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*Regimental Journal of  
The 3rd East Anglian Regiment  
(16th/44th Foot)*

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# THE WASP and THE EAGLE

THE JOURNAL OF THE 3RD EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT.  
(16TH/44TH FOOT)

VOL. I. No. 3.

JUNE, 1960

PRICE 2/6d. (postage extra)  
*Free to Regimental Association members.*

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*[Photograph by Frederic Robinson, Camberley*

*LIEUT.-COLONEL T. J. BARROW, D.S.O.*

## EDITORIAL

Since the last number of the *Regimental Journal*, the Regimental Depot at Warley has been disbanded and all our recruits are now trained at The East Anglian Brigade Depot at Bury St. Edmunds.

\* \* \*

Regimental Headquarters was fully implemented on April 1, and it is hoped that the move of R.H.Q. and The Essex Regiment Museum to the former Depot Officers' Mess will be completed in July. At present the Mess is in the hands of the Royal Engineers for re-decoration and alterations. It is sincerely hoped that Present and Past Members of The Regiment and the former Regiments will visit us when ever they are in the vicinity of Warley.

\* \* \*

In this number we publish the photographs of the former Colonels of The Regiments at the date of the amalgamation:

General Sir Henry C. Jackson,

K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Lieut.-General Sir Geoffrey W. Howard,

K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.L.

and

Brigadier G. H. Wilmer, D.S.O., M.C.

We take this opportunity of thanking them for their loyal support and keen interest in the new Regiment.

## THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

A Regimental Christmas Card was sent by the Colonel of The Regiment to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, and the following gracious acknowledgment was received from Her Majesty's Private Secretary:

CLARENCE HOUSE, S.W.1.

December 24, 1959.

*My Dear General,*

*Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother has bidden me to write to tell you how pleased Her Majesty was to receive your Christmas Card.*

*The Colonel-in-Chief desires me to send her warm good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to you, to Brigadier Paton and All Ranks of the 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot).*

*Yours sincerely,*

MARTIN GILLIAT.

Lt.-General Sir Reginald Denning,

K.B.E., C.B.,

Colonel of The 3rd East Anglian Regiment,  
(16th/44th Foot).

*ARTICLES and NOTES for the  
December, 1960, issue should reach the  
— Editor by November 1, 1960. —*

## OUR FRONTISPIECE

LT.-COL. T. J. BARROW, D.S.O.

John Barrow was commissioned into The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in August, 1936, and joined the 1st Battalion in India in January, 1937. He went with the Battalion to Palestine in 1938. During the rebellion there he carried out the duties of O i/c Night Patrolling Squad and O i/c Armoured Railway Trolleys, which preceded trains on the Jaffa-Telaviv-Lyddá-Jerusalem lines. He recalls that at the time he was based on the railway station at Lydda. There was a Sapper subaltern also based on the station whose job was to keep the railways running. Quite recently John Barrow had dinner with this subaltern in Hong Kong, he is now Major-General Duke, Director of Personal Services, The War Office. After the usual run of regimental duties John Barrow took over the Adjutancy of the Battalion from Capt. Bill Rickman on the outbreak of war and served in that appointment during the campaigns in Lemnos, Syria, Tobruk and the Iraqi Rebellion. During 1942/43 he served as Training Officer of the Battalion and later as 2 i/c. He was appointed Column Commander for the Chindit Expedition in Burma and later took over command of the 1st Battalion from Lt.-Col. Eason. For his services with the expedition he was awarded the D.S.O.

Relinquishing command in November 1945, he returned to the United Kingdom and attended the Staff College Course in 1946. At the conclusion of the Course he was posted to the Airborne Forces as G.2 H.Q., Airborne Establishments and later held the appointments of Parachute Training Officer, G.S.O.2 Air and B.M. 16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group, serving in the U.K., Cyprus and the Canal Zone. In 1952 he attended the course at the Joint Services Staff College, at the end of which he rejoined the 1st Battalion in the Canal Zone. In 1953 he returned home and took over command of the Regimental Depot from the late Major Eric French. On completion of his command in 1955 he rejoined the 1st Battalion again as a Company Commander, in 1956 he was appointed 2 i/c and in 1957 promoted Lt.-Col. and appointed to the command of the Battalion, which was then in Goslar, B.A.O.R. Soon after his assumption of command came the news of the impending amalgamation and to Lt.-Col. John Barrow and Lt.-Col. Willie Waite, commanding 1st Bn. The Essex Regiment, fell the onerous task of arranging all the details of the amalgamation of the two Battalions. How well they carried this out is borne out by the happy and successful manner in which the amalgamation was carried out in June, 1958. Lt.-Col. Barrow was appointed to the command of the new Battalion and later brought it home to be

stationed at Warley, where the amalgamation was finally sealed with the Presentation of Colours on May 30, 1959, by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief. A day, which all those who were privileged to take part will never forget. On parade the new Battalion, under the command of Col. John Barrow, showed all how worthy a successor it was to its fine old forebears, the 16th and 44th/56th Regiments of Foot.

After a rather hectic stay in England where preliminary jungle training had to be sandwiched between many ceremonial occasions, the Battalion left at the end of the year for Malaya. After a period of jungle fighting training in Johore, the Battalion arrived at Ipoh in Northern Malaya to join the Commonwealth Brigade who are still engaged on active service, chasing the remaining Communist terrorists who inhabit the jungle in that part of the world. Here the time came for Colonel Barrow to hand over the command of the Battalion and in January, 1960, he was succeeded by Lt.-Col. M. W. Holme.

To take over the command of a Battalion formed by the amalgamation of two proud Regiments is no easy task and how well Col. Barrow tackled this difficult task is evident in the prowess of the 1st Bn. The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) today, as the Battalion goes from strength to strength and shows every day how well it is maintaining the proud and great traditions of the Regiments it sprang from. We have much to thank John Barrow for and those who follow us will be equally grateful for the sound foundations he created for the new Battalion to build on.

He has taken up his new appointment as G.S.O.I Combined Services, Hong Kong, and we wish him all happiness and success for the future.

Before we conclude we must also thank Mrs. Averill Barrow for her charming friendliness at all times and for her wonderful work in getting the families of all ranks together at the time of the amalgamation, no mean feat and one which contributed largely to the happy success of the amalgamation.

We hope there will be many regimental occasions on which we shall have them with us.

## REGIMENTAL DIARY

1960/1961

July 2	T.A. Camp ends.
August 13	Blenheim Day.
September 18	Remembrance Service — Regimental Chapel, Warley. (Admission by ticket).

September 24 London Branch, 16th Foot  
Regimental Association —  
Silver Jubilee Dinner and  
Dance, Barrington House,  
Gresham Street, London,  
E.C.2.

The Association of Sergeants  
(Past and Present) All  
Battalions The Essex Regi-  
ment — Annual Dinner,  
Ilford.

September 30 The Hertfordshire Regiment  
Dinner Club Annual  
Dinner.

November 20 Regimental Remembrance  
Day—Kempston Barracks,  
Bedford. (Admission to  
Church by ticket).

April 29, 1961 6th Bn. The Bedfordshire  
Regiment (1914 - 1918)  
Annual Reunion Dinner.

## REGIMENTAL NOTES

With the closing down of the Regimental Depot and the transfer of the responsibility for the training of recruits to The East Anglian Brigade Depot at Bury St. Edmunds, the amalgamation of The Regiments has been completed.

### COMPOSITION AND LOCATIONS OF THE REGIMENT

The following units are an integral part of  
The Regiment:

- Regimental Headquarters. — Warley  
Barracks, Brentwood.
- Depot for the training of recruits.—Bury  
St. Edmunds, Suffolk.
- 1st Battalion (Regular).—Ipoh, Malaya.
- 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment  
(T.A.)—H.Q., Bedford.
- 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment  
(T.A.)—H.Q., Hertford.
- 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.)—  
H.Q., Ilford.
- Combined and Army Cadet Forces.—  
In the three Counties.

### REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

The task of Regimental Headquarters is to co-ordinate all Regimental matters, with the particular duties of liaising with the civic authorities, the responsibility for the recruiting regular soliders for The Regiment within the three counties, and to care for all matters concerning Regimental Old Comrades.

*Regimental Secretary* : Lt.-Col. A. C. Young,  
(Ret'd).

*Secretary, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association: Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E. (Ret'd).*

*Secretary, The Essex Regiment Association: Major T. R. Stead (Ret'd).*

R.H.Q. and the H.Q., The Essex Regiment Association are located at Warley Barracks, Brentwood. H.Q., The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association are located in the former C.O.'s Office and Orderly Room at Kempston Barracks, Bedford.

#### INFORMATORY

Recently, the Colonel of The Regiment and the Associate Colonel have sent out a letter giving the new organisation of The Regiment in detail. The letter was sent to the Lords Lieutenant, the Bishops, the Chairmen of County Councils, the Chairmen T. and A.F. Associations, the Mayors, Chairmen of Urban and Rural District Councils, and other dignitaries and officials of the three counties. The response has been very encouraging, and many letters of appreciation have been received.

### THE REGIMENTAL CHAPEL

In view of the closure of the Regimental Depot and the move of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment to Colchester, the Chaplaincy Services for Warley Barracks have been withdrawn, and thus, it will no longer be possible to hold normal Services on Sundays in the Chapel.

The Chapel will continue to be used for Regimental functions, for Weddings, Christenings and other services as they arise. Also it is hoped, with the kind co-operation of the Royal Army Chaplains Department, to hold a Sunday Morning Service at least on one Sunday of each month. Arrangements for this are already in hand and it is intended that these Services should be held on the **FIRST SUNDAY IN EACH MONTH**, beginning at 11 a.m. It is hoped that all members of the Regiment who are in a position to support these services will do so.

To those who are interested in these services arrangements can be made to send a notification as and when they are arranged. If you would like this notice please inform The Chapel Custodian, Major T. R. Stead, Regimental Headquarters, The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot), Warley Barracks, Brentwood, Essex.

At the Sunday Morning Service held on February 21, 1960, a simple but impressive ceremony of "The Blessing of an Inscription" was carried out by the Rev. R. F. Parsonage, C.F.

The inscription is to Capt. Eric Nelson Carter, whose father, Col. William Graydon Carter,

C.M.G., and brother Major John Lesley Graydon Carter, O.B.E., are already commemorated in the Regimental Chapel by a Memorial Pew. As there was insufficient space at the end of the Pew for the inscription it has been put on the back rest, the first occasion on which this has been done. Col. Carter and his sons all served in The Essex Regiment.

Mrs. Kitty Mitchell, daughter of the late Col. Carter and sister of Capt. E. N. Carter, and her husband, Col. Mitchell, made the long journey from their home at Dartmouth to be present at the ceremony and we were all pleased to see them.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

While it is not possible, at present, to give details of the Regimental Christmas Card or Cards, it appears likely that the Regimental Association card will be ribboned in the Regimental Colours with the Regimental Crest on front with an inset.

The cost, including envelope, will be approximately 9/- per dozen, post free. Further details are expected to be available from September onwards, and enquiries should be addressed to:

The Regimental Secretary,  
Regimental Headquarters,  
The 3rd East Anglian Regiment  
(16th/44th Foot),  
Warley Barracks,  
Brentwood, Essex,

or to the Secretary, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association, or the Secretary, The Essex Regiment Association.

### EMPLOYMENT

During the year 1959, 33 ex-members of The Regiment have obtained employment through the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen; of these, 12 were from the former Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, and 21 from the former Essex Regiment.

During 1960, a further number of ex-members of The Regiment have been found employment through the Association.

Both the Regimental Associations of the former Regiments make an annual subscription to the N.A.E.R.S.S.A.

Further details can be obtained from the Regimental Secretary, or the Secretaries of the Regimental Associations.



**Past  
COLONELS  
of the  
REGIMENTS**

**General  
SIR HENRY C. JACKSON,  
K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,  
Colonel, The Bedfordshire  
and Hertfordshire Regiment,  
1935 — 1947.**



**Lieutenant-General  
SIR GEOFFREY W. HOWARD,  
K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.L.,  
Colonel, The Essex Regiment,  
1935 — 1946.**



**Brigadier  
G. H. WILMER, D.S.O., M.C.,  
Colonel, The Essex Regiment,  
1946 — 1950.**

## PERSONALIA

Major D. W. Browne has relinquished the appointment of Second-in-Command of the 1st Battalion and has been posted to the "G" Staff of G.H.Q., FARELF.

\* \* \*

Lt. D. R. Palmer, who has been serving with the 1st Battalion, has been posted to H.Q. of The Sarawak Rangers.

\* \* \*

A letter of thanks has been received from Capt. and Mrs. Keith Hoile for the Silver Salver which was sent to them as a wedding present from the Officers of The Regiment.

\* \* \*

Col. W. N. C. Waite has been appointed Staff Officer Grade 1, in the Department of the Master-General of the Ordnance, with effect from April 1, 1960.

\* \* \*

Major J. S. Greene has been posted to a G II appointment at the Intelligence Centre.

\* \* \*

Lt.-Col. F. Vincent of Oak Farm, Northill, Bedfordshire, who served in the 8th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment in the 1914/1918 War and in the Bedfordshire Home Guard in World War II and again in 1951-1956, when he commanded the 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire Home Guard, was awarded the O.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List.

Col. Vincent, who farms, has been a member of the National Farmers' Union for many years, and until recently was Chairman of the Milk and Dairy Produce Committee.

He takes a keen interest in The Regiment and attends most Regimental functions.

\* \* \*

The awarded of the C.B.E. was made in the New Year's Honours List to Lt.-Col. J. C. Lockwood, T.D., J.P., for political and public services in Essex. Col. Lockwood served in the 1st/4th Bn. The Sussex Regiment 1914-1917 and in the Home Defence Bn. The Essex Regiment 1939-1941. He was Member of Parliament for Hackney 1931-1935 and for Romford 1950-1955. He takes great interest in The Regiment and is Chairman of the Romford Branch of The Essex Regiment Association.

\* \* \*

Another recipient of an award in the New Year's Honours List was Major Ian Dyer who was awarded the M.B.E. Major Dyer was commissioned in The Essex Regiment in 1940. He retired from the Army last year having spent his last months of service with the 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment as their Training Major. His address now is: c/o Woodbourne Grange, 21, Woodbourne Road, Edgebaston, Birmingham 17.

Major Dyer has an appointment with Tube Investments Ltd. and we gather that so far Mrs. Dyer and he have found the change over to civil life very pleasant.

\* \* \*

In a letter from H.Q., Northern District, Kaduna, Nigeria, Major Tony Ward-Booth tells us that although life is pretty hectic out there, within three days of arriving he was in the "bush" on a two-weeks' exercise; he is enjoying it. The climate is excellent, the hottest being in May, but even then it is a dry heat. He has taken up polo, which he finds great fun and quite inexpensive out there.

Mrs. Ward-Booth hoped to join him in April. She has been ill and when Major Ward-Booth wrote was in hospital recovering from a severe operation.

\* \* \*

Major Ward-Booth has been in touch with Major Duggie Duthoit, who is at the Pay Office at Lagos. He has also met Capt. Michael Wilson who is enjoying life at The Nigerian Military School, Kaduna, where he is on the staff.

Capt. Geoffrey Dean is serving with the 3rd Bn. The Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment and the Lucas brothers are with the 4th Battalion. Major Ward-Booth hoped to meet them all shortly.

\* \* \*

We would like to apologise to Lt. Peter Sincock and to Virginia for our failure to report their marriage in our last issue. This took place at Cobham, Surrey, on June 11, 1959, and the guests included all officers on the staff of the Regimental Depot.

\* \* \*

Capt. Pike, Lt. Sincock and Cpl. Carroll inform us that their preparations for their overland journey to Malaya, to join the 1st Battalion are still forging ahead. They hope to leave from Southend Airport in October. A full account of their departure will be published in the December Number.

\* \* \*

Major Harry Stenning writes to thank all concerned for the Salver which was presented to him on the occasion of his recent marriage. They are both delighted with it. When he wrote, Major and Mrs. Stenning were on board the *Oxfordshire* on their way home and received the Salver a few days before they left Malaya.

\* \* \*

We were interested to note that *The Daily Telegraph* in their issue of April 19, 1960, published a letter from Major G. B. Whitworth on the subject of Mau Mau crimes and the controversial question of the release of Jomo Kenyatta.

Capt. A. F. Bremner has asked us to announce that his family on his mother's side have had cause to change their name. In view of this his name is now: Capt. A. F. Mackain-Bremner.

Congratulations to T/Major R. L. Jackson and Capts. K. Burch, A. F. Mackain-Bremner and J. W. Scragg, who were successful in the examination held in February of this year, in qualifying for selection for the Staff College.

\* \* \*

The following ex-members of The Essex Regiment are patients in The Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Richmond, Surrey:—

Mr. A. E. Cornish and Mr. W. H. Brown, who also served in The Royal Army Service Corps.

\* \* \*

We were very glad to hear that Mrs. Oldfield has settled down in her new flat in Shakespeare Road, Bedford. Ann, her daughter, is living with her, going daily to her duties as a nurse at Bedford General Hospital, South Wing.

\* \* \*

The 4th Essex Gaza Dinner for Officers of the Battalion who survived the First Battle of Gaza, March 26-27, 1917, was held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Monday, March 28. Major R. W. Lee presided and those present included: Col. G. M. Gibson, Major A. J. Beech, Squadron Leader S. H. Rogers, Capts. E. Barrett, W. D. Bishop, C. H. Gadson, G. C. G. Johnstone, S. Smith and Major J. N. Coker (Hon. Secretary). Among the past and present Commanding Officers were: Col. A. Noble (Hon. Colonel, 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.)), Lt.-Col. S. G. L. Pepys (Commanding, 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.)), and Lt.-Col. D. J. M. Smith.

\* \* \*

The Regiment has sent a subscription of two guineas to the Bedfordshire County Cricket Club, thus continuing the Annual Subscription which was made by The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment for many years. The Regimental Secretary holds a Member's Card on behalf of The Regiment and any member of The Regiment wishing to use it should apply to him. The Bedfordshire Cricket Week will be held at Bedford School, August 1st-6th.

\* \* \*

For many years past the former Essex Regiment has acted as Luncheon Host to the teams on one of the days of the Brentwood County Cricket Week, and the Regiment will continue this very pleasant liaison with the County Cricket Club.

This year the matches at Brentwood will be as follows:—

June 18, 20 and 21 Essex v. Oxford University C.C.

June 22, 23 and 24 Essex v. Surrey C.C.C.

The Regiment will act as hosts to the Essex and Surrey teams on Friday, June 24.

\* \* \*

Major H. M. Lloyd, who is at present serving in Singapore with an Air Photograph Interpretation Unit, expects to return home in July to carry out a six months' course at Devises with a view to possible transfer to the R.A.P.C. Both he and his wife will be sorry to leave Singapore.

\* \* \*

We are pleased to hear from Major Blyth that he has arrived safely in Malaya from Australia, to take up his new appointment at the Armed Forces School of Instruction, Tanjong Kling, Malacca, Malaya.

\* \* \*

At the Annual Dinner of the London Branch of the 16th Foot Regimental Association, which was held towards the end of 1959, Mr. Meier, an old member of the Branch, showed the Colonel of The Regiment an interesting book entitled "Regimental Nicknames and Traditions of the British Army," published by Messrs. Gale and Polden Ltd. in 1915. Both The Bedfordshire Regiment and The Essex Regiment were covered in the book, and in both cases there were historical errors. In the case of the 16th Foot, they were quoted as having fought at Dettingen, which, of course is wrong, and in the case of The Essex Regiment were stated as having been raised in 1749 and not 1741.

The matter was taken up with Messrs. Gale and Polden who wrote that the book was first published in 1912 and ran to four editions, the fourth one being produced in 1915. No further editions have been published. Further they have only two copies left as so much of their stock pile and records were destroyed in the disastrous fire which occurred in their works in 1918.

They were very interested in the points raised by R.H.Q.

\* \* \*

News of Band Staff Sergeant King has been received from the Secretary of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association.

His last appointment was at The Army Apprentices' School, Chepstow, from where all reports showed that the School Band flourished under his leadership. Now we hear that he has taken his discharge after nearly thirty-one years' service and has settled at Dover. His present address is: 41, Tower Street, Dover, Kent. Ex-Band S/Sgt. King has obtained employment with The Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, Dover, and as a result he finds his change over to civilian life hardly noticeable, as in his new employment he is still living in the same environment as he has done for most of his life. Members of the Band will be interested to hear that Mr. King is already training the trumpeters of The Junior Leaders Regiment.

## THE SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE



[Photograph by : Capt. J. S. Riggs

*The British Commonwealth War Cemetery, Yokohama, Japan, November, 1959.*

Her many friends will be interested to hear of the marriage of Mrs. Ruth May Austin, widow of the late C.S.M. A. Austin, to Mr. T. Farmer, at Holy Trinity Church, Bedford, on August 1, 1959. Mr. Farmer joined the 3rd Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment in 1910. After serving with the 1st and 2nd Battalions he was discharged with wounds in 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Farmer's present address is: 35, Vicar's Walk, Goldington, Bedford.

Mr. H. O. Walker (ex-Corporal No. 40179, Bedfordshire Regiment) has been admitted as a permanent resident of the British Legion Home at Halsey House, Norwich Road, Cromer, Norfolk. He would very much appreciate letters from his old friends in the Regiment.

On August 5, 1959, there died in a Nursing Home in Bedford, Mrs. Margaret Fullarton Nelson, aged 88. She was buried on Saturday, August 8. Her funeral was a family affair, with, in addition, Col. G. A. Anstee and Mrs. Anstee and Lt.-Col. E. G. Fanning and Mrs. Fanning in the dual role of old friends and also representing The Regiment. The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Duncan Bagot, Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Bedford.

Mrs. Nelson was the daughter of Major-General William Henry Ralston, C.B., and widow

of the late Major A. Nelson, who was transferred as a Captain to the 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment from The West India Regiment in December, 1892. Major and Mrs. Nelson met when he was serving on the Staff of North British District at Edinburgh, and were married there on September 16, 1894. During the First World War Major Nelson served as Adjutant to the Duke of Bedford's Battalion, after which he retired.

Capt. J. S. Riggs, who served with the 1st Bn. The 16th Foot during the 1939-1945 War and who has been a keen supporter of the 16th Foot Regiment Association ever since, is now stationed in Japan. He attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the British Commonwealth War Cemetery, Yokohama on Sunday, November 8, 1959, and has kindly sent us the programme and some photographs of the service and ceremony, one of which we reproduce in this number.

Since then Capt. Riggs has been able to get hold of a copy of the Register of the British Commonwealth War Cemetery and from it has compiled lists of members of the Regiment and other Regiments of the East Anglian Brigade who were buried in the cemetery. As far as the Regiment is concerned they are all members of the 5th Battalion and their names were:

5th Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire  
Regiment (T.A.)

