

# THE POACHER



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

Vol. 2. No. 8. - June, 1962

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# The POACHER

The JOURNAL of

## The 2nd East Anglian Regiment

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

No. 8

JUNE, 1962

Vol. 2

### CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Editorial ... ..	2
Personalia ... ..	3
Deaths ... ..	4
Obituary ... ..	4
Colour Belts ... ..	6
48th Officers' Burma Dinner ... ..	6
Do You Know? ... ..	6
Return to a Jungle Battlefield ... ..	7
Regimental Association:	
Lincolnshire Wing ... ..	9
Northamptonshire Wing ... ..	10
1st Bn., 2nd East Anglian Regiment ... ..	12
East Anglian Brigade Depot ... ..	20
4th/6th Bn., The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.) ... ..	22
4th/5th Bn., The Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.) ... ..	28
Army Cadet Force:	
Lincolnshire ... ..	31
Northamptonshire ... ..	32



## ===== EDITORIAL =====

### The Colours

On 1st June, 1962, four sets of Colours were trooped for the last time. The ages of these Colours were:—

- 1st/10th Regiment—99 years.
- 2nd/10th Regiment—103 years.
- 48th Regiment—72 years.
- 58th Regiment—102 years.

Seldom can four such sets of Colours with such long service have been trooped before on the same parade.

The Colours of the 58th are the only ones to have been carried in action. They were carried at the Battle of Ulundi in the Zulu War in 1879, and at Laings Nek in 1881. They are the last Colours of any British Regiment to be carried in battle.

At Laings Nek, Lt. L. Baillie fell mortally wounded whilst carrying the Regimental Colour. For endeavouring to save him Lt. A. R. Hill was awarded the Victoria Cross.

All these Colours will now be laid up. The 48th Colour will be placed in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton, on 15th July, 1962. The 1st/10th Colour will be laid up in Lincoln Cathedral on 7th October, and the 58th and 2nd/10th Colours will be handed over to the care of the National Army Museum on loan for display. The ceremony will take place at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, on 17th July.

### Who reads the Journal?

Do you read the Journal? Most people when asked this question say: "Oh yes—of course!" But when asked how they enjoyed certain articles, a far-away look comes in their eyes and they begin to hedge a bit—"Well, perhaps I missed that one, but I know I *meant* to read it."

Most people look through quickly to see if they can find their own names, or the names of people they know in "Personalia", and that is about the end of it.

Are you one who really *does* read the articles? All right, let's see how much you remember:—

- (1) Who were the "Gruesome Twosome"?
- (2) Who went "Flying East"?
- (3) Who was awarded the George Medal?
- (4) Where is the Secret Documents Destruction Unit?
- (5) Who was blacking his boots?

If you can't answer any of the five then you are a "skimmer" or a "quick glancer". Two out of five correct, not bad. Three or more correct, and you do read the Journal—and we hope you like it.

### Handing over the Colours of the 2nd/10th and 58th Regiments to the National Army Museum

The ceremony of handing over the Colours to the National Army Museum will take place at the Museum R.M.A. Sandhurst on 17th July, 1962, at 3.15 p.m.

The Colours will be on loan to the National Army Museum for display.

At the conclusion of the ceremony tea will be available. Spectators will be welcomed, and those intending to be present are asked to inform the Regimental Secretary, Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton, by 10th July in order that the necessary arrangements can be made.

### Yeoman Bed Goer Fred Keightley

Congratulations to Yeoman Bed Goer Fred Keightley on having been invested with the Royal Victorian Medal (silver) by Her Majesty the Queen on the 20th February to make his 35 years' service as a Yeoman of the Guard.

It is of interest to note the title "Yeoman Bed Goer" goes back to the 15th century when "bed goers" and "bed hangers" formed part of the Sovereign's household.

The task of the bed goers was to prepare the bed, get the straw and make up the palliase, while the bed hangers hung the side pieces and made up the bed.

"Jos", as he is known to his friends, joined the Lincolnshire Regiment in 1903 and with it served for nearly 22 years, and in World War I he attained the rank of Regimental Sergeant-Major. In June, 1916, he won the award of the Military Cross and, just before the war ended, was Mentioned in Despatches. In addition to the medals awarded him for that war, he is also the holder of the Silver Jubilee Medal of 1936, the Coronation Medals of 1937 and 1953, World War II Medals, the Meritorious Medal and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

We hope Fred Keightley will be able to join his old comrades at Skegness on 6th October to celebrate the occasion of his recent award.

# Personalia

---

We congratulate Capt. and Mrs. M. A. ARIS on the birth of a son on 28th March, 1962.

Colonel R. P. BAILEY, O.B.E., at present Senior Army Liaison Officer in Canberra, has been appointed Commandant of the Army Apprentices' School, Carlisle, with effect from February, 1963.

Major J. M. BARSTOW has been appointed Training Major 4th/6th Royal Lincolns (T.A.) and takes up the appointment next month.

Major A. P. H. BIRD retires from the Army in August.

We congratulate Lt.-Col. M. A. CHAMBERLAIN, M.B.E., on his promotion to substantive rank.

We congratulate Capt. J. D. CHISHOLM on the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.

Lt.-Col. G. D. COLE is expecting to return to the U.K. from Aden in August.

We congratulate Lt.-Col. G. J. S. COTTON on his promotion to substantive rank.

Capt. C. J. DALE's recent appointment has been changed and he is now due to become G.III (Int.) G.H.Q., F.A.R.E.L.F., this month.

We congratulate Lt. and Mrs. R. J. M. DRUMMOND on the birth of a son on 12th March, 1962.

We offer our congratulations to Major and Mrs. P. H. ERSKINE-TULLOCH on their marriage, which took place in Malaya on 17th March, 1962.

Maj.-Gen. H. ESSAME, C.B.E., D.S.O., had his latest book published on 1st March, "The North West Europe Campaign", by Essame and Belfield, published by Gale and Polden at 7s. 6d.

Capt. A. G. P. EVANS-EVANS is on the staff at H.Q., 2 Division, and not as stated in the last journal. We congratulate him on passing the Staff College examination.

We congratulate Lt. T. I. M. FINCH on his promotion to substantive rank.

We welcome 2/Lts. J. L. FORD and J. RICHARDSON to the Regiment. They are serving with 4th/5th Northhamptons (T.A.).

Major A. D. FRANCIS has been selected to attend a course at the German Staff College which assembles in October.

We congratulate Colonel W. C. FURMINGER, O.B.E., M.C., on being elected Area Chairman of the British Legion (Southern) Ireland. He will be attending the Annual Conference at Scarborough at Whitsun and the re-dedication of Coventry Cathedral on 8th July, 1962.

We congratulate Capt. R. E. J. GERRARD-WRIGHT on passing the Staff College examination.

We congratulate Capts. J. M. HARDWICK and N. AYRTON on their promotions to acting rank.

Major M. R. HASELHURST has been appointed D.A.A. & Q.M.G. at R.M.C.S., Shrivenham, and took up the appointment in April.

Major E. W. KITCHIN, M.C., retires from the Army this month.

We congratulate Lt. and Mrs. R. F. KITCHIN on the birth of a daughter on 29th March, 1962.

Major B. S. LEE completes his tour at Northern Command in August and is due to become G.2 Federal Army Aden.

We congratulate Col. J. T. LEWIS, T.D., D.L., on the award of the 3rd Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.

Major D. F. LONG has returned from Singapore and retires from the Army next month.

We congratulate Major H. D. MARSHALL, M.B.E., T.D., on having been appointed one of Her Majesty's Deputy Lieutenants of Lincolnshire.

We have had news of J. H. McCULLAGH, who served with 1 Northhamptons from 1951-56. He is in business in Sydney and sees something of Major and Mrs. R. W. Whitney. He plans to commence farming in a year or two. He married in March of this year.

Lt.-Col. A. G. R. NOBLE, M.C., has now been appointed G.S.O. 1, C.8, War Office, and took up the appointment on 16th April, 1962.

We congratulate Capt. and Mrs. J. K. PARKER on the birth of a daughter on 13th March, 1962.

We congratulate Capt. W. A. POOL on passing the Staff College examination.

Major R. C. R. ROCHE, M.C., retired on 21st March, 1962.

We congratulate S/Sgt. L. S. SCOTT on the award of the Meritorious Service Medal.

Capt. JOHN TADMAN, who is serving with the Army Air Corps in Malaya, had a flying accident last March and came down in the jungle in Northern Malaya. He was injured and was in the jungle for four days before the rescue party, led by Capt. D. Wilford, also of 2nd East Anglian Regiment, reached him. We understand that Capt. Tadman has now fully recovered from his injuries.

We send him and Mrs. Tadman our best wishes on the birth of their daughter.

Maj.-Gen. C. E. WELBY - EVERARD, C.B., O.B.E., has been appointed General Officer Commanding the Nigerian Army and took up his duties in April.

We congratulate Capt. J. P. WETHERALL and Miss SALLY LEAMAN on their engagement.

We congratulate Major R. W. WHITNEY on passing the Staff College examination and on also gaining an Upper Second in Modern Chinese in the B.A. (Honours) London.

We congratulate Lt. J. B. WINCKLEY on his substantive promotion.

Major B. C. WITHERS, M.B.E., has now settled in Cornwall where he is engaged in market gardening.

## Deaths

### JUDD

On 3rd January, 1962, at his home in Coventry, J. W. Judd, late The Northamptonshire Regiment. He served in the Tirah Campaign and the Boer War.

### BARNES

On 6th January, 1962, at Northampton, Harry William Thomas Barnes, late The Northamptonshire Regiment (27698).

### EFFORD

On 9th February, 1962, at Grimsby, E. H. Efford, late The Lincolnshire Regiment.

### PETTICAN

On 13th February, 1962, at Saltfleet, near Louth, Lincolnshire, Major Wilfred Edward Pettican, late The Northamptonshire Regiment.

### FISK

On 27th February, 1962, at Blythborough, Suffolk, A. (Bob) Fisk, late R.S.M. The Northamptonshire Regiment (4959). Aged 84 years.

### SELLARS

On 10th March, 1962, at Flyford, near Worcester, J. G. Sellars, late 1st Battalion, The Lincolnshire Regiment.

### GOULSON

On 11th March, 1962, in Nigeria, as the result of a car accident, Brigadier Frank Job Goulson, D.S.O., O.B.E., late Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

### CARRIER

At St. Edmund's Hospital, Northampton, on 9th April, 1962, George Henry Carrier (3938), late The Northamptonshire Regiment. Aged 89 years.

### SAVAGE

At his home, 27 Pells Close, Guilsborough, Northampton, on 12th April, 1962, Leslie Savage, late 4th Battalion, The Northamptonshire Regiment. Aged 50 years.

### PARKER

On 18th April, 1962, in his 87th year, Brig.-Gen. Walter Mansel Parker, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., late The Northamptonshire Regiment (1895-1901).

## Obituary

### BRIGADIER FRANK JOB GOULSON, D.S.O., O.B.E.

It is with the deepest regret we record the death of Brigadier Frank Job Goulson at the age of 48 years, as a result of a car accident which occurred on 11th March, 1962, when he was travelling from Enugu to Lagos in Nigeria.

Born at Bassingham, Lincoln, on the 8th June, 1913, he was educated at Spilsby Grammar School and later at Nottingham University with the intention of pursuing a teaching career. His parents moved to Skegness in 1925 and on leaving the University he taught for a short time at Guildford, Twickenham Police Orphanage, and the Orient College, Skegness.

His fine military career began in 1935, when from the Supplementary Reserve of Officers (University candidates), he was commissioned at the age of 22 years into the Lincolnshire Regiment and posted to the 2nd Battalion and with it went to France, was Mentioned in Despatches, and wounded at Dunkirk. After serving first as Staff Captain East Midland Area, then as G.S.O. 3 Leicestershire and Northants Sub Area, he later served as Bde. Major of Inf. Bde. S. Lincs Area until 1942, when he was appointed Bde. Major East Africa. Later he went to Malaya and from thence to Burma in command of a battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment of the R.W.A.F.F. In 1946 he was awarded the D.S.O.

Later he served in Staff Appointments as D.A.Q.M.G. at H.Q., B.A.O.R., D.A.A.G., H.Q. Land Forces West Europe, D.A.A.G., H.Q. A.L.F.C.E., and G.S.O. 2 S.H.A.P.E. In April, 1953, he joined the 1st Bn. as second-in-command, and was appointed to command on 26th October, 1954, and took the battalion to Malaya, where it served with distinction. He was awarded the O.B.E. in 1957.



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Another example of Naafi's Service to the Services.

