITS

On Tuesday, November 8th, 1960, a new unit was opened at Immingham. The evening opened by displays given by the Cadets followed by refreshments and later by a film show given by Major Clayton.

All prospective cadets were allowed to handle the various weapons, operate wireless sets, telephones, etc. During the evening 12 names were taken and on the first parade following the opening (one week) another 13 were enrolled.

The Officer Commanding the unit is Mr. J. D. Wright, assisted by S.I. I. Briggs. The unit will be affiliated to the 16 (Lincoln) Indep. Coy. The Parachute Regt. (T.A.) and on going to press, they are doing exceedingly well with 30 cadets.

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TRAINING

The .22 shooting occupies a large part of the training programme with weekends at the County Cadet Training Centre also appearing regularly. The Battalion shoots in the N.S.R.A. Midland League and to date have won two and lost two matches, the scores being encouraging. The Battalion also shoots in the County H.Q. Postal League. Cadets Clarke, R., Crane, R., Denny, D., Goodman, L., Jones, K., Prowse, T., Ross, A., and Woolmore, F., were successful at a recent Certificate "A" Board and are now hard at work on a N.C.O.'s cadre.

CORPS OF DRUMS

On Remembrance Sunday the Corps of Drums combined with the Northampton Town Band and headed the Northampton Civic Parade and also provided the five buglers who sounded Last Post and Reveille from the roof of All Saints' Church. In the afternoon, with fifes playing for the first time, the Corps led the Guilsborough British Legion Parade. Buglers were supplied for evensong services at Hollowell, Creton and Guilsborough.

SPORT

Cadets of the unit represented the County in the Command football competition at Harrogate. Play-in very bad conditions they held Lincolnshire to a draw until the last minute of the second-half.

SOCIAL

The annual social evening was held on December 15th and was very well attended. The highlight of the social was films showing our Cadets on the ten-day canoeing trip down the River Wye last July.

GENERAL

In January Cadets Jones and Webster left the unit to join the Army Apprentices' School at Carlisle, the former being the elder son of the unit R.S.M. Their Platoon Sergeant is Sergeant Clifton of the 2nd East Anglian Regiment. Two ex-cadets have just met in Singapore, Cpl. Bamford, R.M.P., and Merchant Seaman Scott who has been almost round the world since he left us. Cpl. Yorke, K.R.R.C., visited us *en route* to Berlin from Northern Ireland. Boy Taylor, Junior Leaders Regiment, spent a few days of his Christmas leave with us and whilst here made inquiries about where the unit will be spending its 1961 camp.

In conclusion I have been asked to express to all concerned the thanks of the officers and adult N.C.O.s for the memorable evening on the occasion of the presentation to Major R. E. Amos, M.B.E.

2nd Cadet Battalion

It is with regret that we have to record the resignation of Major R. G. Smith from command

of the Battalion on October 31st, 1960. Major Smith had served with the Battalion since March 20th, 1942, taking over the Company at Kettering in 1947 and later commanding the Battalion. During his tour as Battalion Commander he was responsible for organising the training for the whole county contingent at our camps at Stiffkey, Folkestone and Cranwich. In these camps Major Smith always took the senior cadets each day on expeditions designed to assist them when they had to do their Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition.

At a dinner attended by all the adults of the Battalion, held in the "Wayfarers", Kettering on November 26th, Major Smith was presented with a wireless set by I. J. Lawman on behalf of the officers and S.M.I.s of the Battalion. S.M.I. Wilson-Benn also presented a cigarette case on behalf of all the members of the Corby platoon. At this same dinner we said "farewell" to Major D. J. Tansley, during past years Major Tansley has indirectly done a lot of good deeds for the Battalion and Capt. P. Hickman was deputed to present a cigarette box to Major Tansley on behalf of the Battalion.

Later in the month at a social evening given by the Kettering Troop and attended by members of T. S. Pytchley, S.C.C. and 1101 Squadron, A.T.C., Cadet Sgt. Plowright presented a plaque to Major Smith to remind him of the time he spent with the Kettering unit.