Pte. Robert Storey Bivans,  
Pte. Henry Terance Brace,  
Pte. Dennis Jack Collison,  
Pte. Francis William Crawley,  
Pte. Andrew Humphreys,  
Pte. Robert William Ingram,  
Cpl. Albert Ernest Knight,  
Pte. James Henry Savage,  
Pte. Frederick Henry Worster.

Capt. Riggs has kindly offered to carry out any further research should readers of *The Journal* wish him to do so. In this case will they, please, write in the first instance to the Regimental Secretary, stating the information they require.

\* \* \*

Major C. J. S. McMillen retired on April 28, 1960, and his permanent address from now on is:

48, Nelson Road,  
Lexden,  
Colchester, Essex.

Tel.: Colchester 5503.

His last appointment was with Movement Control at Harwich. We have not yet heard what he intends to do on retirement, but take this opportunity to wish him all happiness and good luck in his new life.

\* \* \*

We are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. D. E. Moore of Penzance, and the Editor of "The Church Times" for permission to reproduce the following which Mr. Moore sent to "The Church Times" and which was printed in the issue of that paper dated May 7, 1959. It was noted and brought to our attention by Major Kitto.

UNCALLED FOR

The delightful subject of interruptions in church, which must always be more pleasing to the lay mind than the clerical, has cropped up again in my post. An old cutting has been sent to me which shows that when a certain Dr. Beaden, preaching at Eltham in Kent, announced his text as "Who art thou?" a gentleman in military dress who was just entering the church replied with the following mouthful: "I am, sir, an officer of the 16th Regiment of Foot, on a recruiting party here; and having brought my wife and family with me, I wish to be acquainted with the neighbouring clergy and gentry." This so deranged the divine that he had difficulty in proceeding.

\* \* \*

Major Morris Brightman writes from Chester to tell us he has recently completed a course in Household Maintenance at Catterick. On the course with him was Col. Andrew Croft, who was originally in the Essex Regiment but who has lately been Commandant of the Army Apprentices' School at Harrogate.

Major Brightman also met Cols. Denis Rossiter and John Falkner, both of whom are holding R.O. appointments in Northern Command.

Major Morris Brightman leaves the Army very shortly to take up his appointment as Bursar at Oakham School, Rutland, and we wish them both all success and happiness in their new life.

\* \* \*

The annual Reunion Dinner of former members of the 2nd Bn. The Essex Regiment, survivors of the Arras battles of 1917 and 1918, was held at Chelmsford on Saturday, April 23, 1960.

Mr. F. Page presided over a gathering of 24. The passage of the years reduces the number able to attend and three further deaths had taken place during the year, but the Secretary, Mr. Finn, announced it was hoped to keep the dinners going for several more years. Details of next year's dinner can be obtained from Mr. Finn, whose address is "Magdalene," Stanley Road, Wivenhoe, Colchester.

\* \* \*

We much regret to announce the death of Alderman C. N. Barrott, Mayor of Bedford, which occurred suddenly on Saturday, April 30, 1960. Alderman Barrott took a keen interest in all regimental activities and was present at the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.) Centenary Celebrations on March 20. The Regiment was represented at the Memorial Service held in St. Paul's Church, Bedford, on May 4, by Lt.-Col. D. Milman, M.C., C.O. 5th Battalion, and Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., Secretary, the 16th Foot Regimental Association.

\* \* \*

Col. and Mrs. Anstee were very glad to welcome home their son, Capt. D. G. M. Anstee, and his family when they arrived in the U.K. from Kenya on May 17th, 1960. Capt. Anstee has been serving with the King's African Rifles.

\* \* \*

Lt.-Col. J. L. de V. Martin is working hard to become a qualified teacher. He takes his final examinations at the end of June. He spent Easter with Col. and Mrs. Anstee. During vacations he can usually be found at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly.

\* \* \*

We were very glad to hear from Col. Anstee that Major and Mrs. Gaden will be in England this summer. They leave Sydney in the *Strathaird* on July 20 and are due at Tilbury on August 26. Correspondence addressed



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HB—24



## A MESSAGE

### *from the Chairman of* **HER MAJESTY'S FORCES SAVINGS COMMITTEE**

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY started saving, you should try to develop the savings habit while you are in the Services.

There are excellent facilities for saving in all Units of the Services in every part of the world—in fact the slogan of H.M. Forces Savings Committee is "Wherever you serve, you can save."

We have an excellent series of leaflets (as illustrated above) which tell in simple language all about Forces Savings.

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**Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Saunders,**  
GCB, KBE, MC, DFC, MM.  
Chairman, H.M. Forces Savings Committee,  
1, Princes Gate, London, S.W.7.

*Issued by H.M. Forces Savings Committee*

c/o The Commercial Bank Co. of Sydney, 22-32, Old Jewry, London, E.C.2, will find them wherever they may be staying in England.

Their daughter, Valerie, is at St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping, having gained the qualifications of S.R.N. and S.C.M. Michael, their son, farms but in the season plays cricket; his father reports he is not a bad batsman and quite a good wicketkeeper!

\* \* \*

We were sorry to hear of Mrs. Dilley's illness and hope she is much better by now.

\* \* \*

Just before sending this script to the printers we heard that Capts. Keith Burch and Fergus Mackain-Bremner had been allotted vacancies on the Course assembling at the Staff College next January. Earlier in this Personalia we reported their success, with that of Major Jackson and Capt. Scragg, at the Staff College examination held last February.

\* \* \*

We are indebted to Lt.-Col. C. A. Brooks for a most interesting cutting from *The Harwich and Dovercourt Standard* of April 29, 1960. It contains an item entitled "Passing Years at Harwich" and under the special heading of 45 years ago it contains an account of a football match between the 4th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment and the 3rd Bn. The Essex Regiment, when both Battalions were stationed at Dovercourt, during the First World War. It appears the Bedfords won by three goals to one, but the reporter concerned, from his comments, obviously thought the Essex should have won. We are told that the Mayor presented the cup and medals to the winners and medals to the runners-up among scenes of great enthusiasm, whereupon the Mayor seized the appropriate occasion for making an appeal to the patriotism of young men who had not joined the Colours.

\* \* \*

A subscription of ten guineas has been sent to the Officers' Branch of the Sailors' Soldiers' and Airmen's Families' Association, from the Colonel of the Regiment's Fund. It is proposed to make this an annual subscription.

\* \* \*

Major Andrew received an interesting letter from Mr. H. J. Smith, whose son, Mr. C. A. Smith, was born on July 4, 1903, at Bangalore, India, when the 1st Bn. The Essex Regiment were serving there. This came about because his father, then a Colour-Sergeant in the East Yorkshire Regiment, moved with his Battalion from Bellary, India, to Shwebo, Burma. Mrs. Smith, who was the Army Schoolmistress at Bellary, was transferred to the 1st Bn. The Essex Regiment when that Battalion moved to Bangalore from South Africa.

Mr. C. A. Smith served with the Colonial Police Forces until he reached the retiring age of 55, and he is now a Civil Servant.

His father returned to the Colours in 1914, was promoted to a commission in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in 1916 and saw active service on the Salonika Front. After the War he retired again and on relinquishing his Regular pension he was admitted as an In-Pensioner at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, where he now is. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

\* \* \*

On the occasion of the amalgamation of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment with the Northamptonshire Regiment on June 1, 1960, to form the 2nd East Anglian Regiment, the following message was sent by the Colonel of the Regiment and the Associate Colonel:

Brigadier Oulton,  
Colonel, 2nd East Anglian Regiment.

On the occasion of the merging of the Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire Regiments into the 2nd East Anglian Regiment, the 3rd East Anglian Regiment sends its best wishes to what is now a brother Regiment.

\* \* \*

The Regiment was represented by the Regimental Secretary at the seventy-fifth Annual General Meeting of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, held at the Royal United Service Institution on Friday, May 27. Lt.-Col. Young was interested to meet there Major Bill Headland, who is employed as a Job-finder by the Association at Middlesbrough. Major Headland and his family are all well and send their kind regards to all their old friends in the Regiment.

\* \* \*

Mr. G. E. Woolmer, ex-Colour-Sergeant 5946784, is anxious to get in touch with Mr. "Jazzer" Green, who was Provost Sergeant with the 1st Bn. The 16th Foot in India just before the 1939/45 War. Should any of our readers know of Mr. Green's address will they please inform the Secretary, the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association, Kempston Barracks, Bedford.

\* \* \*

Major Tewkesbury, the Secretary of the 16th Foot Association, received the following letter from the Right Hon. Viscount Monckton of Brenchley, as a result of the donation of £10, which was sent by the Association to the Fifth Army Memorial Appeal: "As Honorary Treasurer I write to thank you most warmly



for the contribution from the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association towards the Fifth Army Memorial Appeal. Your cheque for £10 is most welcome."

\* \* \*

We hear from Col. Waite that Capt. A. B. O'Hagan, R.E., has been promoted to Major and is now serving with a T.A. Engineer Regiment in Bath as the Training Major. He is the son of Quartermaster O'Hagan, who served with the 44th. Major O'Hagan was in Korea at the same time as the 1st Bn. The Essex Regiment was serving there.

\* \* \*

We were very sorry indeed to hear of the death of Mrs. Vera King, daughter of Mrs. Coe and the late Mr. F. T. Coe, whom many will remember from his long service in the 16th Foot. Mrs. King was born at Aldershot in 1912 when her father was serving with the 1st Battalion. On the birth of her son in 1941 she was paralysed down one side, but she bore her affliction with unflinching cheerfulness, never grumbled and taught herself to do many things. Her son hopes to go to Swansea University and obtain his B.Sc. Our very sincere sympathy goes to Mrs. Coe, Squadron Leader King and Mr. King.

\* \* \*

Mr. Percy Munn, as active as ever, recently met Mr. Cliff Humm, ex-R.S.M., who is now caretaker at the T.A. Centre, Bulmer Street, Shepherds Bush, also Mr. Henry Hudson, who lives near Shepherds Bush. Mr. Munn has also corresponded with Mr. T. J. W. Ivey, who was Intelligence Sergeant with the 10th Bn. The Essex Regiment during 1940-43. He is now manager of the Maidstone branch of Messrs. Martin's Bank.

\* \* \*

We were glad to see Mr. W. H. Sougham when he paid a visit to R.H.Q. recently. He joined the Essex Regiment (1st Battalion Corps of Drums) in 1906 and was finally discharged in 1924. One of his brother, Mr. Tom Sougham, also served with the Essex Regiment during the South African War. Mr. Sougham has a remarkable memory for names and events and entertained us with a lively account of his service with the Regiment.

Another visitor was Mr. J. L. Vince, ex-W.O.II, the Essex Regiment. He has just returned from West Africa and is now living in Southend.

\* \* \*

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Charlie King, the very hardworking Hon. Secretary of the Saffron Walden Branch of the Essex Regiment Association, has had a period of serious illness,



[Photograph by "Southend Standard"]

The showing of the film "North West Frontier," at the Odeon Cinema, Southend-on-Sea. Mr. Kenneth More, who takes a leading part in the film chats with C/Sgt. Hodgson and Sgt. Bennett, who are dressed in the pre-1914 uniform of the Essex Regiment.

as has also his wife. We wish them both a speedy restoration to full health again.

\* \* \*

Mr. C. W. Hills (ex-6003898, 1st Bn. The Essex Regiment), who is now living in Devonshire Street, London, W.1, has written suggesting that members of the Essex Regiment Association living in London might care to pay a visit to "The Bedford Head," Maiden Lane, The Strand, London, W.C.2, one Saturday evening. The London Branch of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association meets at "The Bedford Head" on the third Saturday in each month and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. G. Aldridge, will be very happy to welcome any former members of the Essex Regiment.

\* \* \*

A letter was received from Mr. Cass on April 25, Gallipoli Day. Mr. Cass served with the Essex Regiment from 1908-1929 and took part in the landing in Gallipoli. He now lives at Hornchurch, but unfortunately is in rather poor health. He would be very glad to hear from any of his old comrades.

\* \* \*

We were delighted to receive a very long letter from Mrs. Dann, who is staying with her

daughter, Norah, in Tasmania. She has been in touch with Major and Mrs. Geoffrey Gaden. Mrs. Dann's letter contains most interesting descriptions of life in Tasmania, of which she writes: "Of all the places I have lived in I like this the best." Should any of her friends like to read her letter, the Regimental Secretary will be pleased to send a copy. Mrs. Dann's address is: Revesby, Cambridge, Tasmania, Australia.

\* \* \*

Mr. A. E. Turner, when corresponding with the Secretary, the Essex Regiment Association, regarding the presentation of his father's Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to the Regimental Museum of the Essex Regiment mentions that his mother, when his father died in 1929, went to stay with her brother, S/Sgt. Irwin, R.A.O.C., who was with the 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, then stationed at Dover. Her memories of that visit include a show put on by the Drums of the Battalion, which included a thought reading act arranged beforehand, but Mrs. Turner, not aware of this, derived great comfort, at the time, from what they told her. She also remembers the carved coconut, found in Australia, which was then in with the Regimental Silver and is now in the Regimental Museum at Bedford.

\* \* \*

Before the Regimental Depot closed, a keen liaison was maintained with the 3rd Essex Cadet Regiment. Major D. G. Mullis has been a frequent visitor to the Depot, and all have been much impressed with his untiring efforts on behalf of his Cadet Regiment.

His latest achievement has been the publication of a "News Sheet" which gives information of Regimental affairs, local A.C.F. events and includes photographs of the various happenings in the 3rd Essex Cadet Regiment, A.C.F.

\* \* \*

We were very sorry to hear that Col. Norman Salew had had to enter the Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, where he underwent a very severe operation. We are glad to hear that he is making progress, although it is slow.

## MILITARY ESSAY COMPETITION

GEORGE KNIGHT CLOWES Memorial  
Prize Essay Competition, 1961.

Prizes: First prize, £35; second prize, £15.  
Closing date: March 31, 1961.

Subject: The call up ended on December 31, 1960, and by January 1, 1963, the last National Serviceman will have left the forces, after the

longest period of peace-time compulsory military service in British history.

Give your views on how the system has worked since 1945—from the standpoints of the Fighting Services, the country as a whole and the individual National Serviceman.

### GOLD MEDAL & TRENCH GASCOIGNE

Prize Essay Competition, 1960.

Prize: Thirty Guineas and Gold Medal.  
Closing date: November 16, 1960.

Subject: 1. Discuss the importance of Africa on world strategy;

OR

Subject: 2. "The thermo-nuclear stalemate makes a major war out of the question. The Suez operation showed that a limited war, even if successful, is bound to be a political catastrophe. The internal security of our colonies and dependencies does not call for Forces of the size and complexity, particularly the complexity, that we now have. What, then, are the Services for? Discuss this with proposals on how the Services should be reshaped.

General conditions for this essay competition will be the same as for the 1959 competition and can be found in ACI 82 of 1959.

## MEDALS

THE MEDALS OF THE LATE C.Q.M.S. S. HART,  
D.C.M.

In addition to the donations published in the December Number of *The Wasp and The Eagle* (page 68) the following have also kindly subscribed towards the purchase of the medals of the late C.Q.M.S. S. Hart, D.C.M., 16th Foot:

	£	s.	d.
General Sir Henry C. Jackson, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. ....	1	1	0
Col. G. A. Anstee, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., I.P. ....	10	6	
Lt.-Col. J. C. Preston, M.B.E. ....	1	0	0
Col. A. C. Clarke, O.B.E. ....	2	2	0
Lt.-Col. M. E. Ménage, O.B.E. ....	1	1	0
Lt.-Col. D. Milman, M.C. ....	10	0	
Luton Branch ....	1	0	0
Mr. G. M. Hull ....	5	0	
Mr. L. C. Crabb ....	2	6	
Mr. F. W. Batchelor ....	2	6	
Anonymous ....	2	6	

£7 17 0

The purchase price has now been covered by subscriptions and the balance of £3/8/- will go towards the cost of having the medals suitably mounted.

## THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM (16th FOOT)

We are grateful for the following presentations which have been made to the Museum :—

A Recruiting Sergeant's blue hat with the Red, White and Blue Rosette worn by the late C/Sgt. S. Groves and presented by his daughter, Mrs. Walker. These Recruiters' rosettes are becoming very difficult to obtain.

A group photograph of the 3rd Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment Team, winners of the Staff Match in 1911, also presented by Mrs. Walker. The group includes the following which will interest our older members: Col. The Lord Ampthill, Capt. and Adjutant F. M. Bassett, R.S.M. J. Hislop, C/Sgts. G. Webb, J. Dean, S. Groves, W. Graham, S. Stratford, A. Stapleton, Sgt.-Dmr. Prindeville and Sgts. H. Shotbolt, T. West, F. Finch, W. Ward, W. Tipton. This group is now on display in the Museum. A frame containing a bronze plaque with inscription and the War and Victory Medals 1914-1918 of the late Pte. G. Halsey, killed in action December 27, 1916, while serving with the 1st Battalion. Presented by Miss M. C. Debenham. Two group photographs of the Officers of the 4th Battalion, presented by Capt. H. W. M. Tollmache. One group was taken at the Battalion's last Annual Training Camp at Hatfield in May, 1914, and the other was taken at Dovercourt in October, 1914. These groups include Col. The Marquess of Salisbury, Majors Croft, Heaton-Ellis and Halsey, Capt. Collings-Wells, afterwards V.C., D.S.O., killed in action, H. W. M. Tollmache and 2/Lts. Sprunt and Freer, both later killed in action. A very interesting plate of uniforms in colour based on the Loftie Water Colours in the Bibliotheque Nationale, presented by Brigadier Peter Young, one of his many gifts to the Museum. A number of interesting Home Guard documents, covering the period 1940-1944 and relating to the 3rd Bn. The Bedfordshire Home Guard, presented by Mrs. B. Wingfield. One Short Lee-Enfield Rifle Mark III, dated 1919, and one long bayonet, also one Nazi S.S. Dirk of the type carried on Active Service, all presented by Major Ellis. The long bayonet is of particular interest as early types were made with a quillon. This was abolished about 1911, and cut off all existing bayonets, as it was found that it was apt to catch in the 1908 equipment, when handling arms. Three very interesting albums, the property of her late father, have been given by Sister Stewart of Aldershot. These contain some wonderful photographs of India and many of The Regiment between the years 1879-1914. Mr. A. Prigmore has presented a card case Badge of the 1st Battalion dated 1912. Mr. Prigmore was a bass player in the Band at that time. These badges are very rare, the more so

as the 1st Battalion had their own specially designed badges which was unusual in Regiments at any time. It consisted of the Regimental Badge in brass surmounted by a crown, with the Battle Honours enscrolled also in brass, the whole surrounded by a silver wreath, with at the base, again in brass, inscribed 1st Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment. Part of a 3rd Volunteer locket has been presented by Bandmaster F. Battle, and a menu card of the 1st Battalion's final Regimental Dinner Night of May 23, 1958, has been given by Major Robin Medley.

Some fourteen items have been received from the Regimental Secretary on permanent loan from the Managing Trustees of The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot). These are all articles which belonged to former 1st and 2nd Battalions the 16th Foot and include two interesting Miniatures of Officers in uniform (unknown) dated approximately 1798 and 1831 respectively, the silver cigarette box, presented by the Officers of the 2nd Battalion to the Officers of the Depot, on the occasion of the 250th Anniversary. The Drum-Major's Sash presented to the 1st Battalion by the Branches of the Regimental Association in April, 1955. The Black and Silver Drum-Major's Mace, presented to the Officers 2nd Battalion by Cols. Spencer-Jackson and Eugster in 1929, and a silver drum-shaped Nutmeg Grater, presented by Lt. James Straker in 1810 at Fort Amsterdam, Surinam. It is inscribed to this effect and may well be the only piece of silver to survive the two shipwrecks of 1812 and 1870.

Visitors to the Museum have been Major H. A. R. Puttee, late 1st Battalion, now with the B.B.C., Major George Darlow, Miss Joyce Godber, the County Archivist, Capt. John Bushell, Mr. R. H. Smith, Mr. Peter Mason of *The Bedfordshire Times*, Mr. Stanley J. Kretschmer of the Army Historical Research Society, Major R. Ellis and ex-Drum-Major R. J. Colburt, late 5th Battalion, one of the party who successfully escaped from Singapore. Mr. E. P. McBretney, Borough Engineer of Bedford, Mr. J. H. Murfitt, Assistant Borough Engineer, Lt.-Col. D. Rhys-Thomas, County Cadet Secretary, Major W. J. Darville, Capt. F. W. Bourwood and R.S.M. H. Wilmott, all of the 5th Battalion. Also two parties from the 5th Battalion on Training Days. Major P. F. Phillips, Capt. and Mrs. R. C. Andrews, C.S.M. W. F. Poulter, Mr. A. T. Prigmore, Mr. R. H. Smith and Mr. I. W. Keech.

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## THE ESSEX REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

We have now been able to obtain photographs of all members of The Regiment who have been awarded the Victoria Cross, with the exception of Pte. John McDougall, 44th Foot, who was awarded the V.C. for his part in the Assault on the Taku Forts in 1860. We shall be grateful for any information which might help in obtaining a photograph of Pte. McDougall.

Gifts to the Museum for which we extend our thanks include:—

A set of 44th Foot Buttons which belonged to Lt. F. N. Parson, v.c., and also some letters written by him whilst he was serving in the South African Campaign. These have been sent to the Museum by Brigadier Popham.

The Associate Colonel, Brigadier Paton, has presented a very interesting set of maps used at Gallipoli, and from Mrs. Kitty Mitchell, daughter of the late Col. William Graydon Carter, c.m.g., we have received a bronze Eagle which was found on the battlefield of Waterloo. The Eagle is almost certainly one of those worn, on their equipment, by the Imperial Guard. A very detailed and comprehensive model of part of the Ypres Sector in 1917, has been presented by Mr. G. Faucheux. This model, which, with the glass case, measures some 2ft. by 3ft. 6in., is an excellent reproduction of warfare in the 1914-1918 War. In addition to the above we have also received some sets of medals, and included in our recent purchases have been a Shako of the 44th, a coloured print—an Essex Regiment Sergeant 1900, and the medals of No. 2583 Thomas Gregan, 44th, who served in the Crimean and China Wars. Mr. A. E. Turner has kindly sent us the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal which was awarded to his father, the late R.Q.M.S. Edward Turner, who enlisted into The Essex Regiment (44th Foot) at the Tower of London in 1885.

Among our more recent visitors have included a large number of boys from the Brentwood Preparatory School. As part of their Easter holiday task they were required to complete a questionnaire which included several questions dealing with the History of the former Essex Regiment. Their lively interest and that of many of their parents was most encouraging.