The following extract from the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment News-letter of October, 1957, will be of particular interest to those who served under him.

"Colonel Goulson's tour of command was one of exceptional variety; there is little in common between the ceremonial of Berlin and the jungle of Malaya, but Colonel Goulson certainly left his mark on both. Whether preparing for a ceremonial guard, or operating in deep jungle, there were very few soldiers who were not aware of his control and close personal interest in these and all other battalion affairs. The battalion's high reputation in Malaya is due in no small way to Colonel Goulson's firm leadership, wise counsel and, above all, to his efforts in successfully co-operating with the many Government and police officers and civilians in Malaya. For these things and many others we shall miss him greatly."

On relinquishing command he was appointed A.A. & Q.M.G. Inf. Div. (T.A.) in the London Area and served from February 1958 to June 1959 when he was posted to the Royal Nigerian Army as a Brigadier commanding the 2 Inf. Bde. Much of his time was spent in the Congo where forces under his command were engaged in assisting the United Nations to restore order.

We mourn the loss of a distinguished officer who was held in the highest esteem by all ranks of the Regiment, and offer our sincere condolences to Mrs. Goulson, his son Robert, now at the R.M.A. Sandhurst, and to Penelope his daughter.

#### R.S.M. ARTHUR FISK

It is with regret that we record the death of Arthur (Bob) Fisk in his 85th year.

He enlisted in The Northamptonshire Regiment on 29th June, 1896, and joined the 2nd Battalion. He served in South Africa from 1899-1904, in Malta and Egypt, and in France until he was wounded, as Company Sergeant-Major of "A" Company on 17th March, 1915, at Neuve Chapelle. He was invalided to England and after further operations and convalescence he joined the 3rd (Militia) Bn. and ended the war as its Regimental Sergeant-Major. He was discharged on 29th November, 1918, as medically unfit for war service owing to his wounds.

On leaving the Regiment he moved to Colchester before finally settling in Blythborough, Suffolk, in 1920.

At the outbreak of the 1939-45 war he tried to rejoin but was refused and had to be content with service in the Local Defence Volunteers, later to become the Home Guard.

R.S.M. A. Fisk was an active member of the Comrades Association of The Northamptonshire Regiment, the South African War Veterans Association and the British Legion.

He was buried on 3rd March, 1962, at Blythborough Church with full British Legion Honours and his medals were buried with him.

We extend our sympathy to his eldest son, Major

A. W. Fisk, Royal Signals, and to all the other members of his family.

#### E. H. EFFORD

Formerly serving in the 5th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.) at Grimsby, he joined the Regular Army and Lincolnshire Regiment as 4798430, Pte. E. H. Efford, on the 9th February, 1928, joining the 1st Battalion at Dover and proceeded with it to Gibraltar, Shanghai and Hong Kong, returning to the U.K., and the 2nd Battalion in 1936, when he was transferred to the Army Reserve. At the outbreak of World War II he was recalled to the Colours, and on 18th July, 1939, joined the 4th Battalion of the Regiment and took part in the Norway campaign. He was subsequently transferred to the Corps of Military Police in December, 1943, and served with them in Northern Ireland until he was released from service in 1946. Soon after his return to civilian life he was involved in a car accident as a result of which his injuries were such that he was completely paralysed from his waist down.

Although severely handicapped he never failed to attend whenever possible the meetings of the Grimsby Branch of the Regimental Association, for which he had great affection and was interested in its affairs until shortly before his death, which occurred at his home on 27th March, 1962. A good soldier, who was also a keen swimmer but above all a sound old comrade, his presence will be sadly missed by all his many friends.

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The following letter was sent to all Regular Officers, serving and retired, by the Colonel of the Regiment:—

"Two Ceremonial Officer Colour belts have been purchased and will be used for the first time when New Colours are presented by our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Gloucester, on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen, on 1st June, 1962.

"I believe most of you who have carried the Colours at one time or another during your service would be glad to have an opportunity of subscribing towards the cost of these Colour belts, £75 each.

"The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess has already financed the purchase of the Drum Major's Sash.

"Any amount you may wish to subscribe towards the cost of the Colour belts should be sent to the Regimental Secretary at Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton, who will acknowledge receipt.

R. H. L. OULTON (Brigadier),  
Colonel 2nd East Anglian Regt."

The total collected to date is £142 11s. 2d. and this has been subscribed by the following Officers: Brigadier J. R. G. Andre, Major W. J. B. Annear, Capt. M. A. Aris, Lt.-Col. J. K. Arthur, Brigadier J. A. W. Ballard, Major J. A. F. Barthorp, Major M. J. Barthorp, Colonel W. D. Barber, Major J. M. Barstow, Major D. Baxter, Capt. (Q.M.) T. Beard, Major A. R. Bourne, Lt.-Col. H. M. Boxer, Lt.-Col. J. V. Brewin, Brigadier G. V. Britten, Major S. P. Briggs, Lt.-Col. M. F. F. Buszard, Lt.-Col. A. St. G. Coldwell, Lt.-Col. G. D. Cole, Major L. C. Crick, Capt. (Q.M.) C. P. Culbert.

Capt. C. J. Dale, Lt.-Col. G. A. C. Danby, Colonel J. C. Denny, Lt.-Col. J. C. Devy, Brigadier N. J. Dickson, Lt. C. P. Dollery, Brigadier C. E. H. Dolphin, Colonel H. N. Drake, Lt. R. J. M. Drum-

mond, Major J. L. M. Dymoke, Lt.-Col. D. B. Elliot, Lt.-Col. J. T. Ennals, Lt.-Col. R. P. S. Erskine-Tulloch, Maj.-Gen. H. Essame, 2/Lt. J. A. G. Everitt, Lt. T. I. M. Finch, Lt. K. G. Ford, Major A. D. Francis, Major C. J. Gardiner, Major R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright, Major J. A. Girdwood, 2/Lt. D. M. F. Goodale, Major R. R. Greaves, Brigadier P. W. P. Green, Major R. C. C. Greener, Maj.-Gen. J. A. A. Griffin, Major J. R. Griffin, Lt.-Col. P. F. A. Growse, Lt.-Col. D. K. Hayman, Lt.-Col. G. Hill-Walker, 2/Lt. J. S. Houchin, Major E. A. E. Howell, Major A. M. Hutchinson, Major E. F. D. Hyde.

Major E. H. Impey, Lt. P. J. Isaacs, 2/Lt. R. H. Jacques, Brigadier W. J. Jervois, Major H. R. Johnston, Lt.-Col. E. W. Kitchen, Lt. R. F. Kitchen, General Sir Harry Knox, Brigadier J. Lingham, Colonel E. P. Lloyd, Capt. C. T. W. Lumby, Lt. E. A. Malpas, Colonel G. V. Martin, 2/Lt. N. T. Mayhew, Major A. D. Middleton, Capt. N. J. Miller, Brigadier R. E. Osborne-Smith, Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, Lt.-Col. O. K. Parker, Capt. J. K. Parker, Capt. C. J. M. Paul, H. W. L. Paul, Lt.-Col. E. L. Percival, Capt. W. K. Pool, Brigadier P. G. C. Preston, Brigadier E. F. O. Richards, Capt. J. P. Richards, Capt. J. Robinette, Major R. C. R. Roche, Capt. A. F. Rogers, Lt.-Col. D. P. C. Roissier.

Major P. H. Segon, Lt. G. T. Sherwell, Major G. E. Shipley, Brig.-Gen. F. G. Spring, Capt. I. Spacie, Major A. Stapleton, Capt. P. H. Surtees, Lt.-Col. A. W. B. Symonds, Brigadier D. E. Taunton, 2/Lt. T. T. Taylor, Major E. Turnill, Lt. J. L. Uzzell, Major J. H. T. Waight, Lt.-Col. C. J. M. Watts, Lt. Col. A. H. Wenham, Lt.-Col. J. R. Wetherall, Capt. J. P. Wetherall, Major R. W. Whitney, Major A. L. Willdridge, Lt. J. B. Winckley, Capt. J. R. Wooddisse, Capt. P. Worthy, 2/Lt. M. S. Wright, Major G. R. Yates, Lt.-Col. F. W. Young, 2/Lt. J. H. T. Young.

## 48th Officers' Burma Dinner

The Annual Dinner of the 48th Regiment's Officers' Dinner Club (1939-45) was held at the Officers' Mess, The Depot, The Royal Pioneer Corps, Simpson Barracks, Northampton, on Saturday, 14th April, 1962, by kind permission of Lt.-Col. E. A. W. Archer and the Officers of the Pioneer Corps. The following attended:—

Brigadier D. E. Taunton, C.B., D.S.O., Lt.-Col. J. R. Britten, M.C., Major H. A. Lees, R.A., Major T. R. Molloy, M.C., Major R. A. Clayton, Major M. S. Hall, Major E. T. P. Gallop, Major K. H. Malby, Major H. Freshwater, Major P. R. Noakes, Major P. F. Keily, M.C., Rev. A. W. H. Cooke, C.F., Capt. G. P. Adnitt, Capt. J. S. Hinks, Capt. A. Spencer, Capt. H. C. G. Harding.

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## ***Return to a Jungle Battlefield***

By LORD SAVILE

who recently revisited the Arakan, where he served with the 14th Army during the Burma Campaign

It is always exciting to revisit the haunts of one's youth and even more so when they are jungle battlefields.

To go to Arakan as a tourist without special facilities calls for some good planning and good luck in Rangoon. By the kindness of Colonel Bo Lwin, the Director of Military Intelligence, and Colonel Saw Myint, the officer in charge of the Frontiers Administration, I was enabled last month to travel freely in Northern Arakan, partly as the guest of the Burma Army.

I could fly to Akyab from Rangoon in a Burmese Dakota as an ordinary tourist. Throughout the two Arakan campaigns of 1943 and 1944 which I was about to relive, we could never get as far south as to capture Akyab either by sea or by land. Here I was now in Akyab by air from the south.

who cooked the tinned food we brought with us. We embarked on the I.W.T. launch at the jetty and sailed up the Mangan Creek to join the broad Mayu River on the first stage of our journey to Buthidaung, a distance of 85 miles which took 11 hours.

### NEAR PAGODA SPUR

Our first stop was at Rathedaung to pick up more passengers and cargo. We disembarked close to Temple Hill and Pagoda Spur, upon which the 10th Lancashire Fusiliers had sat throughout Christmas Day in 1942 in less happy circumstances.

The boat pushed on slowly past Htizwe away to our east and I could well imagine the episode in which Colonel Lowther, the Commanding Officer of the gallant 2nd/1st Punjabis, exhorted his troops, hard-pressed by the Japanese 112th Regi-



**The Arakan in wartime:  
landing-craft move to the  
assault.**

### PLEASANT CONTRAST

It was surprising to find a delightfully fertile and agricultural island with gardens and wild flowers on the trees, and it made a pleasant contrast to the grim jungle of the Mayu Range farther north.

Like everywhere else, the population had greatly increased in the years between and all the bombing and war damage had been made good.

I next set off by water for an expedition northwards, accompanied by an interpreter who was an Arakanese-born Englishman, and also by a Muslim

ment, while sitting in a deck-chair on a prominent hill feature overlooking the village with a mug of tea in his hands.

As the river is rather shallow it was not always possible to keep close to the east bank and we sometimes had to move up creeks to the west. For that reason we could only barely make out the hill feature known as Point 201, south-west of Taungmaw with a mango tree on top which I had attacked with the Lincolns on 28th March, 1943.

Eventually we arrived at the little township of



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Buthidaung as the sun was setting behind the Mayo Range. It was almost impossible to recognise this once most-bombed village in Burma, now a thriving township with a fishing and rice trade and a population numbering thousands rather than hundreds.

Here we were met by Major Ant Kywe of the Burma Army, who drove us in a jeep along the famous 16-mile road via the Tunnels of Maungdaw. This was completely unchanged except that the road had been improved and the dust was worse than ever. Between the two tunnels facing Point 551 the stone memorial to the memory of the 28th Indian Division had been damaged by insurgents when there was trouble in that area a few years ago.

### CLOSE TO FRONTIER

After spending the night in the Government P.W.D. Inspection Bungalow at Maungdaw, the next day was spent in an Army launch where we were taken up the Naaf River close to the East Pakistan frontier passing Nhila and the Teknaf Peninsula to the west, where I had spent the monsoon of 1943.

We reached Bawli Bazaar on the Pruma Chaung and disembarked followed by hundreds of Muslim refugees, who had not seen a white man before but who were quite friendly, if a trifle shy. A large number of the population in Northern Arakan consists of Muslims.

