



Regimental Matters

Burials of Private Harry Carter and Private William Marmon 10th Battalion The Essex Regiment

C (Essex) Company of the 1st Battalion lead and provided the Burial Party and the Firing Party. The Service was conducted by the Padre of the 1st Battalion. The Colonel of the Regiment, the County Colonel for Essex, the Company Commander and the Company Sergeant Major took part, and the Regimental Association (Essex) are also attended. The Burial of Private Harry Carter and Private William Marmon Carter of the 10th



Battalion The Essex Regiment was a fitting and elegant service. The photographs are of the members of the Regiment family who directly supported the burial. There was also strong support present from the wider Regimental family and the event attracted wide media interest and coverage.





The Regimental family at the burial in France.

Appointments

The Regiments congratulates Col O CC Brown on his appointment as Chief of Staff HQ I (UK) Div.

London Gazette – August/ September 2016

LE

- A Waghorn to be Maj Jul 16

IRC

- F K Atkins to be Maj Jul 16
- D T Crosbie to be Maj Jul 16
- A K Luff to be Maj Jul 16
- A D Mackness to be Maj Jul 16
- S Thomas to be Maj Jul 16

RC

- D T Granfield to be Maj Jul 16
- L W Jay to be Maj Jul 16
- A J Penn to be Maj Jul 16

Clasp to the LSM

- Capt R A Wicks

LSaGCM

- Cpl J P Waite

SSC

- OCdt A Clancy to be 2Lt Aug 16
- OCdt J V Ellen to be 2Lt Aug 16
- OCdt W G Heaton to be 2Lt Aug 16
- OCdt D B Parker to be 2Lt Aug 16
- OCdt E A Williams to be 2Lt Aug 16

Diary Dates

November 2016

- | | |
|----|---|
| 4 | Regt Council Meeting & Officers Club Dinner |
| 6 | Chapel Sunday Warley |
| 10 | Opening of the Field of Remembrance - Westminster |
| 13 | Regimental Remembrance Service- IWM Duxford |
| 20 | Bedford Assoc Reunion in Kempston |
| 26 | Presentation of Freedom of Gibraltar in Gibraltar |

December 2016

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 4 | Regt Carol Service - Warley |
|---|-----------------------------|

1st Battalion (The Vikings)

Nigeria

A (Norfolk) Company is at the Nigerian Army School of Infantry. Last week it conducted a Tactics Week for the students of the Special Warfare Wing Counter Terrorism (CT) Course. The CT course has a 14 week programme and is an advanced cadre that allows students to return to their units as subject matter experts. The team delivered lessons and battle exercises in section attacks, cordon operations, raids, ambushes and operating in urban and forest environments.



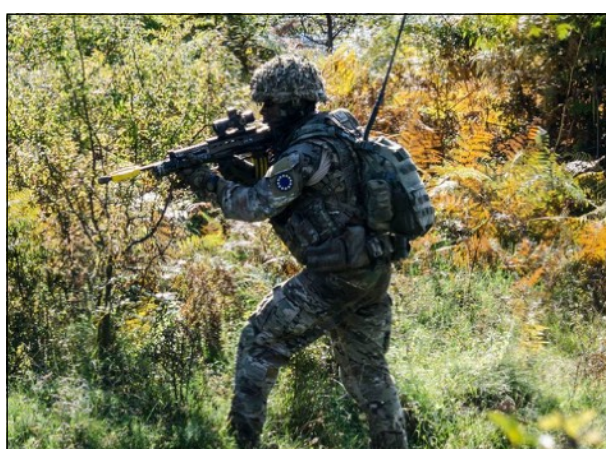
Bosnia

B (Suffolk) Company, has spent the last two weeks in Bosnia i Herzegovina (BiH) as part of Ex QUICK RESPONSE 16. This was part of an annual rehearsal of the rapid reinforcement process in BiH, which could be triggered in the event of a deteriorating security situation and a request from the Bosnian authorities. The international military force in BiH is led by the EU, with its principal constituent being the Multinational Battalion comprising troops from the UK, Austria and Turkey, with additional reserves from Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania. B Company with around 120 soldiers and 24 vehicles, deployed by air two weeks ago and moved swiftly into the integration training phase.



The integration training took place over three days in Camp Butmir, Sarajevo. It started with tactical demonstrations and familiarisation training, aimed at making each element of the Battalion more conversant with each others' tactics, equipment and procedures. It went on to cover more specific skills such as: riot control, use of the EUFOR helicopters provided by Austria, and mine awareness (BiH remains the most mined country in Europe with some 2.5% of its area considered to be a suspected legacy minefield).

With the two day integration package complete, B (Suffolk) Company was ready to conduct the first phase of the exercise, a 220km convoy north to the training area near Banja Luka. Once there it conducted further tactical training before commencing its evaluation. The exercise was a great success and B Coy is now back in the UK. The Company will continue to be held at readiness until Christmas time when it is due to handover the commitment.