We regret that in our last notes we stated Miss Kitty Martin had kindly donated items which belonged to her father, Col. W. G. Carter, and her brothers. The donor was, of course, Mrs. Kitty Mitchell, and we extend our apologies to her for the error.

In the very near future the Museum will move to its new home, Regimental Headquarters, which are to be housed in the former Depot Officers' Mess. The move will probably necessitate the Museum being closed for a period, but

every effort will be made to re-open it as quickly as possible.

## THE ARMY ART SOCIETY

Patron: Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent.

The Society which exists to encourage art in the Army and Sister Services, is holding its 29th Exhibition during October, 1960, at The Commonwealth Institute, South Kensington, S.W.7.

All Ranks of the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, past or present, permanent or temporary, may submit works for consideration.

The Society is an entirely unofficial organisation and for several years very successful exhibitions have been held in London each autumn. Service artists can derive more interest from their hobby by aiming at submitting works for the exhibitions, which also give them an opportunity to compare their standard and style with others.

This year there will be two awards of Five Guinea Vouchers (on Messrs. Winsor and Newton) and other awards donated by well-known artist suppliers, for the pictures deemed by the Committee the best, both in oils and in water colours, submitted by non-member "Serving" artists.

As the Society is non-profit making, the entrance and hanging fees are kept as low as possible.

Intending exhibitors are invited to apply after May 1 for particulars. Applications should be addressed to The Honorary Secretary, The Army Arts Society, Capt. A. J. Daldy, 16, King Edwards Grove, Teddington, Middlesex.

## THE ROYAL UNITED SERVICE HOME FOR GIRLS

The object of the Royal United Service Home for Girls is to provide a home for, and to provide for the support in necessitous circumstances of, daughters of the Men and Women of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Army and Royal Air Force below the ranks of commissioned rank, and to maintain and educate them, preference being given to the orphans of men and women killed on active service.

The Home admits daughters of Servicemen and women who have been placed in difficult domestic circumstances through sickness or other causes, rendering it necessary for the parent to make temporary provision for the children outside the normal home.

Age for admission 5-13 years. The Home is situated at Newquay, Cornwall. Correspondence should be addressed to The Secretary, Office of the R.U.S. Home for Girls, "Damory," St. Mawgan, Newquay, Cornwall.

## 1st Battalion

### GENERAL

Our last notes left us on the high seas looking forward to our tour in Malaya, although a tragic accident, in which Pte. Burton was killed, cast a shadow over the rest of the voyage. Now we are well established on land, with our next move to Malacca looming up already. The lack of easily-defined seasons seems to allow time to slide by unnoticed. Easter rapidly followed Christmas and we sweated just the same. We arrived in Singapore at a difficult time of the morning after a night of violent thunderstorms. Despite a general blariness, disembarkation was soon completed and the Battalion drove off to Nee Soon Transit Camp, where a week was spent getting acclimatised and re-kitting. Families disappeared to various boarding houses in Singapore, staying there for about a month until their houses became available in Ipoh. Our next stop was the Jungle Warfare School at Kota Tinggi, where the training advance party had been learning all about it, ready to instruct us. This they did effectively and with the air of veterans, and for a month everyone was kept hard at it. The art of making oneself comfortable in the jungle was soon learnt—the spirit of self-preservation is strong in all of us! Feeling confident, we moved to Ipoh, which is 400 miles North of Singapore, on December 19. There were few regrets at leaving “The Silver City,” as the corrugated-iron camp was known, for the monsoon rains forced their way into just about everything, through the cracks. A heavy programme awaited us at Ipoh, with settling in, Christmas, and preparations for operations on the 27th. By much hard work, all went well, and, in fact, we had two platoons in operations on Christmas Eve.

Since then our lives have hinged round the jungle. Companies have been going in for 10 days and out for six. The Battalion has been mainly working in the south of Operation “Jaya,” which is an area of about 15 miles by 20. It is very hilly, rising to 5,400 feet in the centre—“B” Company had a base camp on the highest point, which was as good as a change of air station, though it was hard work getting there. Few tangible results have been achieved, but a great deal of valuable ground information has been found. A few days ago seven terrorists were reported to be in the area, and all available troops were rushed in. All the companies are now staying in permanently, and a platoon of each is coming out in rotation for a few days' rest. A fleeting glimpse of a C.T. was had by “A” Company on April 16, and this, after months of searching, has put our tails up and we hope for better luck soon.

Having the privilege of serving in the Commonwealth Brigade, we get many visitors, and

there is little doubt they go away impressed with the way the Australian, New Zealand, British and Gurkha Battalions work together. Ceremonial is not forgotten, and impressive guards have been provided for various occasions, the last being in the funeral procession of the late Yang di Pertuan Agong. It is to the credit of the R.S.M. that such results have been achieved with so little time to train soldiers fresh from the jungle. There is no square, which grieves him, but in Malacca there will be a brand new one!

It is difficult to enter many major sports, but in the two we have gone in for we have done well. The fencing team narrowly missed winning the Divisional Championship, though all the individual prizes came to us, and our football team is playing in the Divisional final on May 4 and our hopes are high. Cricket and badminton are played socially, not without success.

An interesting sideline to our activities is a parachute course, on which we have 20 soldiers. By the end of the year we hope to have a complete company trained in parachuting.

Lt.-Col. T. J. Barrow, D.S.O., left us to go to Hong Kong in January, having successfully guided the Battalion from amalgamation until launched into operations. We all owe him a debt of gratitude, and only wish his tour could have been rounded off with a successful contact in the jungle. Lt.-Col. M. W. Holme, M.B.E., M.C., has taken over, having come from the 3rd Division, and has been rushed off his feet ever since.

It is perhaps significant that we arrived out here on Guy Fawkes Day, went into “ops.” on Christmas Eve and had our first contact on Easter Saturday! The only thing that worries us is the lack of festivals in the near future, but in a multi-racial country that abounds in private ones, no doubt some Moon Festival, Hari Raya, or the like, will turn up to keep the record straight for our first kill.

Our horizon is now Malacca, whither “A” Company go at the beginning of May to get ready the brand new barracks for us to move into later in the year.

### “A” COMPANY

The Company Commander and a fair proportion of our N.C.O.s left us in August aboard s.s. *Nevasa* to complete the jungle warfare course in Johore, and were not seen again until our reunion at Nee Soon Transit Camp in Singapore in November. Sgt. Hardy represented us on the administrative advance party which flew to Malaya whilst we were enjoying the pleasures of troopship life in s.s. *Oxfordshire*. Since that time we have spent an arduous period of jungle training in Johore, enlivened by the efforts of Lt. Veitch

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Lieut.-Sir William Oliver inspecting the Guard of Honour provided by "A" Company, commanded by Major C. C. Norbury.

and Sgt. Harris, ably supported by the other members of the training advance party, putting us wise to the ways of the jungle. We have put in 80 nights on operations among the rocks and "bukits" of the Bubu Forest reserve, searching for a very elusive enemy. As we go to press we are packing our traps once again for the journey to Bukit Terendak Cantonment, in Malacca, as the advance party to the new Brigade Group barracks, the like of which, many are convinced, has never been seen before by British soldiery!

It is our sad duty to record the death of Pte. Ken Burton in an accident aboard the *Oxfordshire*. Burton was an old and popular member of the Company, and his death came as a great shock to us all. Our sympathies go to his mother, relatives and many friends.

Since our arrival in Ipoh, we have welcomed to the Company Lt. Wells and Sgt. Hiscock from "D" Company; Lt. Lampitt and Lt. De'ath from O.C.T.U., and two very effective drafts from "D" Company. The latter, led by Cpl. Burston, who has given us the S.A.S. slant on jungle operations in no uncertain manner! As always, the arrival of new friends has been balanced by the departure of old, and we have been forced to say au revoir to Lt. Palmer who, having suffered the rigours of life in a Borneo Long House, now commands a platoon of Sarawak Rangers; to Capt. Scragg,

now commanding "H.Q." Company, and to Lt. Veitch and Sgt. Harris, whose jungle experience was required for instructional purposes in "D" Company—these last two, however, we hope will soon return to the fold. Before these notes appear in print, Cpls. Walker and Ibbott and Ptes. Roe, Alden and Worrell will have withdrawn their valuable support for the rigours of civilian life, and to them we wish the very best of luck for the future. In closing these notes, our congratulations go to Cpls. Ibbott and Bursten on promotion to Corporal, and to L/Cpl. Gough, Bunker, Bramble, Harris and Johnstone on gaining their first tapes; also to Pte. Winney on the birth of a son.

#### "B" COMPANY

Since arriving in Malaya, all talk has been about Air Drops, Road Re-Sups, Lalang and Bukits. Eighteen days after our arrival in Ipoh found us on our first operation in the "Ulu." This was notable for the evacuation of Pte. Boxhall (suspected meningitis) which necessitated a carry of six hours on an improvised stretcher. Our thanks go to the Mortar Platoon (Lt. Barnett and Sgt. Phillip) for their sterling work during the casevac. We are happy to say that Pte. Boxhall is now well on the road to recovery. Our next important "op." was the ascent of "Gunong Bubu," 5434 feet. This

was successfully accomplished, and we received an air supply drop on the top, once the cloud cleared sufficiently for the aircraft to see the dropping zone. We celebrated next the Company Commander's birthday (March 19) in the "Ulu," and a good time was had by all, including the Adjutant, who came in complete with suitable liquid—codeword "Open Circuit Oxygen." The day was also noted for "fixes" by an Auster aircraft. A certain platoon of another Company are still convinced that they were in the right area. However, if they care to contact Lt. W. Dodd (Sunray C/S 32) they can have a copy of "The Ditty" of "32 For Support," composed in memory of one day's rations lost. We were very pleased to welcome the Commanding Officer to Company H.Q. for three days, and were assured by him that he enjoyed his "jungle food" immensely.

We have four men at present in Singapore undergoing Parachute Training. They are Cpl. Smith, Ptes. Randall - Wood, Parnell and Seacombe. We hope that Sgt. Watson, who is at present in hospital with suspected ulcers, will soon be back in the fold. Leave has not been forgotten. We have sent to the leave camp at Penang forty-five N.C.O.s and men over a period, and from all accounts, they have enjoyed it there. Tea in bed and waiter service.

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Franklin, our Company H.Q. signaller, on his well-deserved promotion. He still finds it a bit difficult to get "Pedro," the tracker dog, to speak to con-

trol. We have said farewell to C.S.M. Hogarty, and welcome in his place D/M Simmonds, to whom we extend our congratulations on his appointment.

Since leaving U.K. we have lost quite a few N.C.O.s: Cpl. Walker to "H.Q." Company as Post Corporal; Cpl. Meyrick to "H.Q." Company as Dining Hall N.C.O.; Cpl. Hammerton to Q.M.s; Cpl. Grange to the M.T.

In the world of sport we have kept pace with the remainder of the Battalion. 4 Platoon won the Inter-Platoon Christmas Basketball Competition. Congratulations to L/Cpl. Cook, Ptes. Taylor and King on their selection for the Battalion football team, of which readers have no doubt been reading elsewhere.

We shall soon be losing Pte. Read (Company Clerk), Pte. Parker (Arms Store), Pte. Searfe and Cpls. Ward and Rogers. We wish them *bon voyage* on May 24.

#### "C" COMPANY

We have had an energetic time since our arrival in Malaya. The training period spent at Kota Tinggi was a hard one, and the surrounding jungle must rate high amongst the most unpleasant in the whole of the Federation. The daily storm at Kota Tinggi was something to be remembered, it poured down every afternoon, and C/Sgt. Harris spent many a worrying day sitting in his stores, tin walls, door and roof rattling furiously about him, lightning



[Photograph by 2/Lt. Bye

Lt. Dodd and Sgt. Watson enjoying a joke while 5 Platoon prepare for operations.



[Photograph by Army Public Relations, G.H.Q., FARELF

The Brigade Commander chats with Ptes. Green and Glover, of "C" Company, at a demonstration by Security Forces.

cracking between his legs and water everywhere, wondering whether he would live to see another kit check. Whilst in Johore, the Company paid a number of visits to the Anchor Brewery in Singapore, for educational purposes, the free beer at the end was very enjoyable too! The idea was that each member of the Company made a trip. We regret to report that Cpl. Allen must have misunderstood the rules. He went round the brewery so many times that on the last visit they thought he worked there and would not let him come away with the rest of us. It was at Kota Tinggi that Sgt. Madlin played hide and seek with an elephant, and it was here also that Cpl. Mannion and his section were chased by a twenty-foot python. It will take Pte. J. Higgins a long time to forget his training days. He got bitten by a poisonous snake in the middle of the night and was foolish enough to declare it. We have always suspected Lt. Taylor of being a bloodthirsty individual and events that night proved us right. While the rest of the platoon trembled in their beds, poor Higgins was "operated" on. Cries of "another cut here," "deeper, deeper," "we must have more blood," etc., ensured us of a sleepless night; we were all glad to see the dawn, especially Higgins. In case you should get the wrong impression, we hasten to add that the Medical Officer complimented Lt. Taylor on his "razor-work," and his patient made a complete recovery.

Just before Christmas we moved by rail up to Ipoh. Here at Ipoh the camp is better and the town is nearer, and we hit it off well with the other units in the Brigade. We were the first Company to start jungle operations, and

7 Platoon and 8 Platoon spent their Christmas in very uncomfortable ambush positions which they maintained for a week. Since then our jungle operations have settled into a fairly constant pattern. We were first up Gunong Babu, the local Everest, a mountain with no claim to fame, other than its 5,434ft. We see quite a lot of the Malayan Aborigines, whom we use as trackers and porters. Sgt. Madlin and Cpl. Wardle spent an interesting two days in the "Ulu" with forty of them, bringing up our rations. They did not have a single word of each other's languages, but we got our food alright. When Sgt. Collison is not about we call 9 Platoon "the Rubber Tappers," there is some story of their chopping a few rubber trees down by mistake one day, but of course it is not true.

As usual, we have said goodbye to many old familiar faces, we wish them the best of luck in civilian life. We were sorry to see Sgt. Day go to the M.T., and when Pte. Davies, our Company Clerk, went the same way, we suspected "H.Q." Company of a take-over bid. C.S.M. Parrot has just left us for "D" Company; we were very sorry to see him go, but already his grey hairs are disappearing. We welcome 2/Lts. Cross, Westcott and C.S.M. Nicholls to the Company, and also all our signallers, who have done us very well in the jungle, and they deserve a special word of praise. So also do 7 Platoon for winning the current basketball championship!

#### "D" TRAINING COMPANY

"D" Company (Training), often called "D" (Commonwealth) Training Company, is a thriving organisation which has seen many changes in staff and soldiery since our last issue. Starting at the top, we give a very cordial welcome to our new "boss," Capt. P. L. Philcox, M.C., who has arrived full of new ideas from Hythe. He replaces Capt. Hancock, who joined the Police at Kuala Kangsar as Liaison Officer, only to return a short while ago to have a shot as Intelligence Officer. We still have our stalwart Australian element, i.e., Capt. Mclean and Lt. Hagerty. The former chases recruits fresh from England, and the latter chases N.C.O.s and potential N.C.O.'s in his Cadres. Lt. Adkin struggles with the general administration of the Company, and gets all the odd jobs, such as writing these notes and instructing when needed. The C.S.M. remains the same, C.S.M. Russell, but we have said goodbye to C.S.M. Nicholls as our Weapon Training W.O.II, as he has gone to "C" Company and done a direct "swop" with their C.S.M. Parrott. We give him a hearty welcome and hope he will enjoy his stay with us. Also Cpl. Schofield, the Company Clerk, will be leaving us soon on demob, and we wish him every success in the future.

We have had several drafts of recruits through

the Company, and they have had an enjoyable time here before being pushed out into operations. They are given an extensive course of jungle training and shooting, which qualifies them for "bandit chasing." In addition, several trips to Panckor Island, an island in the Straits of Malacca, have been arranged as a holiday. These went down extremely well, especially the one on New Year's Eve, which was a novel experience for everybody. The draft in training at the time of writing appears a promising one, we have several "old" soldiers in it, including Pte. Piper (ex-Coldstream Guards) and Pte. J. Dziemidzik, who has served in the Polish Army Cadets in Egypt. Almost 90 per cent of this draft is regular, which is encouraging, in view of the run down of National Servicemen. Operations at the moment have been intensified, due to the sighting of 7 C.T.s, and the whole Battalion has become involved in one way or another. "D" Company is no exception. The Administration Officer, Lt. Adkin, and Sgt. Harris, a training sergeant, had to go into the jungle at about two hours notice to take over a Platoon whose Commander was sick. Quite a shock and a change for them. Also the recruits are being continually used as escorts for vehicles and Aborigines on the numerous re-supplies for the companies in the jungle. It is frequently exhausting work, but it is good experience for them.

Everybody is looking toward Malacca, which will be our new stamping ground (or in the Company Commander's view, new fishing ground) sometime in the future.



[Photograph by: Army Public Relations, G.H.Q., FARELF

*Conference in the jungle.*

The Company Weapon Training Staff will be involved in no uncertain degree with the Brigade and Divisional Rifle Meetings, which are being held in July and September respectively.

#### SUPPORT COMPANY

Support Company in name, Rifle Company, in fact. We have, for a period of time, cast aside our specialist weapons in order to carry out the task of a Rifle Company in jungle warfare. We, at least, consider we cope quite well. The M.M.G. Platoon has been trained to provide two tracker teams and a dog-handlers' section. They feel quite special! The Corps of Drums is still with us, and with the Mortar and Anti-Tank (plus Assault Pioneers) Platoons, make up the three "rifle" platoons. Company H.Q. always manages to get a few willing workers for "ops." and either operates with a platoon or hides itself in some inaccessible jungle. Jungle "ops." keep us extremely busy. What joy to get away from all the bump! Platoon notes will cover various aspects of operations, but be it sufficient to say that "ops." would be far less pleasant but for the efforts of our C.Q.M.S., who endeavours to supply our every need. To the people behind the scenes, our storemen, Battalion H.Q. Staff, and so on, we thank for their efforts to keep us in the "Ulu." If they only realised . . . but to come to think of it, they actually carried in our last re-supply, so perhaps they do.

Being part of the Commonwealth Brigade has, in many ways, broadened our outlook. No longer do we wince when an Australian friend asks if "Blighty" is a town or county in England. Our vocabulary is changing considerably: "Digger" is NOT a roadworker; "Creek" is something to go up WITH a paddle, and so on. We have entertained and been entertained by many Brigade units. We would like to mention specially the Battery of Royal Australian Artillery, who we hope have not yet finished the rum (come back for more if you dare), and the Royal Australian Regiment, who think op. "Bamboo" rather more of a holiday than "Jaya."

#### MORTAR PLATOON

Since arrival in Malaya happenings have been fast and furious. Firstly Christmas festivities, our farewells to Sgt. Conboy who departed to Brigade, then "ops." December 28 saw us departing into the jungle full of expectations, a long march in the sun on the first day decidedly dampened our enthusiasm. The next day saw us fully recovered and once more ready for the fray. Excitement was scarce except for Cpl. Beckwith falling and fracturing an odd couple of ribs. Still he's revived and is still with us. Many miles have been walked but still that first C.T. eludes us. Though we slog our weary way

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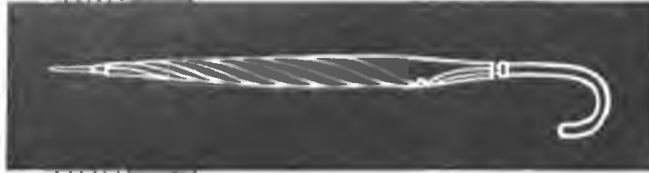
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through the jungle day after day the only thing we manage to catch are: Tinea, Exocema and Boils, the latter by the hundred. Cpl. O'Connell and our cheery signaller, Ray Booker, easily being in the lead regards the latter. In spite of the hardships (these hills get bigger every day) everyone has learnt to make themselves comfortable in base camp and we consider that you can keep your SQUARE, the jungle is for us.

#### ANTI-TANK AND ASSAULT PIONEER PLATOON

We have for a short while laid aside our MOBAT's, and with the rest of the Battalion our current preoccupation is frequent excursions into the heart of the jungle in darkest Malaya. We have received the Assault Pioneer platoon into the fold to supplement our strength. We were broken into jungle training at Kota Tinggi by Sgt. Dallimore and Cpl. Lowe who had been trained on the Advance Party, and have since put our training to test into what has so far unfortunately been fruitless searches for the local Communist Banditry. All in all the platoon has settled down to life in the jungle quite well, although there have been some alarms of differing sorts. Pte. Martin, our signaller, is not likely to forget the snake which reared its head over the top of his wireless set, and Pte. Kennedy has still not recovered from the shock of seeing his rations being borne away by a herd of jungle rats. Apart from that, however, we have managed to make ourselves comfortable. We can normally find plenty to laugh at, and the high spot as far as the platoon is concerned so far was on the first operation when the Platoon Sergeant's Basha gave way just before last light. The fact that the Platoon Commander was sitting on it at the time only served to heighten the amusement. We have had several "foreigners" attached to us, and have made welcome Ptes. Poole, Booker and Martin who have maintained our communications from time to time. We have also had Ptes. Atkins and Peck with their respective dogs which, if nothing else, made nice platoon pets. Finally we must not forget Pte. Budol, Sarawak Rangers, whom we had officially as Platoon Commander's Basha Builder. As we have lost the Sarawak Rangers we have filled the gap by sending our nearest approach, Pte. Madder, on a tracking course with the New Zealand Regiment.

Cpl. Higgins is not with us now after four and a half years' service in the Platoon. We miss his "old soldier" tales of anti-tank gunnery in Hong Kong and Brilon 1957 (a famous battle honour).

#### M.M.G. PLATOON

All the old dichards are wondering what has happened to M.M.G. Platoon, and what on

earth is this Unit? Well, with C.T. few and far between, one must have a tracking element consisting of visual trackers, dogs and firepower, welded into a team to follow up any C.T. tracks found. At Kota Tinggi we met up with our Ibans, our visual trackers, and went with them on a Tracking Team Course at the Jungle Warfare School. No sooner had we arrived in Ipoh than the alarm sounded, and we spent Christmas in the jungle. Since then we have formed ourselves into two teams, one under Lt. King and one under Sgt. Tucker. We are on two hours standby and always have our kit packed. We welcome two signallers to the fold, L/Cpl. Uppington and Pte. Martin, and also Cpl. Freeman.

Whilst not in the Ulu we spend our time playing football and swimming in the Kinta river. We have done quite well in the Soccer line, and with the Dog Section, can produce a good team. Pte. Duff, however, is under the impression that we play Continental Rules, and will insist on paying a call to the Char Wallah in the middle of a half.