### DERELICT CARRIERS

After one more night at Maungdaw we returned to Buthidaung the following day, where I found in the paddy fields one of the derelict Bren carriers which I had commanded and had to abandon in 1944, as well as a Lee Grant tank of the 25th Dragoons, now dismantled and used by the local children as a playground on moonlit nights. The date, make and serial registration numbers of these vehicles were all clearly visible, in fact undimmed.

I suppose no battlefield in the world has changed less than Arakan. In spite of a monsoon of 200 inches of rain for 18 years! Apart from the lateral all-weather road mentioned, linking the two ports, all the other roads and bridges constructed in the war have long since been dismantled.

This meant it was impossible for me to visit the Ngagedauk Pass and other famous places in Arakan during the time at my disposal. I did, however, find the fortress of Razabil, near Maungdaw, and was still able to climb the hills and get inside the Japanese bunkers, many of which are still intact. We were shown over these by the local cattle boys, who seem to be the only inhabitants who know where they can be found.

### ONE DISAPPOINTMENT

I must record one big disappointment. I was not allowed to visit the Japanese 143rd Regiment's stronghold at Donbaik, eight miles north of Foul Point, at the tip of the Mayu Peninsula, and the key to the 1943 campaign. This would have meant a sea landing and Lieutenant-Commander Thaung Tin of the Burma Navy was not prepared to undertake it in February due to too much surf.

I did, however, reach the village of Aungdaing at the north-west corner of Akyab by canoe and was able to hear from the head man of the village that the Valentine tanks of the 9th Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, converted to 146 Regiment, R.A.C., and other transport wrecked in that great battle were still lying derelict near the beach by the "Shepherd Crook's Chaung". So, Donbaik remained unconquered to the end, either in 1943 or 1962.

Was this pilgrimage worth while? *Tout passe, tout casse et tout lasse*—the ghosts of the past seemed everywhere around, but it is good to know that the rice crop is again cultivated in Arakan, as indeed it has been throughout its long history.



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# Regimental Association

The Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire  
Regimental Association.

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## Lincolnshire Wing

### ANNUAL REUNION, 1962

The Annual Reunion will be held at the Derbyshire Miners' Holiday Centre, Winthorpe Avenue, Skegness, on Saturday, 6th October, 1962.

#### PROGRAMME

- (a) General Committee Meeting 3 p.m.
- (b) Annual General Meeting 4.30 p.m.
- (c) Reunion Dinner 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.  
(Cost of Dinner Ticket 12s. 6d., obtainable from Branch Secretaries or the Hon. General Secretary, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln).
- (d) Cinema Show—A.T.V. film: "History of Regiment.

#### ACCOMMODATION

Chalet accommodation, both single and double, for those desirous of staying overnight can be provided at the Derbyshire Miners' Welfare Holiday Centre—charges 12s. 6d. per person for bed and breakfast.

#### BRANCH SECRETARIES

Are asked to communicate direct with Capt. J. D. Williamson, M.C., J.P., Derbyshire Miners' Welfare Holiday Centre, stating the accommodation they require, i.e. double or single chalets, to be reserved for members and ladies of their branch, giving the names and addresses of those for whom accommodation is required.

*Note.*—Accommodation can also be provided for drivers of coaches remaining in Skegness overnight, but must be reserved and paid for).

#### CARS AND MOTOR COACHES

There is ample parking space for cars and motor coaches at the Derbyshire Miners' Welfare Holiday Centre.

#### EARLY ARRIVALS

Lunch will be provided from 1 p.m. onwards at 4s. 9d. per head for those arriving early at the Holiday Centre. Branch Secretaries are asked to advise Capt. Williamson the names of those requiring lunch on arrival.

#### SNACK BAR

Will be open from 5 p.m. onwards.

#### SUNDAY, 7th OCTOBER

Early lunch can be obtained at the Holiday Centre at 4s. 9d. per head for all those who will be making the journey from Skegness to Lincoln Cathedral.

## LINCOLN AND DISTRICT BRANCH

### SOBRAON DAY, 10th FEBRUARY, 1962

This historic event was this year commemorated by the Branch in the form of a social evening which was held in the Club at Sobraon Barracks. It was very well attended, and it was pleasing to see a few of the old lads have not forgotten this traditional annual celebration; memories—of which there are many—were recalled during the evening. The ladies, to whom we tender our thanks, provided the sandwiches, the bar, the beverages, so what more could one wish for than such an evening spent in the company of old comrades?

Sergeants' Mess members of the 4/6th Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.) very kindly sent us an invitation to their Sobraon Day Ball held at the Old Barracks, Lincoln. This invitation was accepted by one or two of our more energetic members.

#### BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER

The Dinner was held at the Grand Hotel, Lincoln, on the 17th February, 1962; 54 Branch members and their wives sat down to a six-course meal which, we understand, was enjoyed by all. Our guests were the Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., and the Secretary, Lincolnshire Wing, Major P. H. Segon, M.B.E., accompanied by Mrs. Segon. Amongst the members who attended was Brigadier E. F. O. Richards, M.C., D.L., who many will remember from their serving days; he was accompanied by Mrs. Richards.

In his speech the Colonel of the Regiment had a word to say about THE POACHER. He said "he thought it was a good thing if the magazine was not passed round from one friend to another but, that instead of lending, we encouraged others to become subscribers and get their own copy." He also said "That it was worth while when going into certain shops that advertised in THE POACHER stating that they were regular readers."

After the dinner we all continued the evening by proceeding to the Club and had a few drinks and houses of Tombola.

#### VISITS TO GERMANY

Capt. W. H. Lewin (Retd.), our Branch Secretary, and Mr. H. Hughes, Chairman of the Entertainments Committee, represented the Branch at the Presentation of Colours ceremony at Osnabruck on 1st June. We are assured their visit was most memorable and enjoyable. Those of us who were unable to attend will look forward to seeing the film taken of the parade.

### BRANCH SUBSCRIPTIONS

Branch members are requested to note that it has been decided by the Committee subscriptions would be due from all members annually on 1st July, and paid not later than 31st July. This new date has been arranged to assist the Treasurer, and it is hoped all members will co-operate by paying their subscriptions early.

### BRANCH CLUB, THE KEEP, SOBRAON BARRACKS, LINCOLN

The Committee has recently made improvements in the Club to add to the comfort of its members, but it is again repeated that we should welcome more ex-Lincolns to join our Branch and thus keep alive the O.C.A. spirit.

### LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES (OLD COMRADES) BRANCH

The Branch A.G.M. was held at The Union Tavern, 11 Pimlico Road, London, S.W.1, on Saturday, 7th April, 1962.

After having expressed his pleasure in welcoming all present, the Chairman, Lt.-Col. F. W. Young, M.B.E., invited them to stand with him in silence in memory of the six former Branch members: ex-C.Q.M.S. C. A. Alp, ex-Bdsm. F. Jones, ex-Clt. Sgt. W. Hollis, ex-Pte. H. A. Taylor, In-Pensioner T. Henley and ex-C.Q.M.S.A.E. Cook, who had passed on since the previous A.G.M., and also Brigadier F. J. Goulson, D.S.O., O.B.E., who met with a fatal accident in West Africa on 11th March, 1962. The exhortation was duly announced.

The minutes of the previous A.G.M. were then read and, upon the proposal of Mr. C. S. Trowt, seconded by Mr. L. M. Webb, were unanimously agreed to.

Commenting upon his report, the Hon. Secretary assured everyone of the pleasure he had derived from corresponding with so many Old Comrades and of his sincere thanks to all concerned. Major E. D. Malpas thereupon proposed a vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary which met with spontaneous agreement.

The Hon. Treasurer explained the Accounts—copies of which had been handed round—and, after discussion thereon, the proposal of Major E. D. Malpas that the Accounts be accepted, seconded by Mr. G. Setters, was unanimously agreed to.

The Branch Officers, Committee Members and Representatives to the General Committee of the Regimental Association, having expressed their willingness to continue, were re-elected en bloc.

The Branch Annual Dinner which followed really was very enjoyable. Fifty-four were present including Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., Colonel, 2nd East Anglian Regiment; Brig.-Gen. F. G. Spring, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.; Colonel A. W. Innes, O.B.E., M.C.; Lt.-Col. F. W. Young, M.B.E.; Major N. P. Dawnay; Major I. C. Gates, M.B.E., M.C.; Major E. D. Malpas; Capt. W. Scarr and Mr. G. H. Tindall, Hon. Secretary of the London Branch of the Northamptonshire Wing of the Regimental Association.

The unfortunate inability of such "hardy old regulars" as Mr. A. B. Brooks attending was offset by such as Mr. and Mrs. F. Greenwood coming from Leamington Spa, Mr. and Mrs. G. Houlthby and Mr. and Mrs. R. S. W. Martin from Leicester, and Mr. J. Goble from Southsea.

### Northamptonshire Wing

#### NORTHAMPTON BRANCH

Since the last appearance of our notes we have undergone changes concerning the committee. Mr. P. Todd, who has been Secretary for so many years, has resigned and been succeeded as Secretary by Mr. J. Matthews. Our thanks and gratitude must be given to Mr. Todd for the tremendous amount of work he has done for the Club since its formation.

Our Annual Dinner and Dance was again held at The Wedgewood Café Chambers, Abington Street on Friday, 23rd March. Among those 70 members and ladies present were our President, Major W. G. Dipper, and Mrs. Dipper, Lt.-Col. C. J. M. Watts, Major D. Baxter, Major F. Carrington and Major P. F. Keily. After the dinner there was dancing to the music of the Hi-5. Thanks are due to Mr. J. Roberts and Mr. P. Todd for the arrangements, and to the Toastmaster, Mr. J. Woodhouse.

Through the medium of our steward, Mr. J. Burns, and our Social Secretary, Mr. W. McGurk, a skittles and darts match was held against the Sports and Social Club of the Avon Cosmetics.

Our programme for the coming season is not yet complete, but there will certainly be an outing. The most important event of the season is the Annual Reunion of the Comrades' Association, which takes place on 14th and 15th July. This is a feature that many look forward to, renewing old acquaintances and making new friends.

The committee wish to extend a hearty welcome to any past or present members of the Regiment who visit Northampton. They can be sure of a pleasurable and entertaining evening. This invitation also applies to any ex-member visiting the town; there is always a welcome, and after one visit we are sure you would join the Club.

Among the visitors that have come along are Mr. J. Keech (ex-Bdsm.) and party, one of whom gave the piano a good testing.

Our airgun boys were not successful in their first season as members of The Northampton Airgun League, but whispers are going around that a few cups and plaques will adorn the bar next season. Friendly fixtures throughout the summer will take place, and don't forget that practice makes perfection. Any challengers from the other branches?

#### PETERBOROUGH BRANCH

Meetings continue to be held monthly with an average attendance of 15.



Annual Dinner of Northampton Branch

We welcome to Life and Branch membership Mr. R. C. Thurlby of Oundle.

Our wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to all members who are at present indisposed.

Mr. C. Loftus has been selected as our Branch Representative to visit Osnabruck on 1st June.

The annual Reunion will soon be with us again

and we look forward to a very pleasant week-end.

The 4/5th Bn. are spending their annual camp at Barry in Scotland. Here's wishing them a good camp with pleasant weather.

Any members who visit Peterborough please look us up, or drop a line to keep in touch.

H. G. TOMPKINS, Sec.

**2nd/10th  
and  
58th  
Colours**

**If you are going to be present at R.M.A Sandhurst on July 17th at the Handing over of Colours to the National Army Museum for display, please let the Regimental Secretary know not later than July 10th.**



## ***1st Bn. 2nd East Anglian Regt.***

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

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Since the New Year, when our last notes were written, the battalion has in the main been occupied with individual training and, more recently, with the preliminary preparations for the Presentation of new Colours on 1st June.

Individual training as most readers will know can be dull indeed. A series of platoon enterprises, devised and carried out by the platoons themselves, was therefore interspersed during this period, in order to provide interest and a change. The following are accounts of two of them as seen by those taking part.

### *PLATOON ENTERPRISE No. 1*

#### **EXERCISE "WATERWINGS"**

A few days ago No. 1 Platoon of "A" Coy. were battling against a swift current in rubber dinghies amongst a maze of dykes and canals fifty miles north-west of Osnabruck. They were taking part in an initiative exercise to prove their toughness and reliability as soldiers. This is part of the Regiment's winter adventure training scheme, whereby every platoon in the battalion goes off for several days quite independently; they have the whole map of Germany to choose from and have to perform various tasks devised by their platoon commanders.