3rd/4th Cadet Battalion

In October the Battalion open range team were successful in winning the inter-Battalion competition at Brington Range and Cadets Walter and Kerr were first and second respectively in the individual event.

The Corps of Drums, under S.M.I. Firth, and a marching contingent took part in the Armistice-Day Parade and several of the buglers attended dedication services at local parish churches to sound Last Post and Reveille.

On November 23rd the Battalion was visited by the Affiliation Formation Commander, Brig M. C. K. Halford, D.S.O., O.B.E., who was accompanied by Col. J. T. Ennals, M.B.E., County Commandant. On arrival the General Salute was played by the Corps of Drums and bugles. Following the inspection of the parade, the Cadets dispersed for training periods. The Corps of Drums then gave a demonstration of marching and counter-marching and Beat Retreat. They were congratulated on their prowess and turn-out by the Brigadier.

On December 16th, the Cadet's Christmas party was held at Lincoln Road Drill Hall. Guests included representatives of the Sea Cadet Corps, the Air Training Corps and the Girls Training Corps. Mrs. B. Humphrey, widow of the late Capt. H. Humphrey, M.B.E., M.M., kindly officiated at the prize draw which substantially augmented the Battalion fund.

Our efforts are now being turned to the newly-formed county league postal shoots which should do much to stimulate interest and improve marksmanship throughout the Battalion.

It is with regret that we report the resignation of three officers within the county who for many years have devoted considerable time and energy to the A.C.F., Major R. E. Amos, M.B.E., Major R. G. Smith and Major D. J. Tansley.

On December 17th, at a cocktail party at Kettering, the County Commandant presented an antique chest of drawers to Major Amos on behalf of all officers of the county and a tea trolley was presented to him by R.S.M. Jones on behalf of the adult W.O.s and Sergeant instructors. It is pleasing to know that he will still be with us as Cadet Administrative Officer.

At a party held in the Officers' Mess at Peterborough on January 7th, presentations in the form of Regimental cuff links were made to Major Smith and Major Tansley by Major R. M. Hobbs on behalf of all members of the Battalion.

Naming of the Barracks Northampton

We must apologise to our readers for a misprint in our last issue which occurred in an article on naming of the barracks.

The galley-proof when checked by the Editor was quite correct, and the mistake occurred after the proofs had been returned to the printer.

The paragraph should have read:—

"On August 18th 1960 The Barracks in Barrack Road, Northampton, was named Gibraltar Barracks.

The barracks were first used by the Northamptonshire Regiment in 1872. The unit then was known as the Brigade Depot 48th Regimental District and was commanded by a Full Colonel, and not always one who had served in the 48th.

The Depot was staffed by officers and other ranks of the 48th (after 1881 by the Northamptonshire Regiment) and the Northamptonshire and Rutland Militia."

For Sale New Brigade Mess Kit

Mess Jacket and Overalls made by Conway William Ltd. in December 1959. They have been worn only twice and the owner is now disposing of them as he is due for premature retirement under redundancy terms.

Would fit an officer with the following measurements:—

Height—6ft.

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Original cost in 1959 was £46

Anyone who is interested should write to the Regimental Secretary, Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road, Northampton, who will put him in touch with the owner.

Allied Regiments

58th/32nd Infantry Battalion City of Essendon Regiment Australian Military Forces

Owing to a major reorganisation of the Australian Army, the 58th/32nd Infantry Battalion has been disbanded.

The Australian Army is being reorganised on the basis of a "Pentropic" Division. Broadly, this consists of four battle groups (super infantry battalions with supporting arms and services organic) responsible direct to Div. Headquarters. Brigades have been abolished.

4 Inf. Brigade in which the 58th/32nd Battalion served has raised a new Battalion, 1st Battalion Royal Victoria Regiment (1 R.V.R.) which is the senior Battalion of three Australian Divisions. The two regimental Depots of 58th/32nd Battalion have provided "D" and "E" companies of 1 R.V.R., and are entirely officered and manned by former City of Essendon Regiment personnel.