Ibans, Pte. Pettipher found out, have very sharp parangs that make very short work of trees, especially if you're up them at the time. We have, alas, said goodbye to our six Ibans and now have three Aborigines in the places.

#### "DOG SECTION"

We are 22 strong, and are part of the old M.M.G. Platoon. We would like to welcome Sgt. Smith and Cpl. Gardner, both of the R.A.V.C., to our clan, and hope that they will enjoy their stay with us. As with the Tracking Team, we are used to hunt down C.Ts. We have two types of dog for this purpose, Tracker and Patrol. A Tracker Dog works on scent on the ground. A Patrol Dog works on air scent and can "point" up to 400 yards in this manner,



2/Lt. Bye and Cpl. Trotter holding the 16 feet python.



giving the direction, and distance from the enemy. We have eight Tracker and eight Patrol Dogs. Our dogs are not angelic by any means, and have bitten soldiers, including the Company Commander. One dog in particular seems allergic to signallers. Well, aren't we all? "Arron" showed Pte. Christmas who was boss when it rained, and pinched his handler's hammock for the night. Two deaths have marred our set-up however, those of "Brilliant" and "Richard," both of which occurred in January. We have decided to buy a special muzzle for Pte. Brigland, as his voice gets rather overpowering. We would like to congratulate Pte. and Mrs. Atkins on the birth of a son, and L/Cpl. Green and Sgt. Smith on their marriages.

### "CORPS OF DRUMS"

Since arriving here in Ipoh, the Corps of Drums has been trying to prove that they are not only fit for "Drum Bashing" but are doing their best at "Jungle Bashing" too. At the moment we are using the S.L.R. more than our drums and flutes, but we seem to feel more at home doing our little bit in the Terrorist Campaign. We have all learnt to cook our own food anyway.

We regret that we are about to lose the happy smiling face of L/Cpl. "Ken" Carder, who is returning to the U.K. for release. Good luck, Mr. Carder. Two other members that we have lost from our midst are Cpl. Bartlett and Pte. Goodman, who are also returning to the U.K. We have had, however, one reinforcement to the Corps of Drums just recently, Pte. Hudson, but alas "one man never did fill three blank files." We all say a hearty "Welcome to Malaya" to Mrs. Ada O'Connor who has recently arrived to join her husband here at Ipoh.

A rather grave, but important occasion, of which the Corps of Drums will always be proud. Our Drum/Sgt. and 12 Drummers, together with 12 men from "B" Company, took part, as the British Army Contingent Guard, in the Funeral Procession of the late King of Malaya, "Yang Di-Pertuan Agong," on Sunday, April 3, 1960.

We wish to congratulate Drum-Major Simmonds on his recent promotion. We are sorry that he leaves us for "B" Company but wish him all success in the future. Sgt. Austin now takes up the "staff."

### "H.Q." COMPANY

Since the December issue, Company Headquarters have remained fairly stable as regards arrivals and departures. Sgt. Phillips arrived in Malaya from 5th Bedfordshire T.A. and has since been promoted to colour-sergeant, taken over the duties of C.Q.M.S. and started walking around with a harassed look on his face all day,

in that order. He has for some years been a prominent figure in the Brigade Shooting Team. There have been only two other arrivals: Pte. Demetriou has given up his white waiter's jacket to take over Arms Storeman for the last few months of his service. He departs for England on the S.S. *Oxfordshire* on May 6 and is now on the "days to do" list and can therefore be seen wandering around camp with, "Get some in, nig," and other suitable phrases on his lips. Pte. Sanderson came to Headquarter Company in February to take over as clerk in the company office, and has proved himself to be very capable in the short time he has been with us. C.S.M. (Vic) Herd will be leaving the Sharkfin soup, Nasi Goring and Chile behind him on April 27, and will soon be getting back to boiled beef and carrots. He is taking over as R.S.M. of 5th Bedfordshire T.A. from R.S.M. Willmott. Congratulations to him on his promotion to R.S.M., and the whole Company will be sorry to see him go after his long stretch "in the chair." Our next C.S.M. will be C.S.M. (Paddy) Hogarty.

Our local D'Artagnan, Pte. Demetriou, took part in the fencing competition between the Regiment and the Hussars in March and did very well after only a few weeks' training in swordplay to get third place in the sabre match.

### INTELLIGENCE SECTION

"You want the best ABOS—we have them," might well be the motto of the Intelligence Section these days, as among our varied activities is that of providing the Aboriginal porters who carry the weekly re-supplies to the Companies in the jungle. These small men and even smaller children, carry quite enormous loads and each Platoon is provided with two of them to assist the signaller to carry his wireless, and needless to say, keep the platoon commander supplied with turtle soup and other jungle delicacies. There are usually two or three of them squatting outside the Intelligence Office waiting to be paid and provided one keeps up wind of them they are very pleasant and amusing company.

The Operations Room is the hub of the operational side of the Battalion's life and at most hours of the day and sometimes of the night it is busy with Company Commanders in for a briefing, and colour sergeants arranging resupply parties, and the intelligence staff keeping up the battle log, and passing messages to the Platoons in the jungle or dashing off traces for the innumerable "O" Groups which fill our lives. The walls are covered with the usual array of maps and multi-coloured pins and the Intelligence Officer sitting behind his two telephones can see at a glance, we hope, where everyone is. As at present we have under our command, Australians, Gurkhas, New Zealanders, and Hussars, not to mention the Malay Police,



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the coloured pins sometimes almost obliterate the map. At Kuala Kangsar Police Station, thirty miles away, we have our "Branch Office," where the members of the Section form a liaison party with the police. There the jargon is constantly of curfews, clearances, logging compartments, Special Branch Frozen Areas and some very tough gentlemen known as Surrendered Enemy Personnel.

Heavens, it's time for the sitrep again and here come some Abos for pay and the Paymaster has gone home, and the C.O. must have that trace in half an hour, and, and, and . . . Who said the base wallahs have it easy.

### SIGNAL PLATOON

"Wireless Communications in Malaya, although often difficult, are seldom impossible." We quickly discovered the truth of this statement when we began training soon after our arrival in the Federation. Learning new sets, new aeriels, and new techniques was relatively straightforward, but putting them into practice was not so simple. There are many unpredictable snags in wireless working in Malaya, and it is only by experimenting and by experience that one learns the limitations and the best methods to use. Everyone worked extremely hard in the early days and when the Company and Battalion exercises started we were ready for anything, but still very inexperienced. Now, four months later, we feel like veterans and our communications have reached a high standard of efficiency and reliability. From our predecessors we heard such remarks as "Morse — Oh, 16 words a minute" and "our signallers carry up to 80lb. on patrol." These are now commonplace events to us and in fact two members of our control team claim that "18 words per minute are a bit of buck." At present our command net includes sub-units of several Commonwealth units. Soon after operations began Company signal detachments were attached to the rifle companies for all purposes except signal training. In February a cadre for Company reserve operators was held and their usefulness in the Companies has already been proved, particularly when signallers are sick or take some well-earned leave. The cadre trained in England have proved themselves worthy of their white lanyards and now approach any task with the air of seasoned veterans.

Since the last notes there have been a number of arrivals and departures.

Major R. L. Jackson went to Support Company on promotion and handed over a clean bright and shining Platoon to Lt. J. E. Hutchings. The latter, who had been learning the ropes of signalling in Malaya with the Loyals as a member of the Advance Party, was blissfully unaware of his appointment until a signal shattered his tranquillity. We welcome Sgt. Templeman who has come to start work again

after a T.A. tour, Cpl. Higgins from Support Company, Ptes. Luckman and Wilson from "D" Company and Cpl. "Lester" Piggott of the Cheshires who has foregone the luxuries of Singapore for a three-month attachment to us. L/Cpl. Carter has gone to England to get married and the R.S.O. has given him a wedding present in the shape of a three-month honeymoon at the Signal Wing, Hythe. We congratulate Pte. French on becoming a father, Cpl. Neal, Ptes. Elliott, Faulkner and Booker will shortly be following suit.

Sport has not featured prominently in our activities recently due to operational commitments. However the following have played games for the Battalion here: Pte. Garrett, football and cricket; L/Cpl. Polley, football; Cpl. Peachey, basketball; The R.S.O., fencing.

### BAND

On arrival out here the Band lost no time in kitting themselves out in No. 3 dress and began to build up what is now a high reputation throughout Malaya and Singapore. The engagements are too numerous and varied to mention but everywhere they go, be it the full band or one of the dance sections, the reaction has been most encouraging and several favourable Press reports have been published. Radio Malaya and Radio Singapore have both broadcast programmes given by the Band. Radio Singapore were brought to book by Mr. Brown, the Bandmaster, for publishing us as a "Brass Band!" However honour was satisfied when they described "this crack Military ensemble" as a Military Band in a later edition! The fanfare trumpets have attracted much attention and are in great demand.

### Q.M.'s DEPARTMENT

With initial issues of jungle clothing and equipment just a ghastly nightmare of yesterday, the Quartermaster's Department is sailing through the calm waters that precede the Malacca Storm. We are now in the third camp the Battalion has occupied since disembarking in Singapore, and it is a welcomed change to have all the Department together for a short spell. So often in the last few months we have had either Advance, or Rear, Parties miles away, linked only by that masterpiece of modern inventions—that blight of all Quartermasters—the telephone. Within a month, however, R.Q.M.S. Jenns and his merry men will be heading south to the Promised Land of Malacca, to ensure that plentiful supplies of milk and honey are ready for the multitude.

Since arriving in Ipoh we have lost the oldest member of our Staff, Sgt. "Bill" Barrett, to the P.R.I., where he has taken over the duties of P.R.I. Sergeant. Also posted was Pte. "Bill" Williams, our R.A.O.C. Cobbler. We welcome,



*(Photograph by British Army Public Relations, FARBLF.)*

*The Band playing at Kampong Tawaj for an Old Folks' Charity Dinner. They appear to have attracted a young audience also.*

however, his replacement, Sgt. "Wally" Bint, and new members to the Staff: Sgt. "Jock" East, Cpls. "Ray" Hammerton and "Jeff" Lister, also Ptes. "Chez" Newell, "Eddy" Glover, "Norm" Howard and "Ben" Clow. We hope their stay will be a long and happy one. Our heartiest congratulations go to Sgt. "Pete" Linnett whose marriage in U.K. delayed his sailing date "Slightly." (Not a word to the Q.M. about THAT one.) Also to L./Cpl. "Alan" Homewood on his recent promotion to "Supervisery Class." Staff Sergeant "Tiffy" Blake, Craftsmen "Lofty" Rowlands and "Jock" Shand are still "Soldiering" on in the Armourers Shop, whilst our athletes of the Pioneers Shop, Ptes. "Reg" Stevens and "Sparks" Speck are busy "Boxing" for the forthcoming move.

#### M.T. PLATOON

Having arrived in Malaya, our first major task was to move the Battalion to Kotta Tinggi for "Jungle Training." This went quite smoothly. As training got under way, we found ourselves providing a shuttle service for Companies to the various training areas, for at this stage we had only 10 x 3-Ton Vehicles. In addition, during this period, we managed to train some new drivers.

Early in December our Advance Party took over the transport from The Loyals. This, having stood in the open for about a month, looked, to say the least, a sorry sight, for the sun had ruined all paintwork. With our holding of 3-Ton Vehicles now reduced to eight and the Battalion committed to operations, drivers were working round the clock and for three months things were just a little hectic. Sgt. Warren and his team of R.E.M.E. fitters are to be congratulated for keeping the vehicles "on the road," working against the clock in order to fulfil the details. However, we now have more vehicles and drivers and R.A.S.C. have "volunteered" assistance on Ops runs, so the tempo has slowed down to a more reasonable level.

During this period we said goodbye to Sgt. Batchelor who had been M.T. Sergeant since Dortmund days and in his place welcomed Sgt. Day. Although he was not M.T. trained, Sgt. Day soon sorted out his "tippits and semi-dyedral grommets" and has now a firm grip on the servicing, inspections and, in fact, the whole Platoon. Regardless of banter and caustic comment from various members of the Platoon he has passed his driving test and is now considered a true "petrol feet." As six months have elapsed since we embarked in U.K., the run out of individuals has commenced. We have already bade farewell to Pte. Raife and



Major and Mrs. Stenning "Going Away"!

shortly shall lose L/Cpl. Brown (the C.O.'s driver) and Pte. Dawson. However, there seems to be no shortage of volunteers to join the Platoon. Maybe the jungle is not so neutral as we were led to believe.

#### OFFICERS' MESS

We arrived in Malaya on November 5, but were unable to open a Mess until we reached Ipoh at the end of December. During the interim period we were well looked after by the R.A.O.C. at Kota Tinggi. As we were in the process of moving, Christmas passed very quickly. However, in early January, we dined out Lt.-Col. T. J. Barrow who was handing over to Lt.-Col. M. W. Holme prior to taking up a staff appointment in Hong Kong. We congratulate Major H. N. Stenning on his marriage. The reception was held most successfully in the Mess amidst much champagne. The bridal couple finally left for their honeymoon in a "Trishaw" driven by Capt. Green. As the New Year progressed, the tempo of social functions increased. We have done much to promote Commonwealth Relations with Regimental Guest Nights and after-church drinks on Sundays. In mid-January we entertained a Vietnamese Press delegation, headed by the Director of Information, to dinner. They were highly impressed on this their first visit to a British Officers' Mess.

In February, Mr. Pirie-Gordon, a director of Glyn Mills, presented a most attractive silver

inkstand to the Mess. The stand consists of a silver engraved tray with two ink pots. A miniature hart surmounts one ink pot and an eagle the other. This gesture by Messrs. Glyn Mills Holt's branch was much appreciated.

We are sorry to record the departure of Majors D. W. Browne and H. N. Stenning, Lts. Thorogood and Palmer. The following new members have joined: Capts. P. L. Purdy, P. L. Philcox and Padre Stanley, 2/Lts. R. S. Cross, P. B. Light, G. D. De'Ath and D. N. Westcott.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

Much rain has flown down the monsoon ditch since our last contribution to *The Wasp and The Eagle*. No longer do bulging TV eyes, like two cherries in a glass of Gordons Gin, glare sightlessly across the breakfast table at us. Instead, with a warm health-giving sun beating down on us all day, we watch members fighting a losing battle with that friend of senile decay, that bottled jungle juice, "Tiger Beer." We now are firmly established in Ipoh and are lucky to have a comparatively new, and very comfortable, Sergeants' Mess in which to hold our weekly socials. These are attracting more and more guests each week from surrounding units, and are a great success. We have also entertained the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Australian and New Zealand Regiments of the Commonwealth Brigade. This was a night to remember (if only we could), and mem-



[Photograph by Capt. C. M. F. Randall.

*The Silver Inkstand presented by Messrs. Glyn, Mills and Company, Holt's Branch.*

bers of the New Zealand Regiment treated us to an exhibition of Maori Songs and Dancing that was even more entertaining than certain members' interpretations of the "Rock and Roll" on a social night.

#### ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Since arriving in Malaya, three members have rejoined us from the T.A. C/Sgt. "Bill" Phillips, Sgts. "Bill" Potton and "Ron" Templeman, it's a pleasure to have them home again. Sgt. "Len" Smith, R.A.V.C., and Sgt. "Wally" Bint, R.A.O.C., are our other two recent arrivals, and we hope their tour with us will be a long and happy one. On the other side, we have said farewell to Sgt. "Eddie" Edwards, now with the T.A. We wish him every success in his new job and expect to see more of him in the future. We have great pleasure in welcoming three new honorary members to the Mess, and congratulate their proud parents. Janice Parrott, daughter of C.S.M. and Mrs. "John" Parrott, born January 1960; Miles Hogarty, son of C.S.M. and Mrs. "Paddy" Hogarty, born October 1959; Denise Madlin, daughter of Sergeant and Mrs. "Eric" Madlin, born January 1960.

#### CORPORALS' CLUB

During our stay in Ipoh, whatever time we have had at our disposal, we have, as a Club sown very good relationships with our neighbouring units, and within the Commonwealth Brigade of which we are the only British In-

fantry Battalion. Our Sunday morning football matches with units in the Ipoh area have been very successful in support we received and in the entertaining of our guests after the matches. So far we have played the R.A.S.C., Royal Hussars (Q.M.O.), and the detachment of R.M.P., whose Clubs are now open to us whenever we need a change of scenery or topics to chat about. It was during the match against the Hussars that our excellent goalkeeper, John (Trautman) Beckwith, "came out" and chased an opposing player and the ball through our own goal much to the amusement of the team's supporters and to the consternation of the player himself.

#### THE OUTING TO THE SEASIDE

In the February on outing was organised for members, wives and children to the seaside at Lumut on the north-west coast, which was enjoyed by everyone until the following day and for several days afterwards when the greeting in the Club was "mind my sunburn," especially with Frank Foster who had acquired a new moon on top of his head. Never mind, Frank, the sun is not as hot at Harwich, even in July. Recently we held a social evening to which we invited our friends of the local units and their wives; our Club being filled by 8 p.m. was a good sign. During the evening amongst the many games played, we held a Dutch Auction, the proceeds of which were presented as a donation to the local Salvation Army Home for Boys.



[Photograph by Army Public Relations G.H.Q., FARELF

*The Battalion Team v. The Kinta Indians — 1959 Champions*

*Back row : Lt. (Q.M.) D. Bebbington, Pte. Garrett, Pte. Marshall, Pte. Curtis, Pte. Winney, Pte. Casey, Pte. Usher.*

*Front row : Pte. Ashby, Pte. Murphy, Pte. Shortland, Pte. Allen (captain), Pte. Sawford.*

In closing we wish to offer our congratulations to all the members on their promotions, to individualise would fill this magazine, and to those members who have departed on posting, release and who are due to do so in the future, we extend our very best wishes to all.

#### THE BATTALION FOOTBALL TEAM

It is with a great sense of pride of achievement that we report the success of our football team since arriving in Malaya. Still under the management of Lt. (Q.M.) D. Bebbington, we have formed a brand new team which has more than come up to expectations. Seven of the team were recently selected to represent the Combined Services against the Malaya team and all seven put up sterling performances. We have also played combined teams from Lower Perak and North Perak, winning both matches. Our best game was against the Taiping Prisons team in a charity match—this team is considered to be the best individual team in Malaya. After leading 2—0 for most of the game, the heat and pace of the game began to tell and the much fitter Malayan team scored three goals. However we were not disgraced, and some very good write-ups in the newspapers in our favour were published.

In the first round of the Army Cup we won against Royal Signals on their ground 6—1, and followed up with a sound victory over the New Zealand Regiment of 7—0. During this period between these Cup matches we played combined North Malaya twice and beat them 3—1 and 4—2. Our third match in the Army Cup was also our semi-final in the Divisional Cup against the Royal Hussars and, for the first time playing in our home town of Ipoh, we again defeated this team 3—1. The team this year consists of one professional, Pte. Allen, who captains the team and is on Charlton's books, and ten amateurs. They have all adapted their play to produce an effective, fast-moving team that plays constructive, attractive football. The team enjoys a large following of both Battalion and civilian supporters and often plays to crowds of several hundred.

Although the players form a good all-round team, outstanding amongst them is Pte. Allen, the fast-moving centre-forward, whose lightning dashes down the middle, combined with clever footwork and a powerful shot, ensures him a great following amongst any crowd. Aply supporting him is his inside-right Pte. Murphy, a clever, constructive footballer whose ginger head is seen in every part of the field, assisting





*The Battalion Fencing Team — 1960.*

*Front row (left to right): Sgt. Day, Lt. J. E. Hutchings, Capt. C. M. F. Randall, Lt. M. Adkin. Back row: Pte. Simpson, Lt. R. E. Hagerty (R.A.A.C.), Pte. Demetriou.*

his own defence as well as splitting the opposition. At centre-half is Pte. Winney, a cool, calculating player whose anticipation is a delight to watch. Much of the credit for the low total of goals scored against the team must be shared between him and the goalkeeper, Pte. Curtis. This 'keeper seems to improve with every game he plays, and has the complete confidence of every member of the team.

### FENCING

The climate of Malaya makes fencing a very hot business indeed. However the enjoyment and physical benefit derived from this sport outweigh the discomfort and heat to a very large extent. Early in February a nucleus of fencers, some experienced and some not, together with a small group of beginners, started training for the Divisional Fencing Championships. In mid-March we took part in this tournament at Ipoh. The following results were obtained in the Individual Championships:

*Foil:* 1st, Sgt. Day, B.; 5th, Pte. McDonald, C.; 6th, Lt. M. Adkin.

*Epee:* 1st, Sgt. Day, B.; 3rd, Capt. C. M. F. Randall; 5th, Lt. J. E. Hutchings.

*Sabre:* 1st, Sgt. Day, B.; 3rd, Pte. Demetriou, A.; 6th, Lt. R. E. Hagerty (R.A.A.C.); 7th, Pte. Simpson, D.

*Master-at-Arms:* Sgt. Day, B.

Throughout the competition Sgt. Day fenced with great skill and did not lose a single fight—a feat of physical endurance in itself. On the following day we met The Royal Hussars in the Divisional Team Final. In an exciting and very even contest the Battalion Team was defeated by the last hit in the last fight. The match could not have been closer and it was rather galling to miss a visit to Hong Kong for the FARELF finals by so narrow a margin. However, we have the consolation of knowing that the Battalion will be well represented in Hong Kong by Sgt. Day who will take part in the Individual Championships.

The measure of success achieved in such a short time is almost entirely due to Sgt. Day's coaching and enthusiasm. With regular training we are confident that we can improve a great deal by next year.

## Regimental Depot

*Lieut.-General Sir Reginald F. S. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., Colonel, The Third East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot).*

April 1, 1960.

Sir,—I have the honour to report that the Regimental Depot of the Third East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) was closed on this day.

The occasion was marked by the presence at a small ceremony at the entrance to the Depot of the Chairman of the Brentwood Urban District Council, Councillor Mrs. Dell, J.P., C.C.

Last Post was sounded and the Regimental Flag was lowered. A bouquet was then presented to Mrs. Dell on behalf of yourself and All Ranks of the Regiment to convey our appreciation of the happy association that has always existed between the people of Brentwood and Warley and the former Depot of the Essex Regiment and of the Third East Anglian Regiment. The remaining troops, under command of the Adjutant, Capt. B. M. Parsons, with R.S.M. E. Hellicar as Second-in-Command, marched ceremonially out of barracks while Reveille was sounded.

The Regimental Flag has, however, been re-raised to signify that although the Regimental Depot has closed, Regimental Headquarters will remain and the Regiment's link with Brentwood and Warley has *NOT* been severed.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

J. B. KITTO,  
*Major, Officer Commanding.*

3rd East Anglian Regiment  
(16th/44th Foot),  
Warley Barracks.