In the first part of No. 1 Platoon's exercise they were split up into pairs and each pair had to make its way across country by devious routes, which meant a two days' journey. On their way they each had various tasks to carry out. Although these tasks were somewhat unmilitary, they were intended to test the soldier's initiative. For example, L./Cpl. Michael Blanchard, of 11 Kelvin Grove, Corby, Northants, had to find out how many babies were born during 1961 in Stadt Enger, a small town on the North German Plain, and also the height of its church spire. He completed his task successfully in spite of not being able to speak a word of German.

Everyone arrived at his destination, all having successfully completed their tasks. As they were allowed to use any means available on their journey they arrived riding in vehicles ranging from a horse and cart to a luxurious Mercedes Benz. But the hardest part of the exercise was still to come.

The next two days consisted of a journey by rubber dinghy against the current on a small river still swollen after the recent flooding in North Germany. They set off in the early morning in temperatures well below freezing; the early stages proved extremely difficult until the art of handling these flimsy craft, weighed down with equipment, was mastered.

One of the hazards they had to combat was the large pieces of ice floating downstream, the jagged edges of which threatened to sink the dinghies unless deftly warded off by a paddle. The first of the two dinghies sunk by these miniature icebergs was that crewed by Pte. Peter Keeble, of 139 Sidegate Lane, Ipswich, who soon found out why the exercise had been given the code word of "Waterwings"! As their dinghy rapidly disappeared from beneath them they reached the safety of the bank damp but in good spirits.

The others battled on against the current, but Cpl. Albert Green of Peterborough used his ingenuity and halved the work of paddling. He took advantage of the strong easterly wind and rigged up a sail made out of one of his blankets, which was a great success; he will almost certainly qualify as a helmsman in the battalion sailing club this year!

The voyage was successfully completed without further incident, and at the end of the second day the tired crews hauled their dinghies out of the water, set up camp, and crawled gratefully into their sleeping bags, to get a good night's sleep before the final day of the exercise.

On the last day they had to find their way back to barracks in the fastest possible time without using any roads. For this stage of the exercise the platoon was divided into two groups, each commanded by a Corporal. The first group to arrive home was that commanded by Cpl. Hubert Atherton of Yaxley, near Peterborough. He followed the Mittelland Canal and managed to get a lift on a large freight barge, which brought his group along the canal to within a few miles of Osnabruck.

Taken all in all, the men of No. 1 Platoon covered a considerable amount of land and water, and exercise "Waterwings" was a great success.



The G.O.C., 2 Div.,  
inspecting the  
Battalion Quarter  
Guard

"Exercise Water Wings"  
A section of 1 Platoon,  
"A" Coy.



General Butler, G.O.C.  
2 Div., talking to  
L/Cpl. Baines in the  
Corporals' Mess



## PLATOON ENTERPRISE No. 2

## THE THOUSAND MILE TREK

One thousand miles in seventy hours! That is the claim of Cpl. Richards and Pte. Goff of 9 Platoon, "C" Coy. The exercise in which they took part and put up this very creditable performance was designed to test the initiative and endurance of the men of 9 Platoon.

The story began at midnight on Wednesday, 7th March, when twelve men of 9 Platoon set out from Osnabruck in a three-ton lorry bound for a dropping zone near Frankfurt. This was reached by 8 a.m. on Thursday morning.

One blanket, one day's rations, and 5 Deutchmarks per man was all they had, together with instructions to keep a rendezvous with an agent three hundred miles away in a hut in the Alps by midnight on Saturday.

Within nine hours Cpl. Richards and Pte. Goff had reached the rendezvous and gained the information for which they had come so far. Now came the return journey—all seven hundred miles of it! Owing to "enemy patrol activity" the men were directed to Schongan, some eighty-five miles away, where they were to await the arrival of their complete section, and then as sections to proceed by assault boat eight miles down river, abandon the boat and make their way back to Osnabruck.

Meanwhile, in the Alps, the rest of the platoon was making its way up to the rendezvous—five thousand feet above sea level, and four exhausting kms. from the nearest civilization. The weather had changed and by now every step meant sinking up to the knees in thawing snow, at least during the daytime. Those who attempted the journey by night found the going easier, but in some ways very much more alarming!

By 10 a.m. on Saturday all twelve men had contacted the agent in the mountain hut and were on their way to the next rendezvous at Schongan. Ptes. Robinson and Holmes did not find this stage too amusing, as on the Sunday night they were arrested by the German civil police and spent a very worrying night trying to convince the authorities that they were neither French Army deserters nor thugs on the run from Frankfurt! However, on Monday morning they were released from the cells of Immenstadt Police Station and allowed to proceed. The twelve hours lost in the cells were nevertheless important, as on arrival at Schongan on Tuesday afternoon they found that all the others who had reached the meeting place before them had left by boat on the down river stage of the exercise. Robinson and Holmes found themselves with over six hundred miles to cover with no money and no food! Thanks to our food-loving American Allies they survived and finally reached Osnabruck two days later.

The remainder of the party had successfully reached Schongan. Although one or two were almost on all fours, they were all eager to press on. The trip down river was far from plain sailing—three fifteen foot-high dams had to be negotiated en route, together with a short stretch of rapids!

It is no mean feat for two men to lift an assault boat out of the water, drag it up a river bank and past a dam, and then to lower it fifteen feet into the water again, but this is what Cpl. Richards and Pte. Goff had to do when the other men in their section failed to arrive at Schongan in time!

By midnight on Wednesday, 14th March, all the twelve men who had started out seven days before were back in camp at Osnabruck. They had covered a journey of a thousand miles in various ways: by luxurious Mercedes Benz; by bitterly cold U.S. Army transport; and more often than not by just plain cold and weary footslogging in the middle of absolutely nowhere in the early hours of a freezing morning.

The one question asked by these twelve men on arrival at Osnabruck was: "When can we do it again?"

\* \* \*

*And here is an account of Enterprise No. 2 as seen by their American hosts:—*

HEADQUARTERS 4TH ARMOR GROUP  
A.P.O. 757 U.S. FORCES

## News Release

4th Amor Group Hosts British Soldiers.

It was a cold and blustery day here in Frankfurt with a blanket of snow, as four bearded, tired and courageous privates of Coy. "C", 2nd East Anglian Regiment (Infantry), British Forces in Osnabruck, Germany, approached headquarters 4th Amor Group, and asked if they might be "bedded down" for the night.

They were given a big "Welcome to the 4th Amor Group" by the Group Sgt.-Maj. Joseph A. Venable, and arrangements made to feed and bed them for the night with the Hq & Hq Co.

The Soldiers, Privates Cyril Hill, Trevor Jarrad, Brian Robinson and Michael Holmes arrived here on their way "home", after a trek of over 1,000 kilometers from Osnabruck in Northern Germany to Tiefenbach, near the Swiss border and back to here. They were participating in an endurance test, required by the British Forces as a necessary part of their training. The men are given one day's rations and 5 D.M. as they depart home station, and required to make the round trip to the Swiss border and back as best they can, which includes evading the German Alpine troops in that beautiful string of mountains in Southern Germany, the Alps. The course is designed to test individual stamina and endurance under some of the most adverse conditions, especially this time of year. The test is very similar to the U.S. Army Evasion and Escape programme, but on a larger scale. Their test covers a total distance of about 1,800 kilometers, and they are sent out in groups of 3, 4 or 5 men each.

During the test they may obtain food, lodging and transportation by whatever means available to them, ethically and legally. However, if they should be "captured" during any of the exploits, or at any



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Detachments at Rushden (T.A. Centre). Corby (hut). Kettering (T.A. Centre). Irthlingborough (hut)  
**3/4 Bn. A.C.F. H.Q. PETERBOROUGH (Lincoln Road). Three detachments**  
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## THE POACHER



THE *Link*

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—*The Courier*, December 9th, 1825

"Whereas George Haseltine of the 'International Patent Office', Southampton Buildings, London, Doctor of Laws, hath by his Petition humbly represented unto Us that he is in possession of an Invention for 'An improved combined scoop and sifter' which the Petitioner believes will be of great public utility that the said Invention has been communicated to him from abroad by Joseph Baker of Trenton, Canada, Gentleman, and that the same is not in use by any other person or persons to the best of his knowledge and belief."

—*Patent No. 2289, July 1874*

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other time, they "fail" and are often required to begin the course all over again.

After a good night's sleep, chow, and a visit with several members of the 4th Amor Group, the men departed this headquarters the following morning to continue their trek to their home station, Osnabrück, Germany. They were bid a fond "farewell" by the Group Commander, Colonel D. M. McMains, and the Sgt.-Maj. Joseph A. Venable as they left aboard a truck furnished for their transportation to the Autobahn, where they would again set out afoot.

The Englanders expressed their sincere gratitude for the hospitality shown them by the personnel of the 4th Amor Group, and commented that they would be glad to return sometime, of course, under different conditions, and the Group extended a "Welcome anytime".

\* \* \*

*As an alternative to "Enterprises", some have been ski-ing, as the following article shows.*

#### POACHERS ON SKIS

At this is our first winter in Germany, a country where skis are a fairly common mode of transport in winter for part of the population, we decided that the 1st Battalion should enter for the Divisional Novices' Downhill and Slalom ski competition.

This competition was held at Winterburg from 1st to 6th February. Ski-ing is an exciting sport with certain elements of risk attached, and a prospective team of six was selected from the many volunteers, of which four would finally take part.

It was arranged with the 1st German Mountain Division that we should stay and be trained at the German Army Ski School at Mittenwald, a small town about two miles north of the Austro-German border due north of Innsbruck.

The original date of departure was 29th December, but as this coincided with an unexpectedly large influx of recruits to the ski school, the date had to be postponed until new lodgings could be found for us. One of the competition rules was that none of the entrants should have skied before 1st November, 1961, so for all of us this was a new experience. Accommodation was eventually found in the attic of a small guest house, three miles from the town, set right in the mountains and surrounded by the best ski-ing slopes. The conditions made were that we should take and cook our own food and pay a comparatively small sum for board.

On 4th January the team eventually took off by train complete with bags, skis and a month's supply of food; this proved no easy matter to transfer from platform to platform during the many changes needed to reach our destination. The members of the team were 2/Lt. J. S. Houchin, L/Cpl. K. Atkin from 362 Cleethorpe Road, Grimsby, Pte. F. Burgess from 3 Greenway, Billericay, Essex, Pte. L. Short, from 12 Albany Road, Skegness, Lincolnshire, Pte. D. Scarratt, from 27 Wellingborough Road, Broughton, Northants, and Pte. L. R. Horne, an ex-seaman from 113 Gorseway, Romford, Essex.

These made up a team of many shapes and sizes and varying temperaments, but one of the things we had in common was a liking for a glass of beer.

Our instructor was a German Army Corporal, who to start with spoke not a word of English. This proved difficult at times but we soon made up for the lack of a common language by hand-waving, gesticulation and a great deal of hair-tearing. Richard, the instructor, made it his job to learn as much English as possible, and each night took home a list of words to learn. Consequently towards the end of the stay his instructions became much more voluble, and happily for all concerned, comprehensible.

The first thing we had to do was to get fit; this was achieved mainly by long walks up and down mountains, which involved seemingly endless climbing and only too few descents. Once this was over, however, progress was fairly rapid. As the days passed and we learnt to control our skis instead of being carried away willy-nilly, our confidence grew. Some of the steeper slopes became feasible, as did also the chance of an accident, and that the latter never occurred was the greatest cause for wonder in the entire trip.

After two weeks we reached a stage when progress appeared to come to a grinding halt, and all skis seemed unco-operative. Eventually this period passed, and even some of the more ungainly in the party started to get the idea. Unfortunately, at this point, the end of the training period came upon us, and it was with many regrets that we finally packed our bags and headed for home.

An account of this part of the trip would be incomplete without a mention of the friendliness of the local people, both civil and military. Especially we would like to thank the owner of the guest house and his family, who went out of their way to help us.

After our return we spent two days recuperating with the battalion and then set out for Winterburg and the competition. Having no guide to the standard reached by the other entrants, we were somewhat apprehensive. Fortunately a few inches of snow fell the day of our arrival at Winterburg, but even so during the first two practice days there was barely enough to ski on. The last night before the Downhill competitions took place another slight fall saved the situation, and everyone heaved a sigh of relief.

Soon after the event started it became clear that the result would be very close, and excitement mounted. As the final results were announced and the loudspeakers echoed across the snow we were overjoyed to hear that we had managed to come 4th, and we looked forward eagerly to doing even better in the Slalom event.