2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

Ex Askari Storm

With The Poachers about to return home, here are some shots from the defensive phase of our final training exercise on ASKARI STORM. Look out for more action in the coming days as we look at more from the final seven days on exercise in Kenya.



The training environment in Kenya is as demanding as it is incredible. Major Weston, Captain Finbow and Captain French were able to thank one of the local landowners, and his family by presenting them with a Battalion plaque. The welcome given by Martin, Warren (and Floki the warthog) and their families was typical of this beautiful part of the world.

As we wind down our training here in Kenya, and ready ourselves for the journey home, it has been humbling to be able to find an opportunity to give something back. A team of Poachers have spent the last few days at a Nanyuki orphanage, sprucing it up and spending time with the residents.



3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

Battalion Football

The Battalion football team played their first game in the Army Reserve Cup against the Royal Signals. Soldiers from all 5 Coys turned up to play and represent the Steelbacks. This was the first time the team has played together but the team put in an outstanding performance resulting in a very impressive 13-0 win. Five players got themselves on the score sheet, WO2 Sweeney 3, Sgt Watson & Pte Bee 2 each, Pte Tuck 1 and the man of the match LCpl Cybulski netting 5 times.

Overall a very positive team performance and the foundations of a strong team.



Association News

Burial of Unknown Leicestershire Soldier Haisnes France

In February this year the Durand Group, a voluntary organisation of archeologists, discovered the remains of a Leicestershire soldier in a tunnel close to the Hohenzollern Redoubt, the scene of most bitter fighting on 13th October 1915 in the Battle of Loos. While not confirmed it is likely that this soldier, and another unknown soldier of an unknown regiment, discovered together were part of the Leicesters' attack on the German stronghold which later became known as "Leicester's Darkest Day" since 32 Officers and 628 other ranks were killed.



The two soldiers were buried in St Mary's ADS Cemetery, Haisnes on 29th September 2016 almost 101 years after they fell. A contingent from the Regiment attended which included Maj (Retd) Tim Brown representing RHQ, Capt Rhys Little 3rd Bn, CSgt Martin Gardner of the Regimental Band and Major Roy Burley (Padre) who led the service.

A strong group of Leicesters attended representing the Royal Tigers' Association along with their Standard, a freelance journalist and a BBC radio reporter. It was also most pleasing that the Durand Group were present along with the French landowners who have been so supportive throughout, and the Mayors of 3 local French towns also laid flowers, along with Lt Col Puxley from the British Embassy.



Schwaben Redoubt

On Thursday 14th October members and friends of the Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Cambridgeshire) gathered to commemorate the centenary of their predecessor regiment's finest hour in northern France. Travelling from Cambridge, a party of 41 veterans and supporters were joined on the ground that was once known as the Schwaben Redoubt along with comrades from the Rider's Branch Royal British Legion, and Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force to honour men from this county who achieved the impossible. The Schwaben Redoubt, a series of trenches and dug-outs sited on a high point overlooking the British lines and bristling with machine guns, was of great strategic importance during the Somme battles and had been fought over many times with great loss of life. Whilst the southern part of the perimeter was at last in British hands by 28th September 1916, the northern edge was intact and remained a hard nut to crack.



On Saturday 14th October, the Cambridgeshires, supported by the 4/5th Black Watch, and elements of 1/6th Cheshires, under the brilliant command of the Cambridgeshire's CO, Lieutenant Colonel Edward Riddell, advanced under a covering artillery barrage and were in and amongst the defenders without loss of life. The fierce fight that followed devolved into a hotly contested struggle, with bayonet and grenade. The tenacious German occupants were routed and Riddell's Cambridgeshires went on to successfully defend the Redoubt for a further 24 hours before being relieved, having beaten back several determined counter-attacks. By First World War standards loss of life was light, with 218 Cambridgeshires becoming casualties. The success was so spectacular that the Commander in Chief, General Haig,

recounted the attack as being “one of the finest feats of arms in the history of the British Army”. The Battalion gained a staggering 36 awards for gallantry, a record still not surpassed. And so it was that the Regimental Association unveiled a permanent memorial, located at the farm that stands close by the site of the battle, and owned by local mayor, Max Potie, who kindly hosted the event.

Martin Boswell, tour leader, reports, “Following a lecture on the actual battlefield, we gathered at the farm that overlooks the ground, and at precisely 2.47 a whistle was blown to signify to the moment when our men left the safety of their trench line to rush the Schwaben Redoubt. What happened is a legend and the success of that action was due to the forward thinking of an incredible commander who assessed the risks and created an audacious plan. We are proud to unveil our memorial to honour those that made history, and to ensure that future travellers who pass by recognise our men’s achievements in the face of such adversity.” Lieutenant Colonel Riddell later amplified his rationale, writing “The man who takes unnecessary risks in war is a fool; only those who attend to details, anticipate possible happenings, and look at tactical situations from the enemy’s as well as their own point of view, can hope to succeed.” How true, and how rarely practised in that awful conflict.