[Photograph by "The Brentwood Gazette"]

#### THE CLOSING OF THE REGIMENTAL DEPOT

*Major Kitto (O.C. Depot), accompanied by Mrs. Dell (Chairman, the Brentwood Urban District Council), watch the lowering of the Regimental Flag and closing of the Gates. In the background the Regimental Secretary and Major Stead, Secretary, The Essex Regiment Association.*

The above report of the final closing of the Regimental Depot, made by Major J. B. Kitto, the last C.O. to the Colonel of the Regiment, was preceded by a brief but impressive ceremony held at the Depot on the morning of April 1.

Shortly after 11 a.m. the company, which included Mrs. Dell, Chairman of the Brentwood Urban District Council, Major Kitto, O.C., Depot, Lt.-Col. A. C. Young, Regimental Secretary, Major T. R. Stead, Secretary, the Essex Regiment Association, and others assembled at the Depot gates.

In a short address Major Kitto mentioned the long and happy association of the Essex Regiment with Warley Barracks, the shorter but equally happy association of the 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) with them and the thousands of men who had been trained and had passed through during the Regiment's some ninety years' occupation of the Barracks. Now all recruits would be trained at the East Anglian Brigade Depot at Bury St. Edmunds, but there was one bright gleam in this sad business, the retention by

the Regiment of the former Depot Officers' Mess as its Regimental Headquarters, thus the link with Warley and Brentwood would still be maintained.

In conclusion, Major Kitto said the Regiment's association with the inhabitants of Warley and Brentwood had always been most happy and as a token of the Regiment's appreciation of this association he then presented Mrs. Dell with a bouquet, in the Regimental colours, on behalf of the Colonel of the Regiment and All Ranks. Mrs. Dell replied and emphasised the happy ties which had always existed between the Regiment and Brentwood and Warley and stated how happy they were to know these ties would still exist.

The Regimental Flag was then lowered while the Buglers blew the "Last Post." This was followed by the marching out of the Depot of the last party of men under the command of Capt. B. M. Parsons, the Adjutant, with R.S.M. E. Hellicar as Second-in-Command. The salute was taken by Mrs. Dell and Major Kitto. After the party had passed the gates were closed. The Buglers blew "Reveille" and the Regi-

mental Flag was raised again to signify that although the Depot was closed the Regiment was still there and its Regimental Headquarters would now become its home and preserve the links which had existed all these years with the people of Warley and Brentwood.

#### GENERAL

##### *Le Roi est mort — vive le Roi.*

We feel that this well-known expression sums up our thoughts as we write these notes from a Depot devoid of the bustle and hustle of normal Depot life. As the last outward signs gradually disappear Regimental Headquarters begins to blossom and we are very glad to think that our old Officers' Mess is to become its home, as well as that of the Essex Regiment Museum. So the flag still flies!

Since our last Annual Administrative Inspection on November 26, 1959, which we are glad to report went off very well, our members have dwindled and everything we have done has had the inevitable thought in the background of "this is the last time we shall do this."

Christmas was celebrated with the usual "gusto." We had an excellent children's party and our thanks go to Sgts. Hirst and South, Cpl. Warming and the ladies, headed by Mrs. Stead, for the splendid tea, entertainment and presents they provided. The Christmas dinner on December 23 was a triumph for Capt. French, Sgt. Hirst and his cooks, who provided a memorable meal which was much enjoyed.

The final Passing-Out Parade was held on March 12. It was a modest affair, from which nine Regular soldiers passed-out to join the Battalion. We much appreciated the services of the Corps of Drums of the 1st Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment on this occasion. Since then we have carried out no training commitments and have been mainly concerned with the process of closing down.

There has, of course, been many departures during this period and to all those who have left us we bid God-speed and hope they will have happy memories of their service at the Depot. We wish particularly to mention the departure of Major Palmer, who handed over command of the Depot in December to take up a Staff appointment at the Ministry of Defence. His period of command coincided with the amalgamation and the hard work and boundless enthusiasm with which he carried out his duties as Secretary of the Amalgamation Sub-Committee and as O.C., Depot, and later as the first C.O. of the new Regimental Depot, played a very important part in ensuring the success the amalgamation has proved to be. We wish him and Mrs. Palmer all good luck and happiness in the future.

R.S.M. Hellicar has been posted to the Far

East and leaves in July for Nee Soon, where he will carry out the duties of Garrison Sergeant-Major. This will, he expects, be his last tour of service before he retires and we wish him and Mrs. Hellicar a happy tour. C.S.M. Archer has been posted to the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.), C/Sgt. Belcher, Sgts. South, Cracknell and Richardson have joined the Brigade Depot.

Major Stead, after nearly 21 years' Regimental service, has retired and has taken up his duties as R.O. III at Regimental Headquarters, where his principal interests will be the Essex Regiment Association and the Essex Regiment Museum.

On February 24 Col. Sir John Ruggles-Brise, H.M. Lieutenant for Essex, honoured us with a visit to say farewell. His never failing interest in Regimental affairs is a great help and encouragement.

Lts. Pike and Sincock, who were posted to the Brigade Depot, pending joining the 1st Battalion, have decided, with Cpl. Carroll, to join the Battalion by motoring overland and it is hoped to give a full account of their departure in the December number.

The time has come to disperse and write our final farewell. Major Kitto, after leave and a resettlement course, retires to civil life; Capt. Parsons is to take up a Staff appointment in Aldershot District; Capt. French and C/Sgt. Boreham, the last to leave, are to join the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment and to go to civil life respectively.

So goodbye and every success to all at Regimental Headquarters who now have the responsibility of keeping the Regimental Flag flying true and bold.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

On Friday, March 18, the doors of the Depot Sergeants' Mess closed for ever. A sad occasion, which was felt deeply by all concerned. However, in spite of this hanging over us for some long time, we can justly claim that we maintained to the end a very high standard of hospitality and entertainment.

In November we held a triangular games evening between ourselves, our neighbours, 1st Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and our old friends, 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.), in which we proved to be the eventual winners. This was followed in December by a very successful Christmas Draw, in which over 2,000 tickets were sold. The Committee, ably led by C/Sgt. Boreham, are to be congratulated on their splendid efforts. Our final social event took place in February, when at a social evening we entertained some 25 members of the London Branch, under the leadership of our old friend Mr. (Bill) Aldridge. Spirits



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[Photograph by : Lindrum Studios

*Officers of the Depot with Colonel Sir John A. Ruggles-Brise, Bt., C.B., O.B.E., T.D., J.P., H.M. Lieutenant for Essex, on the occasion of the Lord Lieutenant's farewell visit.*

*Left to right : 2/Lt. V. J. Gee, Major T. R. Stead, Capt. V. A. French, Capt. B. M. Parsons, Lt. P. J. Sincock, The Lord Lieutenant, Lt. W. R. W. Pike, Major J. B. Kitto.*

were high, the company was good and a good time was had by all.

Many departures have, of course, taken place and some are mentioned elsewhere in these notes, but in addition Sgt. Fletcher left to join the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.), S/Sgt. Adams (R.E.M.E.) left for the R.M.P. Depot at Woking, C.S.M. Tredwell for B.A.O.R., and Sgt. Dickerson (R.A.E.C.) for Colchester. Sgt. Dixon has gone to Aden, Sgt. Walker has relieved Sgt. Tofield as the Army Recruiter at Chelmsford, and Sgt. Hirst has left for Shorncliffe. Sgts. Tocock and Tofield have gone to civil life. We wish them all good luck for the future and send our sincere congratulations to Sgts. Hirst and Richardson on their well earned promotion to Warrant rank.

And so farewell until we meet in other places.

#### SPORT

##### HOCKEY

This has been the most successful hockey

season at the Depot for some years, as the following figures show :

Games played, 25; Won, 18; Drawn, 1;  
Lost, 6; Goals for, 68; Goals against, 28.

The team is to be congratulated on winning the East Anglian District Minor Units' Competition and on being runners-up in the Eastern Command Competition. The Command final was played on March 30 at Raynes Park and resulted in a clear win for the R.A. Depot, Woolwich. They fielded a very strong side with which our team, collected from Warley, Bury St. Edmunds, Dover and London, owing to the closing of the Depot, was unable to compete. The results of the District and Command Competitions were :

##### District

First round : beat A.A. Signal Squadron, 5-0.

Second round : beat R.A.M.C., 2-0.

Final : beat Depot, The 1st East Anglian Regiment, 3-0.



[Photograph by Larry Morgan, King's Road, Brentwood

*The Regimental Depot Hockey Team, 1959/60—Winners the East Anglian District Minor Units Hockey Competition.*

*Standing (left to right): Cpl. Smith, Capt. French, C/Sgt. Leach, Capt. Pike, Pte. Keune, R.S.M. Hellicar, Sgt. Toccock (Umpire).*

*Sitting (left to right): L/Cpl. Bell, Pte. Parker, Capt. Parsons, Cpl. Smith, Major Kitto.*

#### Command

Semi-final: beat R.E.M.E., 2-0.

Final: lost to Depot, R.A., 0-4.

Twenty other friendly games were played, eight against Major Units. In the District Major Units Competition we had a very enjoyable tussle against the Gunner Regiment from Shoeburyness and finally lost 3-4 after extra time.

Depot hockey finished on a very high standard and the excellent results have been due to the enthusiasm and good team work of all the players. It is not proposed to mention individuals but our special thanks go to Sgt. Toccock for his contribution to Regimental hockey, both as a player and more recently as a very reliable umpire. We wish him well on his retirement from the Army.

#### FOOTBALL

The Depot football team did not do as well as it did in the season 1958/59, but nevertheless a match was played almost every week and well over half of them were won by the Depot team. In the East Anglian District Minor Units Competition, in which we were the winners for

1958/59, we were beaten in the second round by 156 Provost Company, R.M.P., a very strong side.

The team was very ably captained this season by L/Cpl. Brothers, until he left for the Brigade Depot, when his duties were taken over by L/Cpl. Amos, but by this time our numbers were so small that even the Officer i/c Football was almost justified in including himself in the team!

### MR. AND MRS. PURSER

On Thursday, February 25, a Regimental cocktail party was held at the Regimental Depot, at which were present the Colonel of the Regiment and Lady Denning, the Associate Colonel and Mrs. Paton, Col. and Mrs. Salew, Col. and Mrs. Noble, the Brigade Colonel and Mrs. Heal, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Milman, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Pepys, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Simmons, Major J. B. Kitto and the Officers of the Depot with their wives, the Regimental Secretary and Mrs. Young, and serving and retired Officers



[Photo by Lindrum Studios, 4, High Street, Brentwood

Mr. and Mrs. Purser after receiving their presentations.

of the Regiment. Although the occasion was somewhat a sad one with the thought it was the last Regimental social occasion to be held at the Depot, all were cheered with the news that the Mess would become Regimental Headquarters and thus remain in the Regiment.

During the evening the opportunity was taken to say goodbye to Mr. and Mrs. Purser and to mark their long and loyal service to the Essex Regiment. Mr. Purser enlisted in the Essex Regiment in 1916 and was Officers' Mess Steward in the Regiment for some twenty years, while Mrs. Purser has served as Officers' Mess Cook.

To mark their sincere appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Purser's long, loyal and excellent services to the Regiment the Officers of the Essex Regiment had subscribed towards a farewell present. This consisted of a substantial cheque and a carved wooden Eagle with the following inscription on a silver plate on its base:

*Presented by the Essex Regiment  
to  
Mr. and Mrs. Purser  
in recognition of their loyal and devoted  
service to the Regiment, 1916-1958.*

At the invitation of the Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Paton, late Colonel of the Essex

Regiment, and Col. Salew made the presentations. Brigadier Paton said "As the former Colonel of the Essex Regiment I have one last task left me which gives me pleasure. This evening we want to make clear the great debt the Essex Regiment owes to Mr. and Mrs. Purser; for the best part of forty years they have looked after us in the Regiment. They set a standard in the Mess that few could equal and none surpass." Col. Salew spoke of the splendid loyalty and devotion of Mr. and Mrs. Purser, which began when Mr. Purser joined the Regiment in 1916.

The Eagle and cheque were then handed to Mr. and Mrs. Purser. Mr. Purser in his reply said it had been a privilege and pleasure to serve the Officers of the Regiment.

We are glad to announce that Mr. and Mrs. Purser will continue to serve the Regiment, Mr. Purser having accepted the position of Storeman at Regimental Headquarters. They will continue to occupy the flat in the Officers' Mess.

## 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.)

The following telegram was sent to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother on the occasion of the celebration of the Battalion's Centenary:

*"All Ranks The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.) celebrating their Centenary at Bedford submit their humble duty to Her Majesty and send their loyal greetings."*

LUKE,  
Hon. Colonel."

The following was Her Majesty's gracious reply:

*"I was deeply touched by your kind message of loyal greetings, and I send my warmest good wishes to all ranks of the 5th Battalion The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.) on the occasion of the Centenary of The Regiment."*

ELIZABETH R.,  
Colonel-in-Chief.

The preparations for the Centenary, which the Battalion celebrated on March 20, occupied much of the first quarter of this year, and included rehearsals at Bedford and Luton on several Sundays beforehand. When the great day came we were blessed with cool but bright weather, to everybody's relief. From an early hour Kempston Barracks were once again a hive of activity, a sight which brought happy feelings to many old comrades who had been sorry to see the Barracks lying dark and empty



during the months before the 5th Battalion took them over.

The celebrations began with a luncheon in the Officers' Mess, given by the Hon. Colonel, Colonel The Right Hon. Lord Luke. Some 50 officers and their guests were present at the lunch, which taxed the capacity of the Mess to the utmost. Among the guests were H.M. Lieutenant for Bedfordshire, Major Simon Whitbread and Mrs. Whitbread; the Secretary of State for War, the Right Hon. Christopher Soames, and Mrs. Soames; the Right Hon. Dr. Charles Hill, Member of Parliament for Luton, and Mrs. Hill; the Right Hon. Lennox Boyd, Member of Parliament for Mid-Bedfordshire, and Lady Lennox Boyd; the High Sheriff, Ald. N. G. Brightman; the Mayors of Bedford, Luton and Dunstable; the Colonel of The Regiment, General Sir Reginald Denning; the Associate Colonel and Mrs. Paton; General Sir Henry Jackson; the District Commander, Major-General Talbot, and Mrs. Talbot; the Brigade Commander and many others.

After lunch, a simple but impressive Service of Thanksgiving was held in the Parish Church of St. Paul's, Bedford. The Church, a large one, was packed with the Battalion and their guests, retired officers, old comrades, and many others who had come to pay their tribute of respect and good wishes on this Centenary Day. The Vicar of St. Paul's, the Rev. J. H. King, M.B.E., M.A., assisted by the Rev. J. Bowers, A.K.C., Chaplain to the Battalion, conducted the service, and the address was given by the Archdeacon of Bedford, the Venerable B. C. Snell, M.A.

After the service the Battalion marched through Bedford with Drums Beating, Colours Flying and Bayonets fixed, thus exercising the privileges granted to The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment when the Freedom of Entry to the Borough was bestowed on The Regiment in 1946. This Freedom was extended to the 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) on May 30, 1959, on the occasion of the Presentation of Colours to the 1st Battalion.

With the Battalion on parade were "D" Company 301 (E.A.) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.), with detachments from the Bedford School and Bedford Modern School C.C.F.s, with their Corps of Drums, the Bedfordshire A.C.F., and the Old Comrades Branches. Six branches had their Standards on parade, and especially welcome was the Standard and contingent from the Saffron Walden Branch of The Essex Regiment Association. The salute was taken by the Lord Lieutenant, Major Simon Whitbread, from the saluting base in St. Paul's Square. After the march-past the Battalion marched back to Kempston Barracks and made its official entry into its new home in the Keep.

After the parade had been dismissed, guests, friends and families were entertained in the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and the Social



(Photograph by News Assignments, Bedford.)

*The Old Comrades headed by their Branch Standards, among which was the Standard of the Saffron Walden Branch of The Essex Regiment Association, and led by Colonel M. L. Reynolds, O.B.E., and the Secretary The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association, Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., march past.*

Club, and the day ended with the Band and Drums beating Retreat on the square. Thus ended the celebrations, and soon the Keep became quiet and still, but with a difference to the preceding months of darkness and emptiness, men of The Regiment were back within its walls!

\* \* \*

The move into the Keep was completed when the Quartermaster and his staff were finally "dug out" of the stores and offices in the huts, in the fields, which had been their "home" for many years. Let it be said that if at first they appeared to be a little reluctant to move, we are sure that they will soon settle down and will be as happy as the rest of the Battalion is in its new home.

\* \* \*

A new and very successful system of training was introduced this winter. On one Sunday of each month the Battalion has assembled at Bedford where training in the following cadres has been carried out: Officers' and Senior N.C.O.s, Junior N.C.O.s, Recruits, Signals, M.T. and Support Weapons. On one occa-

5th BATTALION THE BEDFORDSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.) CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS



(Photographs : Nos. 1, 2 and 4 by News Assignments, Bedford. No. 3 by The Bedfordshire Times.

(Top left): Left to right : Brigadier C. M. Paton, C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L., Associate Colonel, Lieut.-General Sir Reginald Denning, K.B.E., C.B., D.L., Colonel The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot), His Worship The Mayor of Bedford, the late Alderman C. N. Barrott, The High Sheriff, Alderman N. G. Brightman, J.P., H.M. Lieutenant for Bedfordshire, Major Simon Whitbread, J.P., Colonel The Right Hon. Lord Luke, T.D., D.L., Hon. Colonel 5th Battalion The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.). (Top right): The Drums passing the Saluting Base. (Bottom left): No. 1 Guard marches past. (Bottom right): The Colours (Colour Officers : Lt. N. R. Ayrton and 2/Lt. P. J. Source).

sion we were particularly pleased to have "R" Battery of the 286 Field Regiment Royal Artillery (The Hertfordshire Yeomanry) with us for the day. They are our affiliated Battery.

Shooting has continued, but not with quite the success of previous years. In the Brigade Rifle Meeting we came third to the 5th North-amptons and 4th Essex. Capt. W. D. Folds and C/Sgt. Dixon provided the Battalion's best effort by coming first in the L.M.G. Pairs (T.A.). The following results were obtained in the District Rifle Meeting:

*The 54 (E.A.) Infantry Division Team Competition—Third.*

*Individual Rifle Competition, T. A. Units:*  
T.A. Champion — Capt. W. D. Folds.  
Veteran Champion — Capt. W. D. Folds.

*Individual Rifle Competition, T.A., Units:*  
Regular—W.O.II J. Jackman—Third.

*L.M.G. Pairs Competition, T.A. Units:*  
Regular—W.O.I H. Willmott and W.O.II J. Jackman—First.

*S.M.C. Competition, T.A. Units:* Capt. W. D. Folds—Third.

*S.M.C. Competition, T.A. Units (Y.S.):*  
L/Cpl. M Childs—Third.

The Band has had its usual busy time with the Centenary Celebrations and Band Concerts in Bedford, Luton, Biggleswade, Leighton Buzzard and Ampthill.

The Officers' Mess, which is housed comfortably and happily in the former Depot Officers' Mess, is now in full operation. It is open Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings and on training days lunch is also provided. We wish to emphasise that on these occasions any past members of The Regiment who care to call will always receive a warm welcome.

Lt. Peter Brett and 2/Lt. David Pugh have left us, and 2/Lts. The Hon. I. H. C. Lawson-Johnston, I. R. Haywood and P. J. Source have joined us.

The Sergeants' Mess is comfortably settled in its new quarters in the Keep, where they have more room and the beer is as good as ever. The Mess was open on the occasion of the Centenary Celebrations, and since then two very successful social evenings have been held. On the first of these evenings a presentation of a silver tray from the members of the Mess was made to Lt.-Col. Phipps who, with Mrs. Phipps, was present during the evening. The Mess was sorry to see Sgt. Mason leave, and welcome in his place C.S.M. Archer.

The Social Club opened for the Centenary Celebrations and has proved a great success. The club now opens on Tuesday and Friday evenings and Sunday mornings.

It is regretted that in the December number of the *Regimental Journal* the recording of the presentation of a Lord Lieutenant's Certificate to Drummer Clarke was omitted.

## 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment (T.A.)

Since the beginning of 1960 the Regiment has had a strong drive on recruiting, and the results have been encouraging. At the same time as the recruiting campaign has been going on, a lot of non-attending "dead wood" has been pruned, the result is that although the strength of the Battalion has not appeared to rise to any great extent, the men of The Hertfordshire Regiment are now all genuine attenders. If the present rate of recruiting is maintained, the figures will show a great improvement by the end of the year.

Training has been confined to preparation for camp. Range work has been emphasised and the Battalion Rifle Team has competed in both the Brigade and District Meetings.

On the social side, two Officers' Mess dinners have been held to dine out Col. Humbert and Major Dyer. The Sergeants' Mess had a very successful dance at Watford on Easter Saturday. The Drill Hall was wonderfully decorated under the direction of C.S.M. Charlesworth. Congratulations go to Major Willard on his promotion, and to Lt. (Q.M.) Jones and R.Q.M.S. Reynolds on their award of Lord Lieutenant's Certificates.

Camp, at Okehampton, is in June, and we are all looking forward to a good fortnight in Devon.

## 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment (T.A.)

It will not be very long 'ere the Battalion moves to Devon for Camp, 1960, but before looking forward to that event, we wish to record one or two items of interest that have occurred since the last issue of this Journal. At the end of last year Majors Alan Hoale and Bill Clibborn decided to retire from the Active List and transfer to the T.A. Reserve, and we were all sad to see them go. Alan Hoale joined the London Irish Rifles before the last war and had served with the 4th Battalion since August, 1940, his last two years of service being as Second-in-Command of the Battalion. Bill Clibborn was also an old T.A. member, having served with the Regiment since May, 1939. We were pleased to be able to dine them both out in true Regimental fashion during October, and hope that they will visit us in the future.

This is our Centenary Year, and as part of the celebrations, a Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving was held at the Regimental

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Chapel, Warley Barracks on Sunday, March 27, 1960.

The address was given by the Bishop of Chelmsford, and those attending included: Colonel Sir John Ruggles-Brise, Lord Lieutenant of Essex; General Sir Reginald Denning, Colonel of the Regiment, and Lady Denning; Major G. B. Hoare, High Sheriff of Essex, and Mrs. Hoare; Colonel A. Noble, Hon. Colonel, 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment, and Mrs. Noble; Major-General D. E. B. Talbot, G.O.C., 54th Infantry Division, and Mrs. Talbot; Colonel Sir Stuart Mallinson and Lady Mallinson; The Mayors and Mayoresses of Maldon, Saffron Walden, Colchester, Chelmsford, Southend, East Ham, Ilford, Romford, Dagenham; Councillor Mrs. Dell, Chairman, Brentwood Urban District Council, and Mr. Dell.

Tea was served in the Depot Gymnasium after the service to guests, members of the Battalion, their families, and a large party of Old Comrades.