Lt.-Col. K. W. Newton, C.O. of 58th/32nd has become deputy C.O. 1 R.V.R., and five other officers of the Battalion have been selected for posts in the large Battalion H.Q. of the new battle group. In his letter giving this news Lt.-Col. Newton writes (to Brig. J. Lingham late Colonel the Northamptonshire) as follows:—

"In the past we have been honoured indeed to be associated with your Regiment and our affiliation

was to us very real. Now that this affiliation must officially come to an end we express the hope that the association or at least the spirit thereby exemplified and inspired, will endure for the benefit of the Common Cause.

"We are not yet aware what unit affiliations may be selected for 1 R.V.R. but we of the City of Essendon Regiment are hoping that the link with your Regiment may be retained.

"In any event, would you please accept on behalf of yourself and your members, firstly our gratitude for your past interest, secondly an invitation to call at 1 R.V.R. Training Depot, Victoria Street, Melbourne, if ever visiting Australia, where you may be sure to find many former officers of this Regiment who will never forget our association, and finally our very sincere wishes for your good fortune."

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Lincolnshire Wing

LINCOLN BRANCH

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

One of the most important events of the Branch is the occasion on which children of our members are entertained at their annual Christmas party.

Father Christmas, being a rather busy man, it was decided that December 10th was the best day on which he could visit them, and hand out presents to over 60 excited children, and assured himself of the pleasure they gave before his subsequent return on December 25th.

The weather was such that his sleigh was unnecessary—furthermore, all the grass of the playing fields in Sobraon Barracks was so short, his reindeer could not be fed.

The manner of his arrival is a secret—who knows, he may have come from outer space—he is a clever man.

Mothers who were present enjoyed a nice "cuppa" and the children an excellent tea, and when the children were well and truly tired after games and sing-songs, they all went home with their parents, sweets and oranges to relate to dad all the events of a memorable afternoon.

BRANCH CHRISTMAS DRAW

In the past it was the custom for members of the branch to subscribe to the Christmas draw of the Depot Sergeants' Mess. This year with the closure of the Mess, the branch decided to run a draw, without profit, except for the winners of the prizes which were in kind, and gladden the hearts of the prize-winners. The whole of the proceeds, £40, was spent in the purchase of 86 prizes consisting of hampers, wines, spirits, cigars, cigarettes, etc.

It was an occasion when members and their ladies turned up in force and in addition to enjoying the thrill of the draw, were able to join in the spirit of Christmas. As one esteemed member commented its "let your hair down, and feet in the sawdust", known in the real sense of enjoying oneself, and this we all did.

Branch Meetings have been held regularly and fairly well attended, but owing to night work on which many of our members are employed it is difficult to obtain full attendance.

Social Occasions.—Friday and Saturday evenings, lunch time on Sunday (men only) and Sunday evenings are the occasions when our social club is mostly used. The branch is indebted to its

Secretary who acts as mine host, and to the Committee which organises our social events. Mention must also be made of the ladies who in many ways do so much for the branch to ensure "substance", other than liquid refreshment is provided, and our club room at all times presents a homely atmosphere.

Boxing Day—It is good to report the Burton Hunt Meet again being held at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, and after its members had enjoyed a stirrup cup, our own members made it an occasion to meet at the club for a "noggin of ale."

New Year's Eve.—Sixty were present in the club to usher in the New Year in the traditional manner and to express the hope that 1961 would be a memorable year for our Regiment and its Regimental Associations.

Particularly do we wish for our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Sam Goode, better health so that he may be with us to further the efforts of our branch.

Visitors to our branch are most welcome, and it is with pleasure we record a visit paid by Sgt. Snell whilst on leave from B.A.O.R.

Branch Annual Dinner is being held on March 11th when we hope to be honoured by the presence of Brig. R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., President of the Regimental Association and Colonel of the Regiment. A full report will be published in the next edition of THE POACHER.

CHRISTMAS DRAW OF THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Lincoln Branch H.Q. at 8.30 p.m. on December 22nd, had an air of expectancy when the promoter of the draw arrived all smiles, accompanied by Mr. A. G. Kennedy who carried a sealed mattress containing 7,656 counterfoils of tickets all folded to correct size, thanks to the patience of Mrs. Glew, telephonist, Miss Jo Woodcock and Mr. Hickingbotham.