Unfortunately a thaw set in the following night and we rose in the morning to find only a thin sprinkling of snow left on the ground. Much to our disappointment this led to the cancellation of the Slalom event, and so the competition came to an end.

We returned to the battalion feeling that we had

learnt something and enjoyed ourselves at the same time, and we hope to put our newly-gained experience to good use in next year's competition, when the battalion intends to do better still.

\* \* \*

### GENERAL

Individual training was fully tested on 12 Infantry Brigade Groups' exercise "Last Straw" when a team of twenty officers, N.C.O.s and men from each Coy. picked by the Brigade Commander himself from Coy. nominal rolls, took part in a "one and a half-day event" during which they carried out the following: a nuclear quiz (the whole team), a forced march, a first aid competition, a .22 shoot and an obstacle course (fourteen of the team), a night map-reading exercise (one N.C.O. and five) and an observation test (one N.C.O. and one man). There was also an M.T. event (two N.C.O.s and ten). This whole competition was truly a test of training, and being up against "old hands" in the Brigade Group, like 1 L.F., we count ourselves lucky to have come 2nd among the major units.

On 6th March we received our first visit from our new Divisional Commander. It was cold and frosty, with several inches of snow on the ground, when at 11 o'clock Major-General M. A. H. Butler, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., drove in through the camp gates. After talking to the Commanding Officer, he went on to "B" Coy. where he was met by the Company Commander, Major G. E. Shipley. In "B" Coy. he was interested to meet C/Sgt. Roberts, who had served with 1 Para. Div. at Arnhem. He then broke away from the official programme and walked round "B" Coy.'s accommodation chatting to the soldiers. He asked several of the men what their opinion was of service in Germany; most of the replies were favourable, although a couple said they preferred a warmer climate.

The General then visited the cookhouse and talked to the cooks and the dining room Orderlies. He watched the meal in preparation, and commented on its variety and on the cleanliness of the kitchen, adding that he wished he had time to stay for the midday meal. General Butler then went to the Corporals' Mess where he was met by the President, R.S.M. Baylis, and the Mess Caterer, L/Cpl. Baines. He went round admiring the decorations and the "one-armed bandit", and praised the Corporals when he learnt that all the work had been done by them in their own time.

The General then went to the M.T. section, where he saw a motor-cycle cadre in training under the M.T.O., Capt. T. W. Beard. From there he went on to the Sergeants' Mess, where he signed the visitors' book and was shown round by the P.M.C., B.S.M. Adams. General Butler complimented him on the superb decorations and the display of silver. When he learnt that this room was also decorated by the members of the Mess in their "spare time", he asked what else the battalion did!

Finally about an hour and a half after he had arrived, General Butler left the camp, having seen and spoken to a great number of the battalion in a very short time.

In April, in spite of cold weather, we held a most successful battalion rifle meeting, won by "C" Coy. in a close struggle with "B" Coy., who gained 1st place in three of the five inter-Coy. matches. The officers, to everyone's surprise, beat the Sergeants in the Officers' v. Sergeants' match, while "C" Coy. also won the falling plate match.

This was followed by a battalion and a Brigade Group signal exercise lasting two to three days each, after which we paused for the Easter break.

### OFFICERS' MESS

To be busy both militarily and socially is an occupational disease in B.A.O.R., and although there was a pause for breath after the "Christmas rush", the social pace has been as well maintained as the military.

We had two Guest Nights in January. The guests at the first one were Brigadier Man, our Brigade Commander, to whom we were saying a rather premature good-bye (he leaves us in early May) and our near neighbours the Corps Engineer Regiment. The second one was held during the visit of 6 J.S.S.C. Students who were staying with us for a few days whilst on a tour of B.A.O.R. Capt. Leach, R.N., one of the students who, during the evening heard of a logistical problem in connection with the difficulties of getting snuff in B.A.O.R., very kindly sent us a considerable quantity on his return to England.

At the beginning of February we had the first of what is to be a series of Sunday curry lunch parties. The two held so far have proved very popular and are an ideal way of entertaining the entire age bracket, six to sixty, with either salad on curry, orange squash or larder stuff—an excellent prelude to a lazy Sunday afternoon. It is hoped to have one a month, but the programme is so full later in the summer that military activities will probably preclude social ones of this nature.

In the middle of February we took the opportunity during the fleeting visit of Colonel Henley, Officer i/c Records, Exeter, to have another Guest Night. In addition to Colonel Henley we asked Colonel Walker, Commanding the Engineer Group and the Commanding Officer and 5 Officers of the Corps Engineer Regiment, our other near neighbours in the Garrison. We had every sympathy for Colonel Henley, who must have been wine and dined to excess during his lightning tour of B.A.O.R., but these visiting firemen are made of stern stuff. Having dined with the 60th Rifles in Berlin on Wednesday night, he drove the 260 miles from Berlin to Osnabruck on Thursday, understandably got lost in the maze of one-way streets, "umleitungen", and scattered barracks in Osnabruck, finally homed onto Major Greener's house (the C.O. was away) at 8.45 p.m. and appeared fresh and immaculately dressed for dinner at 9 p.m.

During the last week in February we put up a large number of officers from out of station who were attending a Brigade Group study period in Osnabruck. This was another excuse for a party,

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and on the second night of the exercise we had 80 officers and their wives to a buffet supper. Having been given the benefit of a lively start on the other side of the Mess lawn with the 16/5th Lancers, and the cooks having excelled themselves, the party was a great success. Colin Gardiner was in particularly good form when asked to give his solution to the problem the following morning.

At the end of the study period, General Butler, our new Divisional Commander, came to lunch in the Mess for the first time and met all the officers. We were delighted to hear that the Colonel of the Regiment was to visit the Bn. in early April. In view of the short notice and time and space problem we decided that it was only practicable to ask local officers and ex-officers of the Regiment to come to a "family" Guest Night. Due to various exercises on at the time we were unfortunately only able to muster Lt.-Col. Growse and Major Yates as guests, but we had a delightful evening and the lobster thermidor was particularly good. When the P.M.C. dies, the name Jacques mounted on a lobster d'or rampant will be found in the usual place.

On leaving the Bn. after his tour as 2 i/c, Major Chambers presented a much needed and splendid letter-rack to the Mess. It is a really excellent piece of craftsmanship and will soon be in position.

We were delighted to have Teddy Turnill, who is at the German Staff College, to stay for a week-end recently and would like all officers and ex-officers of the Regiment to know that there is plenty of room in the Mess for anybody who is in the area and who would like to come for a night or two to reminisce and to lay the ground for further reminiscences in the years to come.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

By way of a change we will look at our nominal roll at the beginning of our notes instead of its usual place at the tail-end. Promotionwise we are able to congratulate the following members on attaining the newly achieved rank, as shown here:—

W.O.2 Wolfe, C/Sgts. McColgan and Peacock, Sgts. Crawshaw and Coles from the Corporals' Mess; we welcome S/Sgt. Smith R.P.A.C. (who has promised to keep an eye on our account!) also Sgt. Evans of 1 E. Anglian. Maintaining the balance we regrettably lose old familiar names, the owners of which have invariably given good service, namely S.Q.M.S. Littleton, R.A.P.C. (to H.Q., B.A.O.R.), Sgt. Tony Parnham (engagement of 8 years completed) and Sgt. Poole (taking up a new appointment at Student Bandmaster at R.M.S.M.). The first named was the recipient of two regimental plaques to remind him that his work with his two Inf. Bns. was greatly appreciated. At a "Stag Night" to see him off, he was overheard to say: "Well, I'll make sure I'm the last to leave the Mess tonight!" This remark received the attention as might be expected on such an occasion, and we noted with much humour the rate at which "farewell drinks" were passed in his direction. He was *not* able to achieve his earlier boast!

The aforementioned "Stag Night" revealed the presence of a fine male voice choir in the Mess. The groups around the piano put any L.P. record to shame, and as for variety, well anything selected between "Land of Hope and Glory" and a certain "Queen from Wogland" could be included! Our valiant and tireless pianist was Sgt. Towers (formerly known to many as "Brigadier" Smith!).

Our January Dinner Night on the 27th was, of course, reserved for the second of our "Annual Ladies' Guest Nights" to which all members were able to bring their ladies. Under space conditions which were more favourable than the previous ones at Watchet, we set out to enjoy a splendid dinner and social evening. Assembling for drinks at 8 p.m., the ladies received a small corsage and were able to inspect the detail of the prepared dining table before it was brought into use. To the accompaniment of the Regimental Band we assembled for what proved to be a first-class meal, prepared under the eyes of our able A.C.C. members, who are so generous with their talents on these occasions. The potency of the wine provided its own amusing effects, and after the three formal toasts the health of "The Ladies" was appropriately proposed by our currently most eligible bachelor, C.S.M. George Veitch! One might say he literally rose to the occasion and delivered a long and well-prepared speech, which had not been sabotaged previously by the R.S.M. as on the first Ladies' Dinner Night. Over eighty members and their wives were seated to this candle-lit meal served by a very smart Mess Staff and Drummers dressed in scarlet and livery.

On 14th February we took the opportunity to dine out Major Chambers who, whilst acting 2 i/c, was also our Officer i/c Mess. We have much cause to be grateful for all the assistance and encouragement he has given us whilst fulfilling this latter appointment and as a token of our true appreciation he was persuaded to accept a silver table lighter to remind him of our close and valued association. It was with much pleasure, too, that at this Dinner the gavel and block presented to the Mess previously by Major Chambers, was struck with firm intention for the first time! Seated on that occasion, too, was our Q.M., Capt. C. P. Culbert, and M.T.O., Capt. T. W. Beard, and in addition W.O.2 Ludford of 16/5th Lancers' Band.

It was another homely atmosphere when on 28th March we dined in our new Officer i/c Mess, Major R. C. C. Greener, along with Majors Shipley, Gardiner, Gerrard-Wright and Miller, the current Coy. Comds.

We must congratulate B.S.M. Adams, C/Sgts. Wood and Roberts, Sgts. Ashworth, Knight and Poole on being awarded their Bn. hockey colours. The Mess has been fortunate enough to have the same team throughout, namely C/Sgt. McColgan and Sgts. Simpson, Chapman, Denton and Shailes, in addition to the individuals mentioned previously.

We have been delighted to find that Sunday "Curry Tiffins" have been re-established by popular request. They are usually put on about every third



Sunday and a real family air prevails with children present, too. This relieves dad of that Sunday afternoon chore of helping with the washing-up! The first effect was rather shattering as some 70 attended, but the numbers have now settled to average between 50-60 and our excellent Cpl. Roberts, A.C.C., assisted by Pte. Mitchell, A.C.C., cope extremely well by producing good results from the kitchen.

And so now the attention of one and all turns to 1st June, 1962, and already many firm plans are emerging and old associations promise to be renewed. Whilst coping with the detailed planning and mountains of work connected with the preparation, those of us at present serving feel to the full the privilege and honour that has befallen us, to be the actors at this unique moment of Army history. We look forward to being the hosts of all those members, past and present, who are able to join us on this memorable occasion.

### *3rd OSNABRUCK SCOUT GROUP*

On 14th November, 1961, nine lads between the ages of 8 and 11 arrived full of enthusiasm at Mercer Barracks to attend the first meeting of the Wolf Cub Pack of the Regiment's own scout group. There are now 22 members of the pack, and new faces are seen almost weekly. Meetings start each Wednesday at 1730 hours with the Grand Howl and then follows a programme of games, yarns and instruction in Scout craft. On Thursdays worried parents request assistance with the reef knot after their sons have caught them out at home.

Keeping up with the boys' thirst for knowledge is no easy task, and to combat this, courses are run for Scoutmasters at various centres in B.A.O.R. on similar lines to those in U.K.

At the time of writing the Cubs are busy preparing for "Bob-a-Job" week, the one time of the year when they ask to be paid for their good turns. There will, no doubt, be fierce competition to see who can earn the most for their group funds.

Responsible for the creative interest within the unit, full honours are earned by Sgt. (Tiffy) Greenstreet, R.E.M.E., and he has been ably assisted by I./Cpl. Mitchell, R.A.P.C.

### *THE INTER-COMPANY DRILL COMPETITION, 1962*

The inter-Coy. Drill Competition is held annually and is the final event in the champion Coy. competition.

This year, however, there was a difference as it had been decided that the winning Coy. would act as the No. 1 Guard and Escort to the Colours on the Presentation of Colours Parade on 1st June. This added incentive to the competition and a healthy competitive spirit was created between "A", "B", "C" and H.Q. Coys. taking part. Each guard consisted of 48 R. and F. Guides and three officers, one of whom was the Coy. Guard Commander. The draw for position took place the day before the competition, and each Coy. was consequently

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**BARRACK ROAD**

numbered 1 to 4. The competition was divided into two phases, an inspection phase and a drill phase.