In connection with the Centenary Celebrations, these notes include a short account of the Battalion's hundred years of service.

The results of 162 Brigade Rifle Meeting showed that our rifle team had improved on the previous year. The Battalion finished runners-up in all events; we now look forward to the Divisional Rifle Meeting and greater success.

We are looking forward to camp this year at Plasterdown, with the emphasis on Brigade Group Training. Due to energetic recruiting, our volunteer strength is now in the region of 260, and we hope by the end of the year the 300 mark will be reached. This year the Battalion should be at a higher volunteer strength at camp than at any other time since the war.

By the time these notes are published, Lt.-Col. S. G. L. Pepys, on completion of his tour of command will have handed over to Lt.-Col. D. F. Garrard, r.d. Lt.-Col. Pepys is to retire, and he carries with him into civilian life the good wishes of all ranks for his happiness and success in his new life, with the hope that his future activities will enable him to continue to reside in Essex, and to visit us whenever possible.

## A HUNDRED YEARS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE

This year is the centenary of the formation of the 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment. As every schoolboy knows, the political situation about 1860 was very disturbed. The French were in a belligerent mood, Napoleon III, having recently seized the throne, seemed determined to show that he could emulate the military feats of his great forebear in the Crimea and

Italy. Feeling was particularly directed against Great Britain, as an attempt at assassination by Count Otsini having failed, it was disclosed that the plot had been hatched in London. The fortunes of the Army at this time were at a low ebb, the fiasco of the Crimean War had weakened the confidence of many in the higher command of the Army, whilst few troops were in England at the time on account of the Indian Mutiny. A strong up-surge of patriotism swept through the country and after a stirring poem by the Poet Laureate, Alfred Lord Tennyson, of which the main theme was "Riflemen Form!" Companies of Volunteer Riflemen sprang up spontaneously all over the country, the first to be formed in Essex being the Ilford Company of Rifle Volunteers on August 12, 1859.

The War Office, reluctant then as now, to give recognition to unorthodox Units, was forced by pressure of public opinion to take action and agreed to provide arms on the customary understanding that no other expense to public funds was to be occasioned. The Volunteers had therefore to provide their own uniforms and also accommodation. This in no way dampened their enthusiasm. In 1860 the Independent Companies of Rifle Volunteers were grouped together in Battalions for administration purposes and a review of all Volunteer Units in England and Wales was held at Windsor, where H.M. Queen Victoria inspected the parade. In the event, however, the French scare came to nothing, but the Volunteer spirit still carried on and the Units if anything grew in strength. It is interesting to note that the Volunteer Units existed side by side with the 3rd and 4th Militia Battalions of the Essex Regiment, but the Volunteers, who were not only unpaid but further had themselves to pay for their uniforms and other out-of-pocket expenses, tended to look down on the Militia, who when called out for training received normal Army rates of pay as is the case of the Territorial Army of today.

In 1883 the Volunteer Battalions were linked with the Essex Regiment and became the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Volunteer Battalions The Essex Regiment and lost their connection with Rifle Regiments. During the course of the South African War many men from the Essex Volunteer Battalions served with the City Imperial Volunteers and the Regular Battalions. In recognition of their services, the Volunteer Battalions were awarded the battle honour "South Africa," which was worn on a scroll below the cap badge. In 1908 the Volunteer Battalions became part of the new Territorial Force set up by Haldane and became the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Battalions The Essex Regiment (Territorial Force). It should be noted here that the 4th Militia Battalion had by that time been disbanded and so the 1st Volunteer

Battalion took over its number. This re-numbering has caused some confusion recently, particularly in connection with such items as silver.

The Essex Regiment at this time contributed no less than five Territorial Battalions to the East Anglian Division order of battle. The 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Essex were brigaded together in 161 Essex Infantry Brigade, while the 8th Essex, originally the Essex and Suffolk Cyclist Battalion, formed the Divisional Cyclist Battalion. During the 1914-1918 War 161 (Essex) Infantry Brigade fought with distinction in the Middle East, gaining the battle honours Gallipoli and Gaza, which are now emblazoned on the Queen's Colour of the Battalions concerned. The 8th Battalion did not proceed overseas and shortly after the War was converted into the East Anglian Divisional Signal Regiment. Later the air threat also caused the conversion of the 6th and 7th Battalions into Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiments, R.A., and they now serve as 459 (Essex) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., in the East Ham area.

The 4th and 5th Battalions, which duplicated themselves at the outbreak of war in 1939, served in 4th Indian and 8th Indian Divisions in the Middle East during World War II. These Battalions greatly distinguished themselves and their exploits are remembered by the battle honours, Defence of Alamein Line Enfidaville, Cassino, Sangro, Villa Grande, emblazoned on the Queen's Colour. After the War only the 4th Battalion was retained as Infantry, the 5th being converted to Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment but still kept in their title the designation "5 Essex."

The 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment is therefore now the only one of the old Volunteer Units still serving in its original role and with the amalgamation of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiments to form the 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) it shares with the 1st Battalion of the new Regiment the duty of maintaining the honour and traditions of the Essex Regiment. It is indeed sad that the County of Essex, which at one time used to support two Regular and four Territorial Infantry Battalions, is now only represented by one Regular and one Territorial Infantry Battalions only.

However, we look forward with confidence to the future. Recruiting is good. Military fashions change and although in high places there may be reluctance to formulate a policy for the future employment of the Territorial Army, it does seem likely that there will always be a need for the trained infantry man. We therefore look forward into the future with renewed confidence, backed by the splendid tradition of over a hundred years of voluntary service to Queen and Country.

## 459 (ESSEX) H.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A., T.A.

In the December number (page 72) we gave details of the history of how 459 (Essex) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., T.A., had its roots in the 6th and 7th Battalions of the Essex Regiment and that it was celebrating its centenary this year.

Since then we have had further details from the Adjutant, Major Harris. Unfortunately, pressure on space does not permit us to reproduce these in full. However, we can give brief details. Special celebrations to mark the centenary were held during the week-end December 12/13, 1959. On the Saturday night an All Ranks' Dinner was held at Vange. This was well attended and most successful. The Hon. Colonel, Col. Sir John Ruggles-Brise, Lord Lieutenant for Essex, was present and among the guests were the Brigade Commander, Brigadier H. E. C. Weldon, Major J. D. Castle, T.D., and other members of the Old Comrades' Association.

During the evening the following gracious message was received from Her Majesty the Queen:

"The Queen sincerely thanks the Officers, Other Ranks and Old Comrades of 459 (Essex) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment attending their Centenary Dinner this evening for their loyal greetings. Her Majesty as Captain-General, Royal Artillery, congratulates them on the Centenary of the Regiment and sends them her good wishes for a happy and successful reunion."

The Regimental Band was in attendance at the dinner and played selections during the evening.

On Sunday the Regiment, headed by the Band, marched to St. Chad's Church, Vange, for the Centenary Service, at which the address was given by the A.C.G., the Rev. B. D. M. Price, O.B.E., and the Service conducted by the Regimental Padre, the Rev. G. Johnson.

After the Service the parade marched past, the salute being taken by the Brigade Commander, who was accompanied on the dais by the Lord Lieutenant, Honorary Colonel.

Congratulations go to Mr. K. R. Horton, the Bandmaster, who has recently won the first and second prizes in a nation-wide competition open to brass band conductors. Mr. Horton is a professional musician and in civilian life is a deputy conductor of Ford Motor Works Band at Dagenham. He was appointed Bandmaster to the Regiment about two years ago, when the Band was formed, and under his able guidance it has developed most successfully.

## The Essex Army Cadet Force

The County Army Cadet Force continues to be busy and lively and the following is an account of some of its activities during the past six months or so.

### BOXING

The Essex Army Cadet Force Boxing Championships were held at Warley Barracks on December 5, 1959, and the number of entries, some 86 Cadets, were so great that the final bouts had to be carried over until December 12.

The Inter-Regimental Championship was won by the holdiers—6th Essex Cadet Regiment.

In the Eastern Command A.C.F. Boxing Championships held at Hertford on January 9, 1960, the County Cadet Force scored 96 points and regained the Inter-County Herapath Trophy. Kent was second with 71 points and Hertfordshire third with 60 points. As a result of this success eight Cadets qualified to go forward to the South National semi-finals of the Army Cadet Force Boxing Championships which were held at Bicester on January 30, 1960. Of these L/Bdr. T. Roberts from Chelmsford, Cadet W. Barclay from Ongar and Cadet S. Burch from Becontree won their fights and thus qualified to compete in the National Finals. These were held at the Seymour Hall, London, on February 27, and Cadet William Barclay won his fight at Class "A" 10 st. 7 lb. in the Army Cadet Force Centenary Boxing Championships. It was a particularly fine effort as he has only been boxing for about a year. L/Bdr. J. Roberts lost narrowly on points in his Class, 9st. 7 lb., and Cadet S. Burch lost his fight against Cpl. Anderson of Cheshire. The four points gained by the Essex Team gained the County sixth place in the Inter-County Championships.

The Inter-Cadet Services Boxing Championships were held at Portsmouth on March 12, two Essex Army Cadet Force boxers took part. L/Bdr. Roberts had a walkover in his semi-final and met Anderson of the I.S.B.A. in the final which he won easily on points. Cadet W. Barclay lost to Colyer of the I.S.B.A. in the first round. But to get so far in the Championships in his first full season is a very creditable performance.

As a result of his success at Portsmouth L/Bdr. Roberts went on to the National Junior Boxing Championships which were held at The Royal Albert Hall on March 21. In his semi-final he beat B. Carney of the Wandsworth Club on points and in the final he beat D. Feltham of the Market Harborough Club also on points, and thus became the National Junior Boxing Champion at Class "A," 9 st. 7 lb.

### ARMY CADET FORCE CENTENARY YEAR

1960 is the Centenary Year of the Army Cadet Force, and the County A.C.F. are celebrating it with various Cadet activities designed to demonstrate the great usefulness of the A.C.F., and at the same time stimulate public interest in the many aspects of A.C.F. work.

To mark the Centenary, H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh presented a banner to the Army Cadet Force on February 9. The presentation took place in London, but it was decided that the banner should tour the country. The banner was taken over at Waltham Abbey by the 1st Essex Cadet Regiment from the Hertfordshire Army Cadet Force on March 1. The banner then toured the county, being taken over by each Cadet Regiment in turn, until finally, on March 4, the banner was handed over to the Suffolk Army Cadet Force at Sudbury.

### CROSS-COUNTRY

The Essex Army Cadet Force Junior Cross-Country Championships were held at the Chelmsford Athletic Club headquarters over a 2½ miles course, on Saturday, March 5, 1960. There was a record entry of 14 detachment teams, and 76 runners competed. The Team Competition was won by the Leigh-on-Sea (R.A.) Troop with a total of 36 points and the Individual Competition by L/Cpl. Hendy, Harold Hill (Para.) Platoon.

### SOCCER

The final of the County A.C.F. Inter-Detachment Soccer Competition took place at Warley Barracks on April 10, 1960, and resulted in a win for the Becontree Platoon of the 4th Essex Cadet Regiment over the newly-formed Harold Hill (Para.) Platoon of the 3rd Essex Cadet Regiment by 11 goals to nil.

### SHOOTING

The County A.C.F. Inter-Regimental Inter-Detachment 22 Annual Shooting Competition was held at Warley Barracks on April 24, 1960, and some good scores resulted. Results:—

- (a) *Inter-Detachment Jacobs Trophy*: Manor Park Platoon, 4th Cadet Regiment.
- (b) *Inter-Regiment County Trophy*: 4th Cadet Regiment.
- (c) *Inter-Regiment Dale Junior Trophy*: 3rd Cadet Regiment.
- (d) *Individual Competition*: Cpl. M. Chapman, 4th Cadet Regiment.
- (e) *Individual Novices*: Cpl. B. White, 4th Cadet Regiment.
- (f) *Adults*: Colonel R. W. Littlehales, O.B.E., County Headquarters.

Five Essex Cadet Regiments took part in the Cadet Competitions at the East Anglian District Rifle Meeting held at Colchester on May 1, and were particularly successful in the Falling Plate Knock-out Competition. In an exciting all-Exsex final, the 3rd Essex Cadet Regiment



(H.Q., Brentwood) beat the 4th Essex Cadet Regiment (H.Q., Buckhurst Hill) by one plate.

In the 200 yards and 500 yards deliberate practices, the 4th Essex Cadet Regiment were placed second with 214 points, only eight points behind the winning team, the Lidlington Platoon of The Bedfordshire Army Cadet Force.

## The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) Association

REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE DAY,  
KEMPSTON BARRACKS, BEDFORD,  
NOVEMBER 15, 1959

Regimental Remembrance Sunday was observed at Kempston Barracks on Sunday, November 15. Fortunately the heavy fog of a few days before had cleared and so enabled those members of The Regiment who live at a distance to make the journey and take part in this annual Regimental occasion.

The ceremonies began with a Service of Remembrance in the Gymnasium and by 11.40 a.m. a large congregation of serving and retired members of The Regiment were seated, together with their wives, relatives and friends. At 11.45 a.m., The Colonel of The Regiment, General Sir Reginald F. S. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., entered, accompanied by The Associate Colonel, Brigadier C. M. Paton, C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L. The entrance of the Chaplain, the Rev. Peter Hartley, M.A., Vicar of Elstow Abbey, who was in captivity with The 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment in Singapore, was the signal for The Regimental Colours of The 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment and The 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment to be marched down the aisle and handed to the Chaplain who placed them on the piled drums. Standards of The Regimental Association Branches in London, Hertford, Watford, St. Albans, Bedford, Hitchin, Luton and Ware, together with the Standard of The Essex Regiment Association were then handed to the Chaplain and placed behind the Altar. The Service followed the pattern which is traditional for this occasion. After reading the Lesson, The Colonel of The Regiment read the Roll of those of our Comrades who had died since the last Remembrance Service. The Address, given by the Rev. Peter Hartley, was an inspiration to all and was of particular comfort to those who had been recently bereaved. The service ended with the National Anthem and the Blessing, after which the Colours were handed back to the Colour Officers and the Standards to their bearers.

A March Past then took place on the Barrack Square, the salute being taken by The Colonel

of The Regiment, who was accompanied on the dais by Brigadier C. M. Paton, C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L., Associate Colonel The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot), Col. The Right Hon. Lord Luke, T.D., D.L., Hon. Colonel The 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment, and Major A. B. Lemon. The Order of March was: Band of The 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.), Regimental Colour and Guard The 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.), Regimental Colour and Escort The 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment (T.A.), Branches of The Regimental Association with their Standards: 8th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (1914/1918), 1st/5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (1914/1918) ("Yellow Devils"), London, Hertford, Watford, St. Albans, Bedford, Hitchin, Luton, Ware. The Standard and Escort of The Essex Regiment Association.

After the March Past the parade formed up on the main road outside the Archway of the Barracks, The Colours taking up their position near the Shrine of The Regimental Memorial and Branch Standards to both flanks. On the arrival of the Colonel of the Regiment and the Associate Colonel, "Last Post" was sounded from the Keep and after a short pause, "Reveille" by drummers of The 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment.

The Wreath Laying Ceremony was then carried out.

After the ceremony The Colours and Troops marched off and the onlookers disperse. Officers and their guests made their way to the Officers' Mess of The 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment in the old Regimental Depot which had been taken over as their new home only a few days before. A great deal of hard work by willing hands of The 5th Battalion enabled their guests to enjoy their hospitality in comfortable and pleasant surroundings. Meanwhile refreshments were also served in the Gymnasium where many an old acquaintance was renewed. Tea-time saw the departure of the last of the visitors and so ended another Regimental occasion.

### THE ANNUAL DINNER

It is regretted that, owing to lack of support, the Annual Regimental Association Dinner arranged to be held on May 7, had to be cancelled. The question of the future of this Dinner will be discussed at the next meeting of The Comrades' Association Committee.

### THE REGIMENTAL REUNION, KEMPSTON BARRACKS, MAY 29

This was successfully held in fine weather and a report of the Reunion will be published in the December Number of *The Regimental Journal*.

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### ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE, REGIMENTAL CHAPEL, WARLEY

The Annual Remembrance Service at the Regimental Chapel, Warley, will be held on Sunday, September 18, at 11.00 a.m. Admission will be by ticket. Applications to The Secretary, The Essex Regiment Association.

### ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE, KEMPSTON BARRACKS, BEDFORD

The Annual Remembrance Service this year will be held in The Church of The Transfiguration, Kempston. Admission will be by ticket. The Ceremony of Wreath Laying will follow at the Regimental Memorial. Full details will be sent out later.

## The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association

### NOTES FROM BRANCHES

#### 8th BATTALION (1914-1918) O.C.A.

The Annual General Meeting and Reunion Dinner were held at the Bath House Hotel, Dean Street, London, on Saturday, May 14. General Sir Henry Jackson presided. A full account will appear in the December Number.

#### 1/5 "YELLOW DEVILS," 1914-1918 O.C.A.

Grants were made at Christmas to several less fortunate members and the Branch was also able to obtain Christmas parcels of groceries, etc., from The Mayor of Luton's Parcels Fund for them.

The Annual General Meeting was held in March at which the following officers were elected: President, Mr. A. Pakes; Vice-Presidents, Col The Right. Hon. Lord Luke, Lt.-Col. W. S. Chirnside, M.C., Messrs. C. W. Gilder and Mr. A. Brooks; Chairman, Mr. F. Clements; Vice-Chairman, Mr. C. W. Gilder; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Ward; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. Walker; Sick Visitor, Mr. J. Land; Benevolent Representative, Mr. F. King; Committee, Messrs. C. W. Gilder, R. Cox, J. Land, F. King, G. Davies. The Hon. Secretary reported a busy year. The Balance Sheet showed a healthy financial position and grants to members from the Benevolent Fund had increased. It was decided at the meeting to bring forward the Annual Dinner to September if possible.

At the April meeting the Branch considered

the reports in *The Luton News* in connection with the distribution of grants from the Luton Town War Memorial Fund to ex-Servicemen. This fund now stood at £28,000 and last year the interest received exceeded the monies paid out. It was decided that the President and the Hon. Secretary should explore the question of obtaining grants from the Fund for members of the Branch in need.

The Hon. Secretary at the May meeting reported the death of Mr. H. Kempston, who was a loyal supporter of "The Yellow Devils." The Chairman extended their congratulations to Mr. Harry Ashby on achieving his 80th birthday. Mr. Ashby served in the South African War and with the 5th Battalion in the 1914-1918 War and was a loyal supporter of the Branch. Another member, Mr. T. Waterworth, had also attained his 80th birthday on New Year's Day. Mr. A. Brooks, Vice-President, extended an invitation to the Branch to visit Southwold again and it was decided to go in June. It was agreed that the Annual Dinner should be held on September 10. The Branch congratulated the President, Mr. A. Pakes, on his re-election to the Luton Town Council.

### HERTFORD

Social evenings have been held at the Drill Hall, St. Andrew Street, throughout the winter. They have proved very popular and have been well attended. Their object of getting together members, their wives and friends and of fostering the spirit of comradeship throughout the Branch has been achieved. It is not intended to continue them in the summer but they will be re-introduced next winter. We are grateful to Mr. Charlie Mansfield and his Committee for the hard work they put in to ensure the success of these functions.

The Children's Annual Christmas Party was held at the Drill Hall on January 16 when some seventy children attended. It was a great success, and we are grateful to the Mayor and Mayoress of Hertford for their presence and for presenting the gifts to the children at the end of the party. Once again we must thank the Committee and the ladies of the Branch for their efforts in ensuring the success of the party.

The Annual Dinner and Dance was held on March 19, at the Shire Hall, when well over a hundred members, wives, friends and guests attended. The President, Major Connell, presided and welcomed the guests, among whom were Majors Tewkesbury and Kitto, Councillor and Mrs. Brooks and representatives from other Branches. A special welcome was accorded to our South African Veterans. A Gracious Message was received from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, the Colonel-in-Chief, which was read out by the President after

"The Loyal Toast." A message was also received from the Colonel of the Regiment regretting his inability to be present and wishing all a happy and successful evening. Major Tewkesbury, in a brief speech, given in his usual witty manner, brought us up-to-date in the activities of the Regiment and the 16th Foot Association.

The top table was graced with pieces of regimental silver, kindly loaned for the occasion by Lt.-Col. Simmons, C.O., 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment, and arranged by Capt. (Q.M.) Moody. It was a very successful evening and all those present were again grateful to Mr. Charlie Mansfield and his Committee for their fine effort.

### WATFORD

As it was found that quite a number of our members, who are on shift work, could not manage to attend our monthly meetings held on the first Sunday of each month at The United Ex-Servicemen's Club, it has been decided, as an experiment, to hold our monthly meetings at the Drill Hall, Clarendon Road, on the Friday before the first Sunday in each month. We hope, however, to continue to hold our Annual Branch Dinner at the Ex-Servicemen's Club.

At the Annual General Meeting, Lt.-Col. C. Simmons, who has succeeded Col. Humbert in command of 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment, accepted our invitation to become a Vice-President of the Branch. All members were sorry to hear of the death of Brigadier-General W. Allason, D.S.O., who, since joining the Branch in 1937, was always anxious to hear of the Branch's activities. His son, Lt.-Col. J. H. Allason, has accepted our invitation to become a Vice-President, and the Branch is very glad to welcome him as such.

In view of the "semi-retirement" of our stalwart Secretary, Mr. Arthur Timms, who has done so much for the Branch that it is very nearly impossible to pay high enough tribute, a certain amount of re-organisation has been necessary. The Branch now has two Joint Secretaries, T. Armstrong, who looks after the social side of the Branch, and J. Hackman, who deals with the routine administration and correspondence. However, as soon as the Joint Secretaries are in trouble they go straight back to see the "Guv'ernor."

The Christmas Bottle Draw was very successful and Tombola on Saturdays has proved very popular. A number of members and their ladies visited the tulip fields of Lincolnshire recently and all enjoyed the trip. The Social Secretary is hoping to arrange for a trip to Bournemouth,

where lives our popular President, Capt. J. S. Payne; although he is now a long way from us he still takes a very keen interest in Branch affairs.

### BEDFORD

It is with regret that we have to announce the deaths of three of our long standing members, Brigadier-General W. Allason, D.S.O., a Vice-President, Major G. C. Barford and Mr. Harry Bailey, who missed very few of our meetings, although he lived in Rugby. The Branch was represented at his funeral by Mr. W. C. Compton, who also lives at Rugby.

The Annual General Meeting was held on February 5, and was well attended. Mr. Butler was re-elected Chairman and Capt. Boutwood Vice-Chairman. Mr. C. C. Wells was unanimously re-elected Hon. Secretary. The Branch is fortunate in having Major Harry Beasley and Mr. H. H. Degenhard on the Committee, with Mr. Tom Farrow and Mr. Jim Pithers to support them.