Sgt. "Polly" Perkins of 2nd East Anglian Regiment and Mr. Bill Carr of the R.E. Staff, who served as a Sergeant with the Lincolns in World War I, were quickly deputed to "well and truly" shake the mattress before the drawing of each prize.

Lt.-Col. A. H. Wenham, neatly blindfolded and photographed in the act by the photographer of the *Lincolnshire Echo*, and in the presence of a reporter of the same newspaper, and other "interested" persons, with all power at his command drew out the first prize of £50. More and more shuffling of the mattress and blindfolding prior to the drawing of the second prize of £25, the third of £10 and three more each of £5. The promoter and in particular

the prizewinners are indebted to the following who kindly submitted to being blindfolded and drew the winning tickets: Lt.-Col. Wenham; Capt. W. H. Lewin, Mrs. Lewin, Lt. C. P. Dollery 2nd East Anglian Regiment, his fiancée (who was welcomed by the Branch) and Mrs. "Polly" Perkins.

Prizewinners were as follows:—

1st prize of £50—Mr. J. F. Spears, 3 Napier Street, Lincoln.

2nd prize of £25—Mrs. Roberts, 8 Cornwall Road, Stamford, Lincs.

3rd prize of £10—Mr. Brackley, Willesdon Firehouse, Pound Lane, London, N.W.10.

4th, 5th and 6th prize each of £5—J. Clapton, 6 Radcliffe Road, Stamford, Lincs. Mrs. D. Pymm, 27 Park Avenue, Bushey, Watford. J. W. Thrift, Lumbys Terrace, Water Street, Stamford, Lincs., to whom cheques were sent on December 23rd, in time for Christmas. The balance sheet and list of prize-winners being sent to the Town Clerk of Lincoln and to Secretaries of all Branches of the Regimental Association and Regiment on the same date.

The President of the Regimental Association desires to express his thanks to all those who sold tickets and to those who subscribed to the draw which resulted in a contribution of £72 18s. 0d. to the Benevolent Fund of the Association.

SPALDING BRANCH

The annual meeting and dinner of the Spalding Branch was held in the Drill Hall, Spalding, on Friday, November 4th, 1960, and was well attended.

Business. The following officials were elected for the ensuing year:—

Chairman: Capt. G. Bray; Vice-Chairman: A. R. Reddin; Secretary: A. Waterfall; Committee: Messrs. A. Fletcher, N. Dalton, T. Roberts, H. Shipley, W. Shipley, F. Rains, J. Wilson, N. J. Waterson, H. Grinnell and D. H. Linton.

The Secretary, in his report, mentioned that the branch had had a very good year but hoped they would do even better next year, whilst the Treasurer reported that the branch funds were in a healthy position, even so they could do with the support of more members.

Dinner.—A cordial welcome was extended to the guests, Councillor Richard Freir, Chairman of Spalding Urban District Council and his daughter, and to the Vicar of Bourne, Canon H. P. Lawrence who in World War II was Chaplain to the 6th Bn.

After the loyal toast, Lt.-Col. Hillman W. White proposed the toast of the Regiment also that of our guests.

Councillor Freir, on behalf of the guests, responded, mentioning the close association he had enjoyed with the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment in World War II, and stressed he would follow with great interest the movements of the new Regiment.

As a mark of appreciation and in recognition of his valued services as Branch Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, A. R. Reddin, presented to Capt. Bray a Lincolnshire Regimental car badge. Mr. Reddin, on behalf of the branch expressed the hope that

Capt. Bray would be associated with the Regimental Association for many years to come.

Capt. Bray expressed his thanks, and later during his short address mentioned with regret the passing of their oldest member, R.S.M. Albert Smith, who died on May 19th, aged 87 years. He also mentioned the absence that evening of W. Shipley, due to ill-health and hoped that he would soon be restored to health and among them again.