The inspection phase was done entirely separately from the drill phase and was judged by the Adjutant and R.S.M. of the Lancashire Fusiliers.

After the Coy. had been inspected it marched from the M.T. Square to the entrance of the Bn. Square where it waited until it was called on by the judges, the Adjutant of the South Wales Borderers and the R.S.M. of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

Each Coy. marched on to the music of the Regimental Band and carried out the first part of the drill phase under the C.S.M. This consisted of marching both in slow and quick time, turning on the march, changing step, and finally a number of arms drill movements.

After this the C.S.M. handed the Coy. over to the Officer who ordered the officers to draw swords and then marched on.

In the next part of the competition the Coy. formed two ranks and thus became a guard. The guard now marched forward as if acting as Escort to the Colours and carried out a "troop".

Finally the guard re-formed three ranks and marched past in slow time, finishing the competition with an advance in review order.

It was a glorious day and all Coys. entered into the spirit of the competition and enjoyed themselves tremendously, and all the judges remarked on the high standard of drill and turnout.

Brigadier P. H. Man, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., our Brigade Commander, paid his farewell visit to the battalion during the competition, watched two of the guards and presented the drill cup to Lt. K. G. Ford, commanding the H.Q. Coy. Guard, who won the competition. The marks were extremely close as can be seen from the score sheet.

Coy.	Insp. Phase (Max. 70)	Drill Phase (Max. 200)	Total (Max. 270)	Position
H.Q.	63.5	158	221.5	1
"B"	56.5	145	201.5	2
"C"	51.1	150	201.1	3
"A"	48.4	136	184.4	4

# 1st BATTALION DRILL COMPETITION



1—Marching On. 2—The Inspections. 3—"Escort to the Columns—Present Arms." 4—March Past in slow time.

# East Anglian Brigade Depot

## OFFICERS' MESS

Christmas activities were as usual most successful. We had a large cocktail party on 15th December, when about 200 people came, it being a better night than 1960, hence the larger numbers. There was much discussion about whether we could seat everybody in the dining room for the Christmas dinner, and finally we sat down 47 people, wives and girl friends included. Mrs. Watts excelled herself in the cooking line, and it was voted a great success. Afterwards Fred Turnbull again organised racing, which was most popular. This year the Subalterns organised a dinner and dance to which they kindly invited all married officers.

There seems to have been a tremendous turn-round of officers. Firstly Colonel Noble has departed, to whom we wish every good fortune in the future. He took a great interest in the Mess, and it is largely due to his efforts that the Mess is financially sound. We welcome in his place Colonel Palmer; Chris Dale has also departed and so has Brian Gunton, who has been invalided out; Norman Miller, too, has left us, so has Stewart Rowsell, Bill Kitchin and Ernie Morgan. To all of them we say good-bye and best wishes for the future. John Hutchings is relieving Chris Dale as Adjutant, and Mark Adkin has taken over from Norman Miller. Martin Lewis is with us again, and Peter Philcox has relieved Ernie Morgan; Charles Trollope coming as his 2 i/c. Harold Halcrow and Willie Reeve have also joined us. Welcome to them all.

We have 7 officers living in at the moment, and that has been about the average number. Our military Mess Staff have nearly all left us and those who are with us now will soon depart, leaving us with a civilian staff.

Our future looks brighter on the financial side as regiments of the brigade are contributing to our funds. For this we say "thank you very much".

The Mess has again joined the Flempton Golf Club and has also subscribed as Mess members to the Newmarket Race Club.

We have sent invitations to a good many retired officers to become Hon. Members, and we trust that they will make full use of the Mess.

## DEPOT SERGEANTS' MESS

Since our last notes were published many changes have taken place.

Among those who have gone to face the rigours of "Civvy Street" are the following:—

R.Q.M.S. Jim Clough, 1 East Anglian; C/Sgt. George Bedford, 2 East Anglian; C/Sgt. Jan Kochenek, Sgts. Jim Maslem, Busty Day and Bill Keily, all 3 East Anglian.

To all of these we wish the best of luck for their future ventures.

Changes have been made among the Permanent Staff also. W.O.1 Ted Smith, 1 East Anglian, has taken over the Chief Clerk's chair from O.R.Q.M.S. Bill Maltman, 3 East Anglian, the latter departing to civilian life. C.S.M. Ray Pond has left the C.S.M.'s chair in H.Q. Coy. to fill the one vacated by R.Q.M.S. Clough. Our congratulations to R.Q.M.S. Pond on his new appointment.

C.S.M. John Denny has returned to his Regiment, 1 East Anglian, after his tour as C.S.M. Training Company. C.S.M. Ted Holden has taken his place and is, we gather, enjoying his new job. C.S.M. Ron Simmonds, 3 East Anglian, has taken over the intricacies of H.Q. Coy. and stopped using nicotine both at the same time, which is no mean feat.

We tender our hearty congratulations to W.O.2 Harry Ward on his award of the M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List. Well done, Harry! Congratulations also to C.S.M. and Mrs. Holden on the birth of a son; to S/Sgt. and Mrs. Fell, a daughter; and to Sgt. and Mrs. Law, a son.

Bandmaster Pearson, 3 East Anglian, who has just returned from the British Military Mission, Libya, is with us at present awaiting release.

Finally, we would like to extend an invitation to all members of the Messes of the Brigade to visit us whenever they are in the vicinity.

## TRAINING COMPANY

Comings and goings amongst the Permanent Staff have been high, with the departure and replacement of many who have been with the Brigade Depot since its formation.

Major Lywood (1 E. Anglian) left for Warminster in October with his stable of noisy cars. Major Morgan came from 1 East Anglian to sit in the chair temporarily, and soon handed over to Major Philcox (3 E. Anglian). Major Morgan is now sunning himself in British Guiana.

C.S.M. Denny (1 E. Anglian) has left for the 1st East Anglian Regiment, and C.S.M. Holden (1 E. Anglian) has taken his place. C.S.M. Denny's ability with a .22 rifle is badly missed.

The turnover of Trg. N.C.O.s is considerable; some have come for short stays whilst the rest have finished their N.S. and returned to their regiments. No less than 16 in all. Arrivals total 9. With so large a list it is not possible to mention all the names.

Sgt. Hetherington (3 E. Anglian) is to be congratulated on his promotion from Corporal.

C/Sgt. Ledger (2 E. Anglian) has asked me to squash the rumours that the fire in his Stores was



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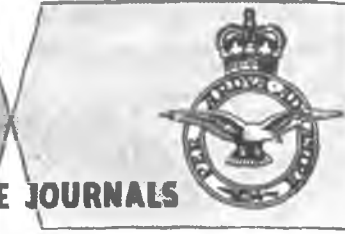
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to cover deficiencies on the Company Commander's hand-over. He points out that it was one day too late, and only consumed the 1157s, P1954s and 1033s with the rest of the contents of his desk.

Capt. Trollope (1 E. Anglian) has joined the Depot on loan from 1 East Anglian, and is acting as 2 i/c and W.T.O.

2/Lts. Halcrow (2 E. Anglian) and Reeve (1 E. Anglian) have also arrived and are filling the breaches left by Lts. Rowsell (1 E. Anglian) and Bates (3 E. Anglian). Lt. Rowsell is in Sierra Leone and Lt. Bates has gone to the Junior Soldiers' Wing, though he is shortly to become Assistant Adjutant.

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## OUR ADVERTISERS

When communicating with advertisers whose firms appear in this issue, would readers very kindly mention "THE POACHER"

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## Brigade Weekend 20/21 July

At Depot The East Anglian Brigade  
Bury St. Edmunds

The Brigade Week-end is being held on Friday and Saturday, 20th and 21st July, 1962, at the Brigade Depot, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

### EVENTS

#### FRIDAY, 20TH JULY

- (a) Brigade Ball in the Athenaeum, Bury St. Edmunds, by subscription.
- (b) Brigade Golf Meeting at Flempton Golf Club.

#### SATURDAY, 21ST JULY

- (a) Beat Retreat by combined bands of 1st East Anglian Regiment and Junior Soldiers' Wing of the Brigade Depot, followed by Officers' Mess cocktail party.
- (b) Golf match—Brigade v. Flempton Golf Club.
- (c) During the morning the Brigade Depot will be open for those who wish to look around. Further details will be circulated.

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## Territorial Army



### **4th/6th Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regt. (T.A).**

#### *GENERAL*

##### *Change of Command*

The War Office has recently announced that Major A. J. Bennett, M.B.E., at present battalion 2 i/c is to take over command of the battalion from Lt.-Col. G. M. Sanders, T.D., on 30th September, 1962. We all congratulate him and hope that he will enjoy a long and happy tenure of command. Major J. M. Barstow has now been nominated as Training Major to relieve Major A. D. Francis in August.

We congratulate Major H. D. Marshall, M.B.E., T.D., D.L., on his appointment as a Deputy Lieutenant of Lincolnshire.

##### *Change of Bandmasters*

The 4th/5th Battalion, The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.) have recently bade a regretful farewell to their Bandmaster, Mr. Bob Inger, who is retiring after nearly 30 years' service with both the Regular and Territorial battalions of the Regiment.

Bandmaster R. D. Inger joined the 1st Lincolnshire Regiment as a band boy in 1933 and served with the Band in China and India until after the second world war when he left the Regular Army. Soon after the T.A. was restarted he joined the Band of the 4th/6th Royal Lincolns and took over the appointment of Bandmaster in 1952.

Mr. Inger was Bandmaster when the Band played at the guard of honour for H.M. The Queen on the occasion of her visit to Lincoln in 1958, and he was presented to Her Majesty at Lincoln Castle in June, 1958. He was awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for Meritorious Service in the T.A. in 1958.

Mr. Inger has been relieved by Bandmaster J. E. Ingall. After 20 years' service with the Band of the Royal Ulster Rifles and a Bandmaster's course at the Royal Military School of Music, Mr. Ingall served for four years as Bandmaster of the 6th King's African Rifles until he retired from the Regular Army in 1958. The 4th/6th R. Lincolns bid him a hearty welcome to the Terriers and are sure he will be a worthy successor to Mr. Inger.

#### *OFFICERS' MESS*

Despite the difficulties of heating the Mess, it has been used frequently for our social occasions during the winter months. We have held two Mess gatherings in addition to a Company Commanders' conference and an Officers' Evening. As an experiment,

we held one gathering on a Saturday evening. This break from tradition met with the approval of our members and we shall continue this practice in the future. We welcome to the Mess Allen Hamilton, who has joined the unit as our Paymaster, and shortly, the P.M.C. hopes, he will be the proud possessor of the Mess accounts. Our thanks are due to Peter Merrikin for the gift of a silver cigar-cutter, on promotion. The capabilities of the weapon were well tested by our members on the Officers' Evening. We look forward to a full programme of Mess events culminating with camp at Scarborough in July. Mac has been on his "Q" recce and reports favourably on our accommodation, which is mainly brick and which will make a pleasant change from a leaky marquee.

#### *SERGEANTS' MESS*

The principal event of the last quarter was the Sobraon Ball held on Saturday, 10th February, 1962, at the Old Barracks, when we had the pleasure of welcoming Maj.-Gen. and Mrs. Welby-Everard, Brigadier M. J. D'A. Blackman, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. G. M. Sanders, and all officers of the battalion and their ladies. We were also pleased to see Sgt. Ashworth, on leave from the 1st Bn. Sgt. Platts made a farewell appearance before leaving for Germany to rejoin the 1st Bn. We extend our best wishes to him and Mrs. Platts. The evening was a great success due to the support and co-operation of all Mess members, many of whom travelled some fifty miles to attend.

#### *FIT TO FIGHT AFTER ENDURANCE TEST*

The 4th/6th Bn., Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.) planned a tough but reasonable adventure training exercise for the week-end 2nd-4th March. Continuous heavy snow throughout Friday night, however, and low temperatures during Saturday night turned the exercise into an extremely severe endurance test.