The Branch has moved from the 5th Battalion Sergeants' Mess to the 5th Battalion Social Club which is now re-opened in Kempston Barracks. Mr. Ben Price is the steward and runs the Club most efficiently. We take this opportunity to thank R.S.M. Willmott of the 5th Battalion for all the help he gave us when we moved to the Sergeants' Mess some eighteen months ago. He was always willing to open his Mess to us when we had our monthly meetings or other functions on. He has been a staunch member of the Branch for the whole of his stay with the 5th Battalion and we are sorry he has now left Bedford.

The Branch was represented at the Ware Branch Dinner but unfortunately were not able to send anyone to the Hertford Branch Dinner—apologies to Hertford. The Branch was also represented at the Centenary Celebrations of the 5th Battalion held on March 20.

The programme of the Bedford United Services Games League has now been completed. We finished 4th; R.S.M. Willmott was 3rd in the Individual Darts, and Mr. Jim Pithers runner-up in the Individual Crib.

### HITCHIN

On October 10, 1959, a coach load of our members, their wives and friends visited the Ware Branch for their Social and Dance, and we extend our thanks to Ware for a very enjoyable evening. The Branch was represented at the Service of Remembrance and Laying Up of Colours held in the Regimental Chapel on October 18. Those who attended were much impressed by the Service. The Branch was also represented at the Annual Service of Remem-

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Luton Branch — Annual Dinner, January 23, 1960.

branch held at Kempston Barracks on November 15, when the Branch Wreath was laid by Lt.-Col. L. J. Cooper.

A social evening is held at the Drill Hall once a month and we would welcome more members and their friends and can ensure them of an enjoyable evening. On January 23, several members attended the Luton Branch Dinner, which was a very happy occasion.

The Branch Annual Dinner was held on Saturday, February 20, when we were pleased to have with us Lt.-Col. and Mrs. A. C. Young. The Chairman, Mr. Reynolds, during the course of the evening, thanked the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Prutton, and the ladies of the Branch for the very hard work they put in to ensure the evening was a success in spite of catering difficulties.

The Annual General Meeting was held on February 28, when the following officers for the year were elected: Branch President, Lt.-Col. A. C. Young; Vice-President, Mr. F. J. Pateman; Chairman, Lt.-Col. L. J. Cooper; Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. W. Prutton; Standard Bearer, Mr. J. H. Selby.

On Sunday, March 20, a number of members of the Branch attended the Centenary Service of the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.) at St. Paul's Church, Bedford, and the subsequent activities in Kempston Barracks.

## LUTON AND DUNSTABLE

The Annual Dinner and Dance held at the Cresta Ballrooms on Saturday, January 23, 1960, proved a success. One hundred and thirty-six guests, members and their friends sat down to do credit to an excellent dinner. Owing to a family bereavement our President was unable to be present, his place being taken by our Chairman, Mr. J. Leech, M.M. Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., in his speech, brought us up-to-date with the latest news of The Regiment. Lt.-Col. A. C. Young spoke of the reshuffle of the Depots both at Bedford and Warley and the effects it would have on the O.C. Associations. After dinner dancing commenced, our energetic Secretary carried out the duties of M.C., and through his efforts the whole show went with a "swing."

At our March meeting our Chairman notified us that owing to circumstances beyond his control, he would have to relinquish his post for the remainder of 1960. He has hopes that if all goes well, he will be with us again early in 1961. All the Branch wish to thank Jack for his past services to the Branch. He will be sadly missed, but we are looking forward to his return, when once again he will take the chair. Lastly it is good to know the Branch continues in a healthy state.



### 6th BATTALION (1914-1918) O.C.A.

The 25th (Silver Jubilee) Reunion Dinner was held at the Bath House Hotel, Dean Street, London, on April 30, when Lt.-Col. A. T. Hitch, D.S.O., the President, took the Chair. Among the guests were Lt.-Col. A. C. Young, Regimental Secretary, Lt.-Col. E. G. Fanning, M.C., D.L., Curator, Regimental Museum, and Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., Secretary, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association. It was very pleasing to note that the good comradeship of the old Battalion still exists after all these years, and twenty-two ex-members of the Battalion gathered together with seven guests for what turned out to be a very happy evening. Mr. Vic Craddock proposed the Toast to the President, who in his reply welcomed all present and read out a Message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, which had been received in reply to a message of loyal greetings from the members. The Toast to Absent Comrades was honoured, and members were sorry to hear of the passing on of Percy Holmes and W. Keen. Mr. Joe Gillingham very ably proposed the Toast to the Guests, which was responded to by Lt.-Col. A. C. Young, who gave a very interesting resumé of the activities of The Regiment. Mr. Johnny Day gave an account of the affairs of the O.C.A., and told members that as a result of a meeting held in November, 1959, at which Col. Hitch, Mr. Cyril Bliss, Mr. Vic Craddock and himself were present, it was decided to approach the 7th and 8th Bns. The Bedfordshire Regiment 1914-1918 with a view to forming a combined O.C.A. to be known as the 6th, 7th and 8th Bns. The Bedfordshire Regiment (1914-1918) O.C.A. So far no replies had been received from the other O.C.A.s, so the proposition would lay on the table for further reference. Mr. Day reported that the following had been unable to attend the Dinner and he was sorry they were unable to be with them: the Colonel of The Regiment, because of other engagements, Mr. Grundy who was ill, Mr. Saunders who was in the U.S.A. on holiday, and the following who were on the sick list: Messrs. A. Brooks, W. F. Suckling, A. Odell, A. Parish, W. Sheppard, "Lackri" Wood, and Harold Young who was unable to be present due to his wife's illness. All present wished them a speedy recovery.

Mr. Day also reports that Mr. Cyril Bliss has been admitted to the Watford Peace Memorial Hospital for a further operation and he was glad to announce that the latest reports are that he is progressing favourably. His address is: C. P. Bliss, Ward "C" (Amenity), Watford Peace Memorial Hospital, Rickmansworth Road, Watford, Herts.

The Re-union Dinner 1961 will take place at the Bath House Hotel on April 29.

### "B" COMPANY, 1st BATTALION THE HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.), 1914-1918

In 1920 Major Montague-Jones, who was in command of "B" Company, 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment when they went overseas in 1914, suggested to Mr. Fisher, late C.Q.M.S., that it would be a good idea to hold an annual dinner for the survivors of the Company. Fortunately, a copy of the Pay Roll was available in the hands of ex-Col.-Sgt. Beeson. Thus a nominal roll of the Company was prepared, the casualties eliminated and the survivors traced. The dinner was held, the expenses being met by Alderman Green, Major Montague-Jones, Capt. Clarke (the M.O.) and Capt. Down. Dinners continued to be held each year until 1936, when, owing to deaths, the only survivor of the original sponsors was Capt. Down. A Reunion Fund was then established and the dinners continued. Forty have now been held, all of which have been organised by Mr. Fisher.

Last year the dinner was held at the Red Lion Hotel, High Street, St. Albans, on Saturday, November 14, 1959. Thirty-two attended and the average age of those attending was 69 years 11 months. The eldest being Ex-Col.-Sgt. Beeson (76) and the youngest Ex-Bugler Carter (61). Capt. C. M. Down took the chair and the guest was Councillor L. F. Gerrard, Deputy Mayor of St. Albans. The toast to the Regiment was drunk with acclamation and those present sent their good wishes to the 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot).

## The Essex Regiment Association

### Presentation of a Drum Major's Sash to the 11th/44th Infantry Battalion (The City of Perth Regiment), Australian Military Forces

Originally the 11th Battalion (The City of Perth Regiment) Australian Military Forces and the 44th Battalion (The West Australian Rifles), Australian Military Forces, were allied to The Royal Sussex Regiment and The Essex Regiment respectively. Later these Battalions were amalgamated to form the 11th/44th Infantry Battalion (The City of Perth Regiment) Australian Military Forces; on amalgamation the previous alliances with The Royal Sussex Regiment and The Essex Regiment were maintained. In 1957, Mr. F. W. Vere of Billericay, visited the 11th/44th Battalion and later as a result of his visit, it was decided to present the Allied Australian Infantry Battalion with a Drum Major's Sash to signify the happy alliance which had



*The Drum-Major of the 11th/44th Battalion (City of Perth Regiment) wearing the Sash presented by the Royal Sussex and Essex Regiments. Also in the picture are Lt.-Col. R. D. Ireland, E.D., C.O. and Col. H. K. Gillson, O.B.E., U.K. Joint Services Liaison Staff. (Please also see page 53 of the June, 1959, Number of "The Wasp and the Eagle," Vol. 1, No. 1).*

existed between the Royal Sussex and Essex Regiments and their allied Australian Regiments. The Sash was made and the cost of it has been borne by The Royal Sussex Regiment Association, The Essex Regiment Association and Mr. F. W. Vere. (A photograph of the Sash was published in the June (1959 Number of *The Regimental Journal*, page 53).

The Sash was sent out to Australia and it had been hoped that it would have been possible for an officer of either The Royal Sussex Regiment or The Essex Regiment to take part in its presentation to the 11th/44th Battalion. However, this could not be arranged and the presentation took place on September 26, 1959, at Northam Camp, near Perth.

Col. H. K. Gillson, O.B.E., the Senior British Army Liaison Officer in Australia, kindly presented the Sash on behalf of the two Regiments to Lt.-Col. R. D. Ireland, C.O. of the 11th/44th Infantry Battalion (The City of Perth Regiment) and our photograph shows the Drum-Major wearing the Sash after the ceremony.

The 11th/44th Battalion (The City of Perth Regiment) is now allied to The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot).

### NOTES FROM BRANCHES

#### ASSOCIATION OF SERGEANTS (PAST AND PRESENT) ALL BATTALIONS THE ESSEX REGIMENT (44th/56th FOOT)

Due to the date of our Annual General Meeting having to be changed, it is regretted our notes must be held over until the December issue.

#### SAFFRON WALDEN

Saturday, November 7, 1959, was an important one in the history of the Branch as on this day the Branch received its Standard. The Drill Hall was crowded with members and friends when the Associate Colonel, Brigadier C. M. Paton, arrived to be received by our Chairman, Col. T. A. Martin, and members of the Committee. After introduction to the Mayor of Saffron Walden, Brigadier Paton inspected the Guard of Honour provided by "D" Company, 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment. Then came the ceremony of the Presentation of the Branch Standard. In his speech before the presentation the Association Colonel said: "We are very proud of you, you have set a very fine example to others with your help in regimental

affairs and to those ex-members of The Regiment in need. You are the first County Branch of The Essex Regiment Association to have a Standard presented and it is very right you should be the first, for you have set a standard which will tax anyone else to follow." The Standard was received by the Standard Bearer, Mr. A. Norman (late 5th Bn. The Essex Regiment), escorted by Mr. A. Mummery, D.C.M. (late 5th Bn. The Essex Regiment), and Mr. F. Walters (late 1st and 10th Bns. The Essex Regiment (1914-1918)). Among the many guests were the Mayor of Saffron Walden, Councillor L. Godfrey, the President of the Saffron Walden Branch of The British Legion, Alderman F. W. Goddard, Lt.-Col. S. G. L. Pepys, C.O., 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.), Major M. Portway, O.C., "D" Company, 4th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.), Lt.-Col. A. C. Young, Regimental Secretary, and Mrs. Young, Major B. J. Palmer, O.C. Regimental Depot, and Mrs. Palmer, Major T. R. Stead, Secretary, The Essex Regiment Association, and Mrs. Stead. Many members who served with the 5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (1939-45) were very pleased to see among the guests Col. W. L. R. Benyon, late The South Wales Borderers, who commanded the Battalion throughout the greater part of the Italian Campaigns 1943/44, together with Major J. Lipscombe, Major C. E. A. Whyte and Capt. M. I. Law. After the presentation a social was held which was most successful and fittingly concluded a very happy occasion.

The Christmas Whist Drive attracted a large crowd and the Drill Hall was very full. We are grateful to all those members and friends who bought tickets not only on this special occasion but on our weekly whist drives throughout the year, and also to all those whose generosity has provided the prizes on so many occasions and thus ensured the maximum "Take" to Branch funds.

The Children's Christmas Party was, as usual, a "howling success" judging from the noise. Some one hundred and fifty children attended, and Mr. K. C. Clayden the organiser, Mr. W. A. M. Gilbey, Father Christmas, and the ladies who carried out the catering, to whom the Branch is so much in debt not only on this but on other occasions, must have felt well rewarded for all their hard work when they saw the enjoyment of the children.

The Christmas Party and other festivities were somewhat marred by the sudden illness of Mr. C. H. King, the Hon. Secretary, who was sent off to Addenbrookes Hospital at very short notice. However, a quick rally round by members of the Committee, plus the excellent arrangements already put in hand by Mr. King enabled all the festivities to be carried out



[Photo by David Campbell, Church Street, Saffron Walden

Mr. A. Norman, the Branch Standard Bearer, receiving the Standard from Brigadier C. M. Paton, C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L., the Associate Colonel.

successfully. Mr. King has now returned and all members of the Branch wish him a speedy recovery to full health. From this, however, one lesson was learnt, a Branch with some three hundred members on its books requires more than one pair of hands to run it.

A contingent from the Branch, with the Standard, travelled to Bedford on March 20 to represent The Essex Regiment Association at the Centenary Celebrations of the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment.

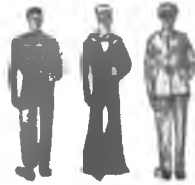
The Annual General Meeting was held in May, and was very well attended. It was agreed that the past year has been the most successful in the history of the Branch. Many new members had been enrolled. Members in need had been helped and the social side had been very successful. The end of the year saw the Branch in good heart and with sound finances.

The following officers were elected: President, Col. T. A. Martin; Mr. C. H. King, Hon. Secretary; Mr. E. W. Elsom, Assistant Hon. Secretary; Mr. A. Norman, Subscriptions Secretary; and Mr. W. A. M. Gilbey, Entertainments Secretary. Committee: Messrs. S. A. Carter, K. C. Clayden, J. Barrett, J. Turner, R. Jennings, H. Ling, J. Harrington, C. Thurgood, C. Meekins and H. W. Law.

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**TIPPED: 10 for 1/4**



[Photograph by David Campbell, Church Street, Saffron Walden

#### AFTER THE PRESENTATION

*A group of Officers and members of the Branch, with the Standard.*

#### 4th BATTALION COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

A service was held in the Regimental Chapel at Warley on Sunday, March 27, to commemorate the Centenary of the 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment and was attended by many members of the Comrades' Association. As always, attending a Service at the Chapel brings back many memories to us all, and this occasion was another event in the history of the Battalion which will stay in our memories for many a year. The Bishop of Chelmsford preached at the service and the lesson was read by Col. Sir John Ruggles-Brise, Lord Lieutenant of Essex. After the service tea was served in the Gymnasium and many old friends met to renew friendships and to talk over the events of the day. It was good to see so many of our 1914-18 Comrades with us on this day, together with the serving members of the Battalion, the latter looking after the Comrades' Association members in their usual business-like manner.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the deaths of two of our older Comrades, Mr. Arthur Davies, D.C.M., and Mr.

"Bib" Fry. Mr. Arthur Davies was a long serving member on the Comrades' Association Council and one of the Association's Trustees. As a regular attender at Council Meetings and other Association functions and a very dear friend, his passing will be felt by us all and his loyalty to the Battalion is a shining example to every one that knew him. Many members of the Council attended his funeral which took place at the Holy Trinity Church, Barkingside. The news of the death of Mr. "Bib" Fry reached us just a few days ago and will come as a great shock to all that knew him. He will be remembered by many of the 1914-18 members of our Association.

#### 6th BATTALION COMRADES' ASSOCIATION "CEDARS" O.C.A.

The "Cedars" (6th Essex) Old Comrades' Association continues to flourish despite the loss of some old members through death. The latest being ex-R.S.M. Danial Barry.

A Social evening was held at the T.A. Centre, East Ham, on November 20, 1959, for members

and their wives, which was well attended and enjoyed. The Centenary celebrations of The Regiment at the R.A. week-end Training Camp at Vange were very much enjoyed by the members who attended. The programme included an excellent dinner on December 12, a night's sleep in conditions much different to those of 1914-18, breakfast, Church Parade and then luncheon on Sunday. The comradeship of all ranks also added greatly to the pleasure of the week-end.

The Annual Reunion Dinner of the O.C.A. held on Gaza Day, March 26, at the T.A. Centre, East Ham, with Col. C. A. Bailey presiding, was the best supported since the revival of the Association. It was good to see a few "new" old comrades. There are, however, many more old comrades whom we should be very pleased to welcome. Names and addresses should be sent to: Mr. G. W. Leaford, 75, St. Saviour's Road, West Croydon, Surrey.

#### 1st/7th BATTALION O.C.A.

On Saturday, November 7, 1959, in spite of a very heavy fog in the London area, no less than nearly 40 old members of the original Battalion gathered at "The Mitre," Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, for their annual Gallipoli Reunion Dinner. It speaks well for the toughness of those attending when it is realised that the qualification for attendance is having served in Gallipoli in 1915. Among those present were Col. H. F. Kemball, T.D., D.L., who was in command at the time of the landings, and Brigadier G. Shenstone, C.B.E., T.D., D.L., who was wounded very early on. One other who should be mentioned is Major A. M. Young, who, although over 80 and having lost a leg in recent times, made the journey and was able to enjoy once again the pleasure of re-living those days of long ago. By general consent the chair was again taken by Mr. W. F. Marr, who has organised the Dinner since its inception in the early 1920s. A special welcome was afforded to Col. Chatfield-Roberts, the C.O. of the City of London Yeomanry (the Roughriders), who now occupy the old H.Q. at Walthamstow, and to whom the members of the Eagle and Gun Association owe so much for the facilities afforded over the years and without which it would be difficult to keep together. He was supported by Capt. Peter Eve of the Rifle Brigade, his Adjutant.

In spite of the passing years it would seem that the regular supporters of the Dinner are determined to make every effort to meet and to talk over old times. In the hope that the weather will not be too unkind, the date has been changed to the first Saturday in October

in each year, so that the next dinner will be held on October 1, 1960.

All communications to Mr. W. F. Marr, 64, Highlands Heath, Putney, London, S.W.15.

#### 7/59/459 DINNER CLUB

The Annual Cocktail Party of the 7/59/459 Dinner Club was held at the T.A. Centre, Whipps Cross, E.17, on Saturday, January 16, 1960. Fifty-eight members and their wives and friends attended, and also nine official guests including Col. and Mrs. H. L. Clarke, Col. Clarke commands the 459 (Essex) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., T.A., and Major and Mrs. T. Stead from R.H.Q., Warley. This occasion is certainly one of the best attended functions of the year, and it is hoped that as the years go by, it will continue to get the support it has so far received from past members of the old 7th Bn. The Essex Regiment, 59th H.A.A. Regiment and the 459 H.A.A. Regiment. Brigadier G. Shenstone made a short speech of welcome to the guests, and concluded by making a small presentation to Mrs. Maddocks, and thanking her and Major Maddocks for their continued interest and hard work they always put in to making these functions such a success.

The Officers' Annual Reunion Dinner was held at the United Service Club, Pall Mall, on Saturday, March 26, 1960.

Lt.-Col. J. B. Scott, the Regimental "Doc" of the old days, presided, and thirty-four members, the best "turn out" we have had for a long time, attended. The official guest was Lt.-Col. G. Chatfield-Roberts, T.D., City of London Yeomanry, who always takes such a keen interest in all of our activities, and allows us to continue to use the facilities at the T.A. Centre, Whipps Cross, for all our meetings. As a mark of our appreciation he was elected to membership of our club, quite a unique step in the club's history. The evening was a great success.

#### ROMFORD

The Branch held their second Annual Dinner on Friday, February 26, 1960. The Commanding Officer, H.Q. 54th (East Anglian) Infantry Div., Colm., R.A.S.C. (T.A.) gave permission for the Drill Hall, Upminster, to be used. Among the guests were the Regimental Secretary and the Secretary of The Essex Regiment Association. Col. Young gave details of the Amalgamation and his work as Regimental Secretary. Major Stead reported on the Association. The President invited members of the Branch to take tea with him on June 11 at his home.

At a meeting afterwards the previous year's officers were re-elected.

### SOUTHEND

Even though the Branch is "making haste slowly," at least continuous progress can be reported although a few members who joined at the inauguration eighteen months ago have apparently forgotten that their subscriptions for 1960 are now due. The Treasurer would be pleased to hear from them with, of course, their three "bob." Better still, why not come along to the monthly meeting? These meetings are going strongly at The Old Collegians Club in the High Street, and now that members of both clubs are getting to know each other, social atmosphere is becoming more and more friendly. An example of this social success was on May 6 and as this was Princess Margaret's Wedding Day, it, of course, meant an extension to "last orders" at the Club. The members got together, dined and tombala'd and the ladies helped to make it a most enjoyable evening.

In March we paid a visit to Eastwood Drill Hall at the very kind invitation of Major Westoby where some of our "younger" 1914-18 War members showed their skill on the .22 range. In the "Beer Race" the Branch were well beaten by the Drill Hall team.

Arrangements are in hand to effect a liaison with the Ekco Social Club. This was initiated by our Mr. C. Dalton, and we have already been met by the Sports and Social Secretary of Ekco, who has kindly promised to do all he can to publicise our Branch and to offer us the use of his Club premises at future dates to be arranged. We shall be pleased to welcome any new members or visitors to our monthly meetings which are held on the first Friday in each month at the Old Collegians Club in Clarence Street (off High Street).

### METROPOLITAN ESSEX

The Branch has now settled down into a truly "going concern." Membership has slowly crept upwards, and the original fourteen members who formed the Branch have now added forty-eight more, to make the total 62 members. The original aim of the Branch was 150 members. It begins to look as if that target is not so unobtainable as first appeared. We have an excellent hard core of stalwarts, and we are prepared to raise our target as necessary. Optimism is the keynote of the Branch. The Secretary never misses an opportunity of pressing members to spread the news of the Branch, as we feel that the personal recommendation is the type of contact we want.

The Branch held its first Annual General Meeting in January. This was a great success. The Committee of six, who had steered the Branch through its first year, were re-elected, and increased to ten. So now we have four more diligent recruiters. The Branch has been represented at all the major Association functions throughout the past year, and is now arranging representation at the very full programme of events for 1960.

Membership details can be obtained from: Capt. W. B. Faint, The Secretary, 52, Roydon Close, Loughton, Essex.