He concluded his remarks by mentioning the successful reunion of the Association at Skegness, the church parade at Boston and in particular the pleasure they all enjoyed of meeting the President of the Regimental Association, and Colonel of the Regiment, Brig. R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E.

STAMFORD BRANCH

The annual general meeting was held at the British Legion Club, Stamford, on Friday, November 11th, 1960. The Secretary gave a report on the branch activities during 1959-60. Membership of the branch remains steady around the 130 mark. One case of severe illness had been assisted by a grant of £10 from Headquarters, and the branch had provided Christmas gifts and hospital comforts amounting to £9 12s. 0d.

The branch had been represented at the formation parade at Doniford Camp, Watchet, in July, when the Chairman (Mr. S. R. Seamer) and Messrs. N. Bushby and D. H. Trowell made the long journey by road from Stamford. They had been made very welcome and thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

Seven members attended the reunion at Skegness which was a great success and reflected much credit on the Boston Branch which had been responsible for the arrangements.

The annual summer outing during August had been most enjoyable. The programme had included a visit to Greenford for lunch and a conducted tour round London Airport. After high tea at Paddington a coach tour round the City of London followed, and the day's entertainment was concluded by a visit to the Russian State Circus at Wembley.

In conclusion the Secretary thanked the Chairman, committee and members for their continued support, and felt sure he could rely on their co-operation during the coming year.

The officers and committee for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—

Chairman: Mr. S. R. Seamer; Vice-Chairman: Major H. L. Simpson; Treasurer: Mr. T. Gilbert; Auditors: Major H. L. Simpson, Mr. T. W. Boyden; Secretary: Mr. C. W. M. Sylvester; Committee: Messrs. C. Holmes, C. Toon, H. N. Cotterill, P. G. Dowdall, N. Bushby, J. Scotchbrook, A. Warren, H. L. Morley.

STAMFORD BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner was held in the T.A. Drill Hall, Stamford, by the kind permission of the Commanding Officer of the 4/6th Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.).

We were pleased to welcome as guests, Brig. R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., President of the Regimental Association and Colonel of the 2nd East

Anglian Regiment (The Duchess of Gloucester's Own), Lt.-Col. G. M. Sanders, T.D., O.C., 4/6th Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.), Lt.-Col. A. H. Wenham, Major P. H. Segon, M.B.E., Secretary and Treasurer of the Regimental Association, C.S.M. G. Greenaway of the 2nd East Anglian Regiment, a representative of the *Stamford Mercury* and Messrs. H. J. Ashton, A. Watson, Chairman respectively of the Stamford British Legion and British Legion Club.

After dinner we were honoured by the presence of the Mayor of Stamford, Alderman G. C. Swanson, who, owing to a previous engagement, had, to our regret, to decline the invitation to dine with us. We are grateful to Mr. Mayor for all the interest he takes in the activities of the branch.

Pre-dinner drinks and meeting old friends was the forerunner to a well served hot meal which was preceded by the reciting by our Secretary, C. W. M. Sylvester, of the "Ode to the Fallen", after which in silence we remembered those of the branch who had died during the past year.

The meal had reached the coffee stage when our Chairman, Mr. S. R. Seamer, rose to propose the loyal toast; followed by that of the Regiment to which Brig. Oulton responded, giving the latest news of the Battalion, some of whom were engaged on recruiting, some on flood relief work, others potato gathering, in addition to their normal tasks. The emphasis of the Colonel's speech was the need of all members of the Association to consider themselves as recruiters of the Regiment which needs a steady flow of regular soldiers.

He drew attention to the first volume of *THE POACHER* which is the Journal of the Regiment and which everyone agreed was well produced and a credit to the Editor, and he asked that all those present would become subscribers.

All the news of the Regiment was received with the greatest interest and pleasure.