About 30 volunteers from all over the county dropped in small groups of 3 or 4 men in the Ollerton area of Sherwood Forest about 11 p.m. on Friday night. All the N.C.O.s were deliberately assigned to N.C.O. parties so that groups of private soldiers would be able to show how much confidence they had gained from their normal T.A. training. The exercise story was that they were prisoners of war following a number of "underground" escape routes organised by members of the

## ADVENTURE TRAINING

4th/6th BATTALION, ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)



1—Carrying the boats to the launching position. 2—A cold and un hospitable thicket, on the site of an old rubbish tip. 3—Boat opening point, left to right, Ptes. Milne, A., Farr, Milne, K., and Kirton, all of "D" Coy. 4—Boat opening point, left to right, Sgt. Rainsforth and Sgt. Hiles, D.S.M. ("D" Coy) and Pte. Edgeley ("A" Coy.)



local Maquis. Each group had to find and report to agents waiting for them who were to give them their instructions for the next "leg". There was no question of missing any agent because until each group reached the final agent in their series, they had no idea of where they would finish up that night. The escaping soldiers were given no orders other than the location of the first friendly agent on their route. They had to do their own planning as to what they could carry. All they knew was that they had to move by night until they were well clear of the Trent on their way to Lincoln. Heavy packs containing escape kit, blankets, small cookers and food for 48 hours would have moderated their marching speed in any case, but as it turned out, the continuous blizzard made it difficult for them to cover more than two miles in the hour. After a circuitous journey through the forest, the groups filtered on to Ossington Airfield just before dawn on Saturday and hid in a derelict building near there.

After a hard day's work at their various civilian jobs, they had marched some 15 to 18 miles, often knee-deep in soft snow. Some of them had been forced off their route in the early part of their march when they were fired on by "enemy" machine guns, yet they found their friendly agents, despite the fact that some of the agents were hidden in the most inaccessible parts of the forest. Their map-reading skill was such that they were able to find and use tracks quite obliterated by the deep snow.

They reached shelter on the airfield very cold and wet and tired.

In no time at all, fires were crackling in the middle of five of the rooms in the derelict building. The smoke went out of the windows and door spaces and was quickly dispersed in the wood. Soon an appetising cooking smell mingled with the acrid smoke as each group cooked their breakfast over their fires or on small portable cookers. Not much more than an hour later there was an absolute silence broken only by an occasional snore as the tired soldiers fell into an exhausted sleep under the protective watch of an equally weary sentry, who had to stand up to keep awake.

About dusk on Saturday, the Maquis, in the shape of the exercise directing staff, again made contact. The groups were instructed to send a man to knock on the door of a nearby farmhouse, ask for Luciane and give the password (an Italian immigrant living in the neighbourhood had agreed to co-operate on the exercise). Despite his limited command of English and the soldiers' meagre knowledge of Italian, it was clear that Luciane had learned his part quite well, because all of the groups of escapers found their second rendezvous with no difficulty.

The second night's marching was child's play compared with the first. The overall distance was about the same but there were four more hours of darkness available due to an earlier start. On the other hand, feet were still sore from the previous night's effort and there was a bitterly cold north-east wind. The final rendezvous was in a small wood near Fenton on the Lincoln side of the

Trent. First to reach it were C.S.M. Morriss, L/Cpl. Bleck and Pte. Bogg of Lincoln, and the final group came in at about 3 a.m. Then the whole party donned lifejackets and set to work in the dark pumping up three rubber dinghies. This was a difficult task because fingers were numb with cold and all the valves tried their perverse best to resist efforts to unscrew and tighten. Inevitably one of the pumps came to pieces and scattered springs and washers in the freezing slush. Also there was a slow puncture in one of the dinghies and this had to be repaired. Then after a short march to the Hardwick ferry site, the first glimmers of light in a hopefully bright dawn saw the party, now reinforced by all the friendly agents, paddling across the Foss Dyke canal to reach a rendezvous near the chapel at Hardwick, where the larger assault boats had been hidden.

The assault boats were launched just before noon and the whole party set out to paddle to the Brayford Pool in Lincoln. Spirits were high and a race soon developed, but alas, the elements had not yet delivered their final blow. As they rounded a bend in the canal the boats struck ice, for here the wind had not been blowing on the surface as it had been on the first stretch of the canal and ice about a quarter of an inch thick had formed. The men in the bows were appointed ice-breakers and they did their best with their paddles. But it was of no avail, and the ice soon started to rent the canvas of the boats. When it was clear that more men would have to bale than were available to paddle, the boats were reluctantly beached for repair. Repairs completed, a short portage to avoid the ice was made with the aid of a lorry and there was a second launching, this time with patched and leaking boats. The weather had still not done its worst, for even now there was another short snowstorm. Nevertheless, the party succeeded in paddling into the Brayford only about a quarter of an hour late at just after 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon.

After the men had been debriefed and paid, Lt.-Col. G. M. Sanders, T.D., the Commanding Officer, summed up the exercise. He said that he was proud of the guts and determination of the men who had taken part. The fact that they were still fighting fit after such a test of endurance reflected great credit on them, particularly as they had all done a normal day's work at their civilian jobs immediately before the exercise began. They had had an adventurous and tough week-end which they could remember with pride when stories of good exercises of the past were recounted and they had shown clearly what members of a well trained Reserve Army were capable of. The Territorial Army offered a lot of such adventure and he hoped it would encourage their friends to join the battalion and take part in this training.

Among those who took part in the exercise were: Cpl. Davies of Morton, near Bourne; Cpl. Banister of Bourne; Pte. Edgeley of Ryhall, near Stamford; Ptes. Patrick and Gooderson of Billingham, near Sleaford; Sgt. Hiles, D.S.M.; Sgt. Rainsforth; Ptes. A. Milne, K. Milne, Farr, Kirton

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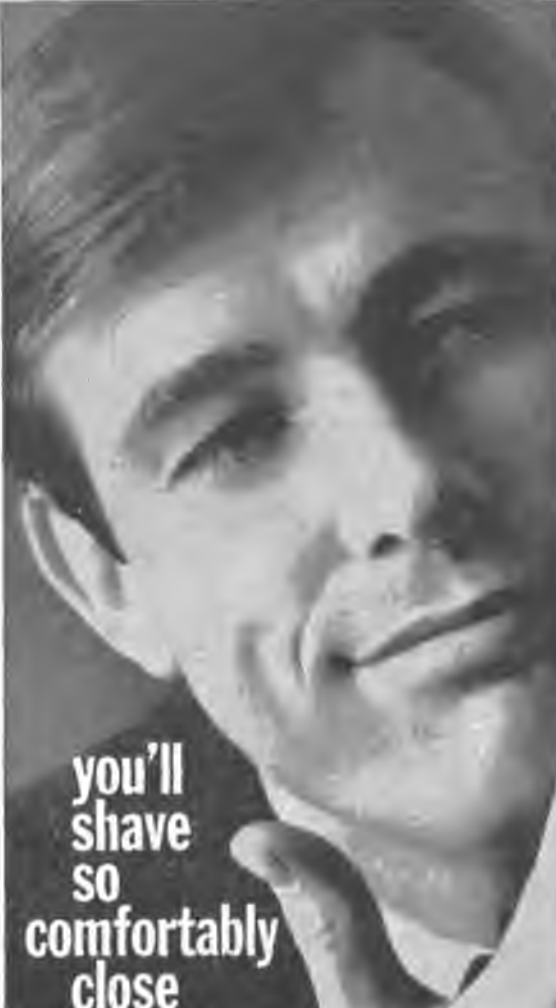
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#### "A" COMPANY

During the last quarter we have concentrated most of our energy on getting all our number through annual classification. For once we were lucky with the weather and had two most enjoyable Sundays on the Oundle School Range. Many of us had rather scoffed at the new range course, and were quite surprised to discover that it was not as easy as it looked, particularly for L/Cpl. Richardson, who was faced with doing the run-down on crutches. We also enjoyed two joint classification week-ends with "B" Company, which promoted a fair amount of inter-Company rivalry and which finished with marksmanship honours fairly evenly shared. Generally, the results of annual classification were encouraging, but a certain amount of alarm must be felt in Officers' Mess circles on L/Cpl. Joyce's achievement of his Marksman's Badge. To conclude, we are very pleased to welcome Ptes. Ellis and Davis to the Company, and hope that we shall be able to welcome many more before the next issue.

#### "B" COMPANY

The Christmas festivities included the annual dinners of the Horncastle and Sleaford detachments and the annual children's party at Boston. At the Sleaford dinner, C/Sgt. Hodgson was presented with a parting gift from the Sleaford detachment. He also attended a gathering at Boston at which he was presented with a clock subscribed to by all ranks of the Company. These presentations illustrate the respect in which the C/Sgt. is held.

We congratulate C/Sgt. Carter on his promotion to fill the vacancy.

Recruiting has been maintained, but we hope that the attractive Scarborough posters will produce a "flood" of recruits before annual camp in July.

The principal training of the Company has been the completion of the annual range courses. We have had two Company week-ends at Beckingham in fair weather, and the general standard of shooting has shown improvement. We hope that this augurs well for our prospects in the battalion rifle meeting in June.

#### "C" COMPANY

We start by welcoming into the T.A. and especially into our Company six new members, namely Ptes. Bailey, Clarke, McEwan, Griffiths, Gooch and Mills. We hope that they will enjoy the T.A. and that they will stay with us for many years.

Secondly, we must congratulate Cpl. Bradbury on his promotion. One of the keenest members of the Company, he spends a great deal of his spare time with the T.A. and well deserves his new rank.

During the first quarter of 1962 we have tried to concentrate on preparations for the coming summer, and with this in mind, range work has been well

to the fore. The Hallington weather has not been kind but we have managed to get through a great deal of shooting and most of the members of the Company have now fired their annual range course. On the last visit to Hallington one of our recruits, Pte. McEwan, was bitten by a dog on the way to the drill hall. All thoughts of hydrophobia were soon forgotten, however, and the resultant crop of bulls and inners was most encouraging.

Proteus week-end camp again featured on the Company programme, and the Company turned up in force. Training in the snow was much enjoyed and all benefited from it. C.S.M. Cressey, finding time between obligations on training, was just as ruthless on the social side. He produced many ideas and ever more possible dates for functions. All members of the Company enjoyed the social functions and were pleased to see so many members from other units in the town. We now hear that C.S.M. Cressey is going to attend a week's course with the Scots Guards. This will at least give us some relief from the social whirl!

#### "D" COMPANY

We have prised a 3-in. mortar from unwilling hands in the battalion and, under the guidance of L/Cpl. Altoft (ex-Support Company 1st Battalion), two detachments are now happily training at Scunthorpe. At a recent week-end at Beckingham, they had the opportunity of firing alongside other detachments from the battalion and acquitted themselves well.

During March the Company .22 shooting team consisting of Lt. B. Dixon, C.S.M. R. Ingall, Sgt. Hiles, D.S.M., Sgt. Rainsforth, Cpl. Walmsley, Pte. Jackson, A., Pte. McKinnon and Pte. Anderson fired their competition cards for the first round of the T.A. national small bore shooting competition, and we now learn that we are to have the honour of representing Lincolnshire in the next stage of the competition, to be fired before the end of April. Also during March a Junior Leaders' and Senior Soldiers' Week-end was held, the first stage of which consisted of a full night's patrolling and raiding, rounded off by mess-tin cooking early on the Saturday morning. During the same week-end a map-reading exercise and the firing of the less usual Sten practices and the 9 mm. pistol added interest.

Recently "D" Company was chosen to represent the battalion's troops on the ground at a Civil Defence Week-end held in the Sheffield area. After only a short period of retraining they were able to acquit themselves remarkably well in extricating a number of casualties from a variety of difficult situations in a disused factory in Barnsley. Every man worked extremely hard and it is clear that this, our secondary role, is worth further training time in view of the interest it creates.

We welcome to the Company the following who have joined us since January: 2/Lt. Gleadell, Ptes. Towriss, Bell, Moore, Smith, Green, Summers, Nunn, H., Nunn, I., Hancock, and Jee. Already



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they have shown that they will be a real asset to us and, like the rest of the Company, are looking forward to camp at Scarborough in July.

Lastly, it is a great pleasure to us to see our ex-Company Commander, Major H. D. Marshall, M.B.E., T.D., D.L., from time to time when he calls round to have a "jar" with us, and we have every hope that he will keep in touch with us during the years to come.

#### *H.Q. COMPANY*

We welcome to the Company Ptes. Bogg, Christopher, Fletcher, Riches, Hackney, A., Holloway, Barton, Armstrong, Holmes, K., Stewart, Goodyer, and J/Pte. Chapman, and bid farewell to Pte. Elsom, who has joined the East Anglian Brigade; to Pte. Toyne, who has joined the Royal Engineers; and to Sgt. W. Esberger, who has retired on medical grounds. We are particularly sorry to lose Sgt. Esberger. He has served in the battalion for over 20 years and was until recently C.S.M. of H.Q. Coy. We thank all the members who have left us for the good work they have done for us. We congratulate Ptes. Gregory and Broddle on promotion to Lance-Corporal.