### THE TWENTY-NINTH DIVISION ASSOCIATION

#### LANDING AT GALLIPOLI, 45TH ANNIVERSARY

A parade to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli was held by members of the 29th Division Association on the Horse Guards, Whitehall, on Sunday, April 24. After the inspection the parade, led by the President, General Lord Freyberg, v.c., marched to the Cenotaph, where wreaths were laid. After the ceremony the parade continued its march to the Drill Hall of the Westminster Dragoons, led by the Band of the Royal Engineers. Lunch followed, which in its turn was followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

The Essex Regiment was represented by the following:

Messrs. A. H. Chappell, A. J. Harris, J. Howard, J. E. Fuller, A. A. Pooley, E. Palmer, A. S. Perdeaux, A. E. Mount, J. E. Tresarden, A. E. Wiltshire, F. Woodley, Major H. J. Staff. Messrs. L. A. Platts, R. Platts and J. Saunders were prevented by sickness from attending.

The following telegram was received from the 1st Bn. The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot):

"Greetings from All Ranks in remembrance of our comrades of the former 1st Bn. The Essex Regiment who fought with you this day forty-five years ago.—Commanding 1st Bn. 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot)."

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

Our readers can materially assist us in obtaining advertisements. Remember to deal only with firms who advertise in *The Regimental Journal*.



### ENGAGEMENTS

The engagement is announced between Lt. Peter Price, 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.), eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Price, of 44, Deacon Avenue, Kempston, Bedfordshire, and Shirley Jacqueline, only child of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Catlin, of Cranston Lodge, King's Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

\* \* \*

The engagement is announced between Lt. Keith Harvey, Royal Army Education Corps, second son of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Harvey, of Leiston, Suffolk, and Gillian, younger daughter of Major H. F. Rawkins, The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) and Mrs. Rawkins, late of Clapham, Bedfordshire.

\* \* \*

The engagement is announced between John Mirtlees, only son of Colonel H. Craig, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., and Mrs. Craig, of Woodford Green, Essex, and Susan, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Carter, of Shootash, Romsey, Hants.

\* \* \*

The engagement is announced between Michael James, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Jerram, of Brook House, Chigwell, Essex, and Jill Mallender, only daughter of Colonel H. Craig, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., and Mrs. Craig, of Woodford Green, Essex.

\* \* \*

The engagement is announced from Aden, between Capt. Peter F. Chapman, The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot), younger son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Chapman, of New Malden, Surrey, and Rosemary, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Allen, of South Croydon, Surrey.

\* \* \*

The engagement is announced between Michael Marrack, only son of Dr. and Mrs. R. M. Harvey, of 27, Monkham Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex, and Brenda Vivienne, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Phillips, of 57, Traps Hill, Loughton, Essex.

\* \* \*

The engagement is announced between Michael John, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Davison, of Westfields, Oakley, Bedfordshire, and Jean, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Worsley Howarth, of Owston Lodge, Almondbury, near Huddersfield, Yorkshire.

### BIRTHS

**MACKAIN-BREMNER.**—On January 22, 1960, at the Nanyuki Cottage Hospital, Kenya, to Susan (nee Platt) wife of Capt. Fergus Mackain-Bremner, The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot), seconded to the 11th Bn. The King's African Rifles, a daughter, Lucy Helen Phyllis.

**SINCOCK.**—On March 13, 1960, at Brentwood Maternity Home, to Virginia Jane (nee Nunn)

wife of Lt. Peter Sincock, The Pompadours, a son, David John.

**RIGGS.**—On March 25, 1960, at Yokohama, Japan, to Capt. and Mrs. John Riggs, a daughter, Barbara Grace, a sister for Rosemary.

**BURCH.**—On April 10, 1960, at The Chase, Luton, to Sara (nee Hales), wife of Capt. Keith Burch, The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot), a daughter, Emma Louise, a sister for Amanda Jane.

### MARRIAGES

**MACLAINE—EVANS.**—On May 7, 1960, at St. John's Church, Woodley, by the Rev. A. G. Webb, cousin of the bride, William Fergus, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Maclaine, of Buckhurst Hill, to Geraldine Stewart, daughter of Major L. S. Evans, late 16th Foot, and Mrs. Evans, of Woodley, Berkshire.

### OBITUARIES

**ADAMS.**—In September, 1959, at Hastings, Mr. A. R. Adams, at the age of 68. Mr. Adams served in the 1914-1918 War with the 9th Bn. The Essex Regiment, from September, 1914, to July, 1916. He was wounded at Cambrai; on recovering, he returned to France, where he served with the 10th Bn. The Essex Regiment until the end of the war.

#### MAJOR R. T. OLDFIELD, M.C.

As announced in the December number, we regret to report the sudden death of Major Oldfield, which occurred on November 5, 1959.

On the outbreak of the 1914-1918 War, Major Oldfield enlisted in The Artists' Rifles on August 4, 1914, and served with them until August 15, 1914, when he was appointed to a temporary commission in The Bedfordshire Regiment. He went to France and served on the Brigade Staff as Brigade Bombing Officer and later as Staff Captain. He joined The Regiment in May, 1918, with which he served until March, 1919.

During the war he was wounded on two occasions, Mentioned in Despatches and awarded the Military Cross with Bar.

After the Armistice he joined the Sadlier Jackson Relief Force in North Russia and served with that Force from May to October, 1919.

In April, 1920, he obtained a commission in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers and served with the 2nd/15th Sikh Regiment, based on Fort Sandeman.



*A late Major R. T. Oldfield, M.C.*

In April, 1921, he was appointed to a Regular Commission in The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment and posted to the 2nd Battalion, then serving at Secunderabad. He continued to serve with the 2nd Battalion in India, Iraq and home, until his promotion to Captain, in 1929, when he was posted to the 1st Battalion, then serving at Mhow.

In 1927 he married Mrs. Oldfield, whom he had met while serving with the 2nd Battalion in Kamptee, India.

Major Oldfield returned home in 1933 to complete his service at the Regimental Depot, after which he served for some time as the first Regimental Secretary.

On the outbreak of the 1939-1945 War he was recalled from the Reserve and served at the Depot, which had then become an Infantry Training Centre, and afterwards as a Company Commander at the Military Convalescent Depot, which was established at Grange Camp, Kempston, finally retiring at the end of the war.

His chief interest then was his garden and home, which he had built before the war at Haynes, just outside Bedford. A keen hockey player, he will be remembered for his sportsmanship, comradeship, and devoted loyalty to The Regiment. His son is serving in The Regiment and Mrs. Oldfield is now living in Bedford.

**DENTON.** — On November 8, 1959, at Clapham Hospital, Bedford, Mr. B. C. Denton, who served in The Bedfordshire Regiment. He was a founder-member of the Bedford Branch of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regimental Association. The funeral service at the Church of Transfiguration,

Kempston, was attended by Lt.-Col. E. G. Fanning, M.C., D.L., representing the Regimental Association, and Mr. C. C. Wells, Hon. Secretary of the Delford Branch.

**SAVAGE.** — On November 18, 1959, at Hertford, Mr. Ted Savage, aged 64 years. Mr. Savage enlisted in 1913 and went to France on November 5, 1914, with the 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment and served continuously with that Battalion throughout the 1914-1918 War. After the war he re-enlisted in The Hertfordshire Regiment and completed a total of 19 years' service before taking his discharge. On the outbreak of the 1939/45 War he again enlisted in The Hertfordshire Regiment, but was discharged on July 28, 1940, because of physical disability. He will be chiefly remembered as Transport Sergeant and for his love of horses. A good soldier and comrade, he was a keen member of The Regimental Association and of the Old Contemptibles. His funeral took place at All Saints' Church, Hertford, on November 23, 1959, when members of the Hertford Branch and their Standard and the Old Contemptibles formed a guard of honour.

**ROWE.** — On November 28, 1959, at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex, Mr. Frederick Charles Rowe (ex-Sergeant, No. 5943542). He enlisted in The Bedfordshire Regiment at Southend on March 3, 1919, and completed his engagement on July 9, 1936. On the outbreak of the Second World War he was re-called to the Colours, but was discharged on medical grounds in April, 1941.

**THURLOW.** — On December 9, 1959, at the Leatherhead Infirmary of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, In-Pensioner Frank Thurlow. He enlisted in October, 1898, and served with The Bedfordshire Regiment until December, 1912, when he transferred to The Military Provost Staff Corps. He was discharged to pension in the rank of Staff Sergeant at the beginning of 1920, having completed 21 years and 7 months' service. Mr. Thurlow was admitted as an In-Pensioner to The Royal Hospital, Chelsea in May, 1958. The funeral took place at Brookwood Cemetery on December 15, and was attended by C.S.M. R. Brinkley, 5th Battalion The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.).

**KING.**—On December 18, 1959, at the Royal Air Force Hospital, St. Athans, Glam., Mrs. Vera Olive Louise King, wife of Squadron-Leader G. H. King, M.B.E., and mother of Roger. Devoted daughter of Mrs. Coe and the late Mr. F. T. Coe, formerly of the 16th Foot.

**BUSH.**—On December 28, 1959, Mr. G. J. Bush, suddenly, at the age of 45. Mr. Bush served with the 5th Bn. The Essex Regiment from 1940-1947, and later with the Control Commission in Germany. He was a member of the South-end Branch of The Essex Regimental Association from its formation.

**BLACKBURN.**—In December, 1959, at Kingswood Grange, which is a special home for veterans of the 1914-1918 War, Mr. H. F. Blackburn (ex-No. 375491) The Essex Regiment.

**WATTS.** — In December, 1959, Wing-Commander F. J. Watts, aged 69 years. Wing-Commander Watts served with The Essex Regiment and The Royal Flying Corps during the 1914-1918 War, and The Royal Air Force during the 1939-45 War.

**MILLINGTON.** — On January 1, 1960, at Leytonstone, Mr. H. G. Millington (ex-No. 5999592). He served with 1st Bn. The Essex Regiment from March, 1919 to March, 1922, having previously served with the Durham Light Infantry from 1916-1919. He was a member of The Essex Regiment Association of Sergeants (Past and Present) from 1923.

**FISHER.** — On January 3, 1960, at 44, Jutsums Lane, Romford, Mr. D. Fisher, who served with The Essex Regiment and The Royal Horse Artillery.

**BRIGADIER-GENERAL W. ALLASON, D.S.O.**

We much regret to announce the death of Brigadier-General W. Allason, which occurred on January 11, 1960, at his London home. General Allason was born on March 18, 1875, and was appointed to a commission in The Bedfordshire Regiment on December 12, 1896, from the Militia. He was promoted Lieutenant on June 25, 1898, and Captain, January 22, 1902. He served in the South African War and was awarded The Queen's South African Medal. Promoted Major on October 16, 1913, he went to France with the Regiment on the outbreak of the 1914-1918 War. During the war he served in France, Belgium and Italy and at home, where he held staff appointments with the Home Forces for two brief periods. During the war he was wounded three times

and Mentioned in Despatches on five occasions. For his services he was given a Brevet Lieutenant-Colonelcy and awarded the D.S.O. and Bar. At the end of the war he was a Brigade Commander.

After the Armistice General Allason commanded the 51st Battalion The Bedfordshire Regiment and in 1921 he was appointed to the command of the 1st Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, then stationed in Ireland. Relinquishing command in 1925, he later commanded the 156th West Scotland Brigade and finally retired in 1931. His interest in the Regiment never flagged and, until failing health and sight caused him to give up many of his activities, he was present on many Regiment occasions, the last occasion being the Summer Reunion held in 1954 at Kempston Barracks.

General Allason was a great sportsman and a fine swimmer. He represented the Army on several occasions and won the plunging championship for England in 1896, 1897, 1902, 1908, 1909 and in 1922. It was only recently that his record plunge of 80ft. was broken. He was also a fine shot, and in 1912 won the Officers' Challenge Cup at the Aldershot Command Small Arms Meeting. In 1940 he wrote a manual called Military Mapreading and Reports, which reached its third edition in 1941 and is now in its sixth edition. His son, Lt.-Col. J. H. Allason is Member of Parliament for Hemel Hempstead and has recently accepted an invitation to become a Vice-President of the Watford Branch of the 16th Foot Association.

His funeral was private, but a wreath was sent on behalf of The Regiment.

To sum up the great services of General Allason to The 16th Foot, we cannot do better than quote from *The Wasp* of October, 1925, when the announcement of the completion of his tour of command was made, and although General Allason served mainly with the 1st Battalion, and the tribute is from that Battalion, all who knew him and served with him will agree that it equally applies to The Regiment: "As this number goes out to subscribers, the 1st Battalion is in the act of saying good-bye to Lt.-Col. Allason, who completes his tour of command on October 15. In trying to acquaint past members of The Regiment with what this means to the 1st Battalion, that proud old classic quotation '*Si monumentum requiris circumspice*,' springs to the mind. Look through the pages of the Regimental Journal and there you can easily see how



The late  
Brigadier-General

**W. ALLASON**

D.S.O.

*Taken from a photograph published in the 1st Battalion (16th Foot) Magazine and Record, April 1921, when General Allason held the rank of Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel.*



much Colonel Allason has done for the Battalion.

"His steady devotion of time and thought, and the interests of the Battalion and his ceaseless activity, have carried us right to the top of the tree.

"Every year of his command has shown a marked improvement in every direction of *esprit de corps*, sport and work, until now the Battalion stands, to use the words of our Brigade Commander, 'First in the Brigade, first in the Division and second to none in Aldershot, the hub of the military universe.'"

JOHNSON.—On January 14, 1960, at his home in Trapston Road, Kimbolton, Mr. T. W. Johnson, aged 72. Mr. Johnson served in The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment during the 1939/45 War.

HARBER. — On January 21, 1960, at Chelmsford, Mr. C. W. Harber, who served with "B" Company, 2nd Bn. The Essex Regiment. He was a member of the Old Contemptibles' Association.

MAJOR G. C. BARFORD, T.D.  
It is with great regret that we report

the death of Major Claude Barford, which occurred at a nursing home in Bedford on January 23, 1960.

Major Barford was educated at Bedford School and afterwards was commissioned to the 1st/5th Bedfordshire Regiment. He saw active service at Gallipoli, and on the re-formation of the Territorial Army in 1920, he joined the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. A keen volunteer officer, he was awarded the Territorial Decoration with Bar.

During the Second World War he again served in the Middle East. After the war he maintained his military interests, firstly with the Army Cadet Force and later with the Home Guard.

The funeral service took place on Wednesday, October 27, at St. Paul's Church, Bedford, and was conducted by the Reverend J. T. H. Hare, Rural Dean of Bedford, assisted by the Reverend H. John, M.B.E., Vicar of Kempston. Amongst those present were Lt.-Col. E. G. Fanning, M.C., D.L., representing The Colonel of The Regiment; Lt.-Col. D. Milman, M.C., Officer Commanding the 5th Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.), and Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., Secretary, The Regimental Association.

Major Claude Barford was a most loyal and consistent supporter of all Regimental activities. We shall sadly miss his presence on future Regimental occasions.

**RUSSELL.**—On January 19, 1960, Mr. H. F. Russell, aged 78. He served with The Essex Regiment, Regimental No. 8339.



★  
The  
late  
Mr.  
Herbert  
Russell

★

**HAYWOOD.** — On January 20, 1960, at Chelmsford, Mr. C. J. Haywood, ex-C.Q.M.S. of the 5th Bn. The Essex Regiment. He was a very active member of the Chelmsford Branch of the 5th Bn. The Essex Regiment O.C.A.

**BARRY.**—Early in 1960, Mr. D. Barry, who was an ex-R.S.M. of the 6th Bn. The Essex Regiment.

**JOHNSON.** — On February 3, 1960, at Billericay, Mr. A. E. Johnson, who served with the 5th Bn. The Essex Regiment.



The late Mr. William Wright.

**WRIGHT.** — On February 8, 1960, at Ludlow, Salop, Mr. W. Wright, ex-Sergeant, Regimental No. 6493. He was an old Pompadour, who enlisted on July 17, 1901, and took his discharge on October 31, 1914.

**DAY.**—On February 2, 1960, at the Bedford General Hospital (North Wing), Mr. F. W. Day, of 18, Huntingdon Road, Kempston, who served in The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. He was a P.T. Instructor and a keen boxer.

**MYCROFT.**—On February 12, 1960, the result of a motor accident, Mr. T. M. Mycroft, of 70, Priestleys, Farley Hill, Luton. Mr. Mycroft was a member of the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.), serving in Support Company.

**LOVELL.**—On February 22, 1960, at 32, Gifford Road, Bedford, Mr. H. S. Lovell, who served in the 5th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.). The Battalion sent a wreath. Mr. Lovell's son is a regular, serving with the Grenadier Guards.

**DARBY.**—On March 9th, 1960, at Bishops Stortford, Mr. H. Darby, who served in the 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment and was a member of the Old Contemptibles.

**BRODIE.**—On March 10, 1960, at Tunbridge Wells, Major L. C. Brodie, who served with the 2nd Bn. The Essex Regiment.

**KIRBY.**—We very much regret to announce the death of Mr. Reginald Kirby, of 85, Downs Road, Dunstable, which occurred on March 12, 1960, after a short illness.

Born in 1895, Mr. Kirby served in the 4th Bn. The Suffolk Regiment during the First World War. Shortly afterwards he and Mrs. Kirby settled in Dunstable. During the Second World War he was one of the first to volunteer for the L.D.V., and later became O.C. "C" Company, 6th Bedfordshire Battalion of the Home Guard. When the unit was disbanded Mr. Kirby helped to form the Dunstable Home Guard Association and acted as their Secretary until the time of his death. Keenly interested in shooting, he was also Secretary of the Home Guard Rifle Club.

The funeral service took place at the Priory Church, Dunstable, on Wednesday, March 16. Amongst those present were representatives of the many organisations with which he had been connected. The Regimental Association was represented by Capt. F. Mead, D.C.M., President of the Dunstable Home Guard Association.

**PERKINS.**—On March 26, 1960, suddenly, at his home in London, Mr. C. H. Perkins, aged 47. Mr. Perkins joined The 16th Foot as a band boy at the age of 15 and sailed for India four days after his 16th birthday. He served for 17½ years, during which time he was wounded during the evacuation of Dunkirk and also at Tobruk. He maintained his interest in The Regiment after his discharge in 1945, and was an active member of London Branch. The cremation took place at Streatham on March 31.

**LANE.**—On April 4, 1960, at Biggleswade Hospital, Mr. L. A. Lane, of 45, Ridge Road, Kempston. Mr. Lane served in

The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in the 1939/1945 War.

**COLONEL B. C. HARTLEY, C.B., O.B.E.**

We much regret to announce the death of Colonel B. C. Hartley, which occurred on April 24, 1960, at the age of 81. Colonel Hartley served in The Hertfordshire Regiment in the 1914-1918 War, and after being wounded he was employed at the War Office.

Born at Woodford, Essex, on March 16, 1879, he was educated at Dulwich College and then went up to Jesus College, Cambridge, where he took his B.A. degree in 1904.

He was Secretary of the Army Sport Control Board from 1918 to 1941, and Director of the Board from 1941 to 1946. A well-known all-round sportsman, he played rugger for Cambridge and was awarded his "Blue" for Athletics. In addition, he was a very keen golfer.

**JAMESON.**—In April, 1960, at 11, Roden Street, Ilford, Mr. R. Jameson, who served with 2nd Bn. The Essex Regiment, 1912-1919. Regimental No. 1453.

**HAWKES.**—On May 1, 1959, in a London hospital, Capt. A. Hawkes, M.C., aged 64.

A volunteer private soldier of The Hertfordshire Regiment, he went to France in September of 1914, thus becoming an Old Contemptible. He was later commissioned and served in the 4th Bedfordshire Regiment under the command of the late Lt.-Col. Collings-Wells, v.c. Capt. Hawkes was wounded in March, 1918, and was awarded the Military Cross.

He was one of the original members of The Hertfordshire Regiment Lodge, which he joined on its formation in 1923.

During the Second World War he served on the staff of Prisoner-of-War Camps and finished his service at the end of the war at the camp at Clapham, Bedfordshire.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his widow, Mrs. W. Hawkes.

**GILLIGAN.**—On May 5, 1960, at Wanganui, New Zealand, Mr. F. W. Gilligan, aged 67, who served with The Essex Regiment during the 1914-1918 War

**HODGETT.**—On May 21, 1960, Mr. R. F. Hodgett, who was born in 1870, enlisted in The Essex Regiment in 1892, and was discharged in 1908. He served in both Battalions of The Regiment.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

*The Editor :*

THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY

*Sub-Editors :*

The Secretary,  
The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire  
Regiment Association,  
Kempston Barracks, Bedford.

The Secretary,  
The Essex Regiment Association,  
Warley Barracks, Brentwood.

1. All correspondence should be addressed to THE EDITOR, *THE WASP AND THE EAGLE*, R.H.Q., Warley Barracks, Brentwood, Essex. (Tel. Brentwood 3051), or to the appropriate Sub-Editor.

2. The Editor will be glad to receive any contributions, such as short stories, articles, photographs, letters, etc., from past and present members of the Regiment.

3. All articles and notes for reproduction in *The Wasp and The Eagle* should, if possible, be typed on one side of the paper only, with double spacing. When photographs are submitted for reproduction in *The Wasp and The Eagle* please state whether permission to reproduce has been given by the owner of the copyright of the photograph and what caption is required.

4. ALL ARTICLES AND NOTES FOR THE DECEMBER NUMBER OF THE JOURNAL SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR BY NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1, 1960.

5. The price of *The Wasp and The Eagle* to Non-Members of the Regimental Associations is 2/6d. per copy, plus postage.

6. Our members can materially assist us in obtaining advertisements. Remember to deal only with firms who advertise in *The Wasp and The Eagle*.

7. Members of the Regimental Associations are requested to notify any change of address to the respective Secretary.

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## OUR CONTEMPORARIES

We acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following:—

The Red Hackle, The Chronicle of The Black Watch, The Royal Highland Regiment.

St. George's Gazette, a Regimental Paper for The Fifth Fusiliers.

News Letter of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

The Old Contemptible, The Journal of The Old Contemptibles' Association.

The Light Bob Gazette, The Regimental Journal of The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry.

The Queen's Own Gazette, The Regimental Journal of The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment.

The Robot, Journal of The Army Apprentices' School, Chepstow.

The Royal Army Pay Corps Journal.

The Roussillon Gazette, a Journal of The Royal Sussex Regiment.

The Men of Harlech, The Journal of The Welch Regiment.

The Covenanter, The Regimental Journal of The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles).

The Lion and The Dragon, Journal of The King's Own Border Regiment.

The Journal of The Northamptonshire Regiment.

The Waggoner, The Journal of The Royal Army Service Corps.

Territorial, The Magazine of The Reserve Army.

The Wish Stream, The Journal of The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

• It would greatly help the Secretaries of the respective Associations if subscribers would notify changes of address at the earliest moment, so that records can be kept up-to-date.



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