Affiliated to the Regiment is the 4/6th Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.), whose activities during the past year were related by Lt.-Col. Sanders, their C.O., in a speech which followed that of the Colonel of the Regiment. The weekend exercise carried out by the Bn. in conjunction with the 10th Bn. The Parachute Regiment (T.A.) acting as enemy, was of particular interest, as the Regiment is now under command of Lt.-Col. G. C. A. Gilbert, M.C., formerly of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment. What we were not told was: "What happened after the Exercise?" It is safe to assume there was terrific fraternisation with the "enemy". Col. Sanders also gave interesting details of the number of Regular soldiers his Battalion had recruited for the 2nd East Anglian Regiment, and said he hoped for "par exchange", expressing the hope that all those resident in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire on completion of their period of Regular Army Service would serve in the T.A. Battalions where they could be assured of a welcome and a happy time.

Speeches came to an end when in his forthright manner, Major Segon asked for financial support

for the Regimental Association, membership of the new Comrades Association and in particular recruits for the Regiment, appealing particularly to the parents to consider the rates of pay now available and subsequent pension and gratuity.

The dinner over, we were entertained by John Bowyer's Concert Party of Peterborough, and Bernard Carr, magician of Crowland, who kept us highly amused until it was time to conclude a very successful reunion.

Stamford news worthy of mention is that recalled by the Mayor, who after having paid an official visit to the recruiting display of the Regiment when it visited Stamford, returned to his office to discover one of his staff had been recruited for the 2nd East Anglian Regiment.

A promise was given to the Mayor that men of the Regiment resident in Stamford on completion of their Army Service, will report to His Worship who it is hoped will, if need be, find them employment with his firm.

The outcome of the Christmas draw of the Regimental Association was received with the greatest pleasure in that the winners of the prize of £25 and two of £5, had been drawn for those residing in Stamford to whom the money was most acceptable. Members of the branch were pleased to have sold sufficient tickets as would guarantee the first prize of £50.

Northamptonshire Wing

NORTHAMPTON BRANCH

Since our last notes we have had a very busy but pleasant time preparing for the Christmas period. A Christmas draw, held on December 17th, 1960, resulted in some 1,100 tickets of one shilling each being sold and the whole of the proceeds were returned to members in prizes. A dance and social was held on Christmas Eve, a large attendance was present, music being provided by one of our members, F. Foxton and his band, and a very nice time was had. Another social evening was held on New Year's Eve and the occasion was run true to form as the Old Year faded and the New Year approached.

A children's party was held on Saturday, January 7th, 1961, some 50 children attended. Father Christmas was present and each child received a suitable present.

A big thank you for services rendered is extended to our Chairman, the committee, the ladies, who have given much help in the running of the club.

Subscriptions for 1961 are now due, 5s. per member, 1s. for wives. Subscriptions may be forwarded to Secretary, Mr. P. Todd, 40 Northwood Road, Northampton, who will return subscription cards.

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PETERBOROUGH BRANCH

As this is the first publication of 1961, the branch extend New Year greetings to all branches and members.

November 5th last was again a very enjoyable event for members who attended the "bontire" and social evening. Sgt. Clarke and Cpl. Holmes 5th Battalion kindly organised the excellent buffet. The 5th Battalion and branch reunion dinner was held at Peterborough on October 22nd. We were delighted to meet again so many comrades, including three former branch presidents.

December 7th was again the occasion of a social evening and farewell party for Capt. J. B. Akehurst former Adjutant 5th Battalion. We extend a hearty welcome to his successor, Capt. J. K. Parker.

The "Bird-in-Hand" was the meeting point of a group of members at mid-day, December 24th. It was certainly worth "two in the bush."

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery from illness to Mr. J. Berridge. It is pleasing to see W. (Kaffir) Simpson recovered and again in "harness".

We are now looking forward to our visit to the Northampton Branch Club. Which we hope to arrange on the occasion of the soccer match between the "Posh" and the "Cobblers" in February.

We welcome three new members to the branch: W. J. Branker, D.C.M., J. B. Craghill, J. Davey.

We are hoping to see many of our members on future occasions who have not been able to attend recently.

The annual general meeting took place on January 11th.

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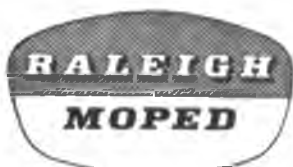
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