On the training side, the Company has been active on the range at Hallington and Beckingham, qualifying on the range courses. The Assault Pioneers have been active blowing down trees and various old airfield installations. Three members of the Company distinguished themselves on the first adventure training week-end in early March: C.S.M. Morriss, L./Cpl. Bleck and Pte. Bogg, who completed a very gruelling course in the shortest time. Ptes. Wrenn, Beale, and Pte. Milne of "D" Coy. also completed the course with only a little help from the directing staff. Prior to setting off on the week-end, C.S.M. Lowery persuaded a B.B.C. TV film unit, who were in Lincoln covering the Election, to film a short sequence which was shown on B.B.C. programme "Points North" the following week. The filming took place in Broadgate and showed members of the Company preparing for the adventure training week-end.

The Band have been active most week-ends under the baton of Bandmaster Ingall preparing for a full programme of summer engagements. We would like to thank C/Sgt. Moffett for acting as Caretaker Bandmaster for six months, and welcome Bandmaster Ingall, who took over in February.

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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.

Your Regimental Association was formed for the purpose of maintaining the Comradeship you enjoyed when serving; and to give you assistance to obtain employment in Civilian Life, and, if the need arises—financial assistance.

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## Territorial Army



### **4th/5th Battalion**

### **The Northamptonshire Regt. (T.A.)**

The Annual Administrative Inspection by the Brigade Commander, Brigadier M. J. D'A. Blackman, O.B.E., M.C., took place on Saturday and Sunday, 3rd and 4th February.

Starting at London Road on Saturday morning, the Brigadier inspected Bn. H.Q., Q.M., and M.T. departments. In the afternoon he visited Lincoln Road and H.Q. Coy., and then on to "D" Coy. at Huntingdon, where excellent light refreshments were produced by Mr. Saunders, the Caretaker.

The Sunday morning programme consisted of visiting the Signal Cadre at Oundle, "C" Coy. at Rushden and Wellingborough and finished up at Northampton for a four-course lunch all prepared and cooked by "A" Coy. cooks. After lunch the Brigadier inspected "A" Coy. and then went over to Corby where once again the Coy. cooks had been hard at work.

The Officers entertained their wives, fiancées and girl friends to a Dinner/Dance on the 10th February. The dinner was held in the lecture room, the dining room being too small to hold the 34 people who sat down to a typical Regimental Guest Night meal. After dinner there was a dance in the Mess dining room when went on to the small hours of the morning, when an early breakfast of soup and bacon and eggs was produced. By the bar sheet and the time of departure it would appear that all had enjoyed themselves, and the evening can be classified as a success.

With pre-inspections and the Administration Inspection behind us the focus of training has been on firing the annual range course. Most Companies have now finished and the results look encouraging. The courses this year are of the "fire and movement" variety as fired by the Regular Army.

Recruiting has taken a sudden spurt and the Battalion has probably more young men with no previous service than at any time since 1939.

The Battalion took part in 148 Infantry Brigade Group exercise "Spring Fever" in mid-April. It was bitterly cold and most of the 2,000 who took part will certainly agree that the exercise was aptly named. The Battalion was able to exercise two rifle Companies of reasonable strength, a mortar section, the full Command Post and Signal structure and the cooks and drivers of "A" and "B" Echelons.

Our next main event is Annual Camp in Scot-

### **Annual Regimental Reunion**

The Annual Regimental Reunion of the 4th/5th Battalion, The Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.) will be held at London Road T.A. Centre, Peterborough, on Saturday, 27th October, 1962.

land, and with Scotland's victory at Hampden Park, the morale of "B" Coy. at Corby is at its highest.

The Band held a very successful Dinner and Dance in the Ballroom of the Angel Hotel. The Bandmaster was pleased at the venue as last year's dinner was held in the Drill Hall and most of the work fell on him. The guests at the dinner were Lt.-Col. and Mrs. G. A. C. Danby, Major and Mrs. F. G. Barber, C/Sgt. and Mrs. Ellis, C/Sgt. Ellis is the regular driver for the Band vehicle when they are playing away.

The summer season is upon us and the Band and Corps of Drums are practising hard for the Retreats, Dinner Nights at Camp and finally for the Brigade Band Competition in the latter half of the year.

We have to record with regret that Major Harry Pallash and Capt. Philip Grimes have retired from the Battalion. Major Pallash joined the Regiment in April, 1947, and was the Mortar Sergeant in Sp. Coy. He held this appointment till April, 1950, when he was commissioned. He has always been in Sp. Coy. and took over command of the Company in February, 1956. It is the age limit which has stopped this run of loyal service which he has given to the Regiment. Capt. Grimes came to us from 350 (Robin Hood Forsters) Light Regiment R.A. (T.A.) in April, 1960, and was posted to "D" Company as Coy. 2 i/c. As an ex-Mortar man he has been able to pass on valuable information to the Mortar Section in "D" Coy. and also to those in "B" Coy. The gunner blood never really left Capt. Grimes, and he has now been posted to the T.A.R.O. (R.A.)—the emphasis on the R.A. The reason for him having to leave was his business, village and family commitments. We hope that Major Pallash and Capt Grimes have enjoyed their tours with the Battalion and we hope very much that we shall see them at our Regimental functions.

4th/5th BATTALION, THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)



The Band Dinner



The Administrative Inspection



These and other departures have and will necessitate several changes in officer appointments. Capt. D. Hooton now commands "C" Coy. (Wellingborough) with 2/Lt. G. C. Willey his detachment commander at Rushden. Major J. W. H. Green is temporarily carrying out the duties of training officer. Capt. Strickland is taking over "D" Coy. from Major H. Pallash at Huntingdon, and Major J. Boe from Major F. G. Barber at Peterborough.

We extend a welcome to 2/Lt. J. L. Ford and 2/Lt. J. Richardson, who have recently joined us. The former has transferred from the 5/8 Forresters and is now with "D" Coy. 2/Lt. John Richardson has just been commissioned and is due to do his two weeks course at Mons and will be posted to "A" Coy. Congratulations are sent to John Hardwick and Nick Ayrton on their promotions to Captain.

C.S.M. Groves has left the Battalion (and "A" Coy) and is now installed in Osnabruck. In his place we welcome (at last) C.S.M. George, who has returned recently from 3rd East Anglian in Malaya. Sgt. Dixon is to be congratulated on his promotion to substantive Colour Sergeant. He is due to leave for Germany in August.

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

For details see page 2 of cover

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## **ANNUAL REUNION**

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# Army Cadet Force

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## Lincolnshire

### CADETS OFF TO GERMANY

A party of one officer and eight cadets from the Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force left Lincoln Central Station on the 6th April, 1962, to visit the East Anglian Regiment at Osnabruck, Germany.

Only eight vacancies were allotted and a system of elimination had to be adopted and the lucky ones were Sgt. John Murray, Sgt. Graham Wright, Cpl. Leigh, C.S.M. Williams (of Carre's Grammar School Det.), C.S.M. Samuel Keay, Sgt. Peter Spyvee (of Havelock School Det.), Sgt. Trevor Richmond and C.S.M. Barrington (of No. 1 Lincoln Det.), and in charge of the party was Lt. B. E. Crawshaw of Carre's Grammar School Det.

They were in Osnabruck for nine days, during which time they saw demonstrations of all the latest weapons, wireless equipment and vehicles, and were taken on visits to various places of interest.

### THE NORTHERN COMMAND CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1962

In the Northern Command Cross-Country Championships held at Strensall, Yorks, on Sunday, 8th April, 1962, the A.C.F. senior team were 2nd to West Riding with two points dividing them. In the junior event Lincolnshire were again 2nd to

Derbyshire with five points dividing them. Cpl. A. Parker, Lincolnshire, was the winner in the individual senior event. We were rather unfortunate in this event as three of our best runners were at that time on a visit to the Regiment in Germany.

### SWIMMING

The "Firth" swimming trophy, which will be presented to the unit having the greatest number of swimmers who have passed the test, is creating a lot of interest and at the moment there are 78 cadets who have qualified this year.

It is hoped that by the end of the Cadet Year—31st July—there will be at least 180-200 cadets with their Certificates.

### AWARDS

Congratulations to Major J. B. Dailey, who is O.C. 3rd Cdt. Bn., Lincolnshire A.C.F., on being awarded a Certificate of Good Service in the New Year's Honours List, 1962.

### CHANGE OF COMMAND

Major R. G. Morley assumes command of the 1st Cdt. Bn., Lincolnshire A.C.F., vice Major R. A. S. Gimson, M.C., T.D., J.P. retired.

2/Lt M. J. Allard assumes command of the Market Rasen Det. w.e.f. 1st April, 1962, vice Major R. G. Morley.



Lincolnshire Cadets leave for Germany

**"HELP YOURSELF"**

Mr. Stamford, commanding the Waltham Detachment A.C.F. believes in "going out and getting" for his unit. He is holding whist drives, parents' evenings, jumble sales, etc., with a view to raising money for the Welfare Fund and is doing quite well.

The cadets all take part in these efforts and the parents and business people in the village help by giving prizes. We wish Mr. Stamford all success with such a go-ahead unit.

Mr. Stamford has raised this unit from 8 to 37 members in less than four months.

**"NEWS OF THE WORLD" A.C.F. RIFLE COMPETITION**

The Chairman and members of the Lincoln T. & A.F. Association and the Army Cadet Committee wish to congratulate the Grimsby Detachment's 22 shooting team who were 14th in the *News of the World* national rifle competition final stage.

This is most encouraging and we all hope that next year they will get a little nearer the top.

**Northamptonshire****NO 1 CADET BATTALION**

On 3rd-4th February a revision course for Certificate "A" Part II candidates was held at the Week-end Training Centre under the auspices of County H.Q. Instruction, in the main, was carried out by this battalion. Instructors attending were Major Adams, 2/Lt. Smith, S.M.I.s Smith and Freeman. The course, necessarily, had to be extremely concentrated but was both enjoyable and successful if the results of the examination held on 18th February are anything to go by. Only two cadets from this battalion were examined and both were successful. They were I./Cpls. Clayson and Clarke, and both received immediate promotion to Sergeant.

At the pre-camp meeting of Battalion Commanders and County H.Q. held at Corby T.A.C. on 5th March, it was decided amongst other things that training would be resumed on battalion level. This battalion has urged this for some time because we feel that cadets prefer to be with their own instructors, and instructors certainly prefer to be with cadets whom they have trained for months. Anyone who has served in a cadet unit will know that the average boy of 14-18 years is completely different to his neighbour; each boy needs different handling and the man best fitted to do this is his own instructor. Camp is a big event in a boy's life; very often the first time away from "Mum", and we in this battalion are very conscious of the fact that a happy camp often means that a cadet will stay with us for several years.

At this meeting our County Commandant, Colonel J. T. Ennals, announced his retirement due

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to ill health and pressure of business. Colonel Ennal's tour of three years has been a popular one and we sincerely hope that with the worries of A.C.F. behind him that his health will improve. We now wait, with interest, to learn who will succeed him into this sometimes thankless job, but we are sure more often such a rewarding one. Good luck, Sir, and we do hope that you will sometimes find time to visit us.

On 8th March we had a visit from the Army Recruiting Staff who showed some excellent films to an audience of 70 boys. It is fairly certain that some undecided minds have been made up, and though we are always sorry to lose cadets, if we lose them to the Army then we are doing our job.

The question of accommodation has again reared its ugly head but we have done very well this time since we have gained another room formally occupied by W.R.A.C. We envisage that this room will become our Club Room although it will undoubtedly be pressed into other uses.

Wireless equipment by the lorry-load is arriving daily. We are eagerly awaiting, however, our 88 sets and once these arrive we hope to revive our defunct Signal Section. Our main problem is to find a suitably qualified instructor although we have several tentative offers. In the meantime R.Q.M.S. Hurst scratches his head and mutters: "I don't know where it's all going."

For the last two weeks we have been joined by hordes of Red Cross personnel who have received instruction in foot drill from R.S.M. Blunt and S.M.I. Smith. We trust that shortly they will return the compliment in the form of First Aid lectures. It has been pleasant to see Dennis Bedford, one half of "Dick and Den the Red Cross men" who has attended many a camp with us and repaired many a blistered foot.

In conclusion, we welcome Lt. Cooke, whose commission has just come through. Formerly commissioned in the Ox and Bucks A.C.F., Mr. Cooke has commanded a detachment at Newport Pagnell and should prove invaluable to us.

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