3rd (16th/ 44th Foot) Battalion
The Royal Anglian Regiment
OFFICERS' MESS MINUTE BOOK

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT NORMANDY BARRACKS, ALDERSHOT ON 18 DEC 68 AT 1200 hrs.

1. The following members were present:-
Lt Col Dymoke
Majs: Ingle, Scragg, Duffie, Pike, Gill, Howard, Rawdall, Lunn.
Capts: Bates, Lee, Lambert, Hazelwood, Stylen, Wroetrow, Malling
Lts: Thomas, McMullen, Steele, Shaw-Hughton, Battye, Groves, Crowbs, Welby-Everard.
2/Lts Haylock, Lyon, Bellamy, Johnson, Rawlins, Dixon, Turner, Whitehead, Duff.

2. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.
Proposed: Maj Duffie 2nd Maj Howard.

3. The PMC explained that the cost of getting prints for the Mess was still being looked into and also the costing of the printing of Mess Rules. He also said the cost of insurance for the mess, including windows, would be examined to save another large march out bill.

4. TV
It was suggested that all living in members should pay 5/- monthly to help defray the hiring charge for the colour T.V. This was passed by the meeting.
Prop: Maj Rawdall 2nd: Maj Ingle.

5. 1514 FOR LAST PERIOD.
The salient points on the 1514 were read out and it was explained that wastage was still overspent owing to an accounting error. This was gradually being rectified. After some discussion it was passed. Prop: Maj Scragg 2nd Maj Pike.

6. INCREASE IN MESSING CHARGES.
After some discussion it was agreed that the going-in rate of extra messing should be increased from 3/6d to 4/6d daily and that casual lunch and dinner rates would be increased by 6d each, to 4/6d for lunch and 5/- for dinner.
Prop: Lt Steele 2nd: Lt Groves

7. HRH VISIT
It was explained that there was still an outstanding debt of £50 approx from HRH visit. The meeting agreed that a charge of £1 per head would be made on all Officers present on the day and the balance would be met by the entertainment fund.
Prop: Maj Scragg 2nd Maj Rawdall.

8. LADIES ROOM / TV ROOM.
Owing to the fact that any Officer wishing to bring a lady into the Mess ladies Room had to go through the Ante-Room it was decided to change over the TV room and ladies room.

9. LIGHT LUNCHES.

The meeting discussed the proposal of light lunches of bread and cheese at some length but after a vote the proposal was turned down.

10. OFFICERS CLUB - BLOCK MEMBERSHIP.

The meeting agreed that the mess should take out block membership with the Aldershot Officers Club. Officers would be charged on a monthly basis. The Mess Secretary would acquire details of charges.

Prop: Maj Ingle 2nd Capt Styles.

11. LADIES NIGHT

It was agreed that Capt Cox should organise, with a small committee, the Ladies Night for Fri 17 Jan 69. Capt Cox then gave a brief outline of events to the meeting so that members could have some idea of what was to happen. He would issue full details after Christmas.

12. MESS RULES

The PMC asked all members for their comments on the mess rules as soon as possible.

13. FINES.

Members were told that Officers failing to book out/in for meals would be fined as follows:

Living-in — 2/6 per meal
Living-out — The normal cost of the meal

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1315 hrs.

14. Payment for Losses - TIDWORTH — All now cleared

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALDERSHOT ON 20 MAY 1969

1. The following Mess Members were present:
Lt Col Dymoke
Majs: Scragg, Gill, Hancock, Lunn, Randall, Pike.
Capts: Woodrow, Bates, Hazelwood, Franks, Melling, Means, Styles, Ménage
Lts: Battye, Steele, Shevington, Groves, Lyon, Rawkins, Dixon, Browne, Welby-Everard,
2nd Lts Duff, Behagg, Whitehead.

2. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.
Proposed: Major Hancock
2nd : Major Randall.

3. The AFN 1514 was read out, the PMC explaining relevant points on the accounts during the previous quarter. He asked that the AFN 1514 be approved. This was proposed by Maj Scragg
2nd by Capt Woodrow

4. H.R.H. Princess Margaret's visit
Major Gill was asked to give details of the lunch for Princess Margaret. He explained that the lunch would probably cost about £2 per head.
The PMC stated that any extra cost would be met by the entertainment fund and should not exceed £50

5. Changes in Bar and Accounting procedures.
The new Wines member, Lieutenant Browne gave details of the proposed new methods of running the Bar and asked for members approval. They were as follows:
a. That the mess change the brewers it dealt with from Friary Meuse to Charringtons. The benefits being, better service, free servicing of beer pumps and no charge for cooling equipment. The new firm would also redecorate the bar, making no charge
b. That the bar be used by living in members but that waiter service would not be curtailed.
c. That the chit system be introduced for ease of accounting and accuracy in members daily bar sheets.
d. That non returnable containers be introduced in order to do away with the existing container account.
These measures were discussed at length and a vote taken on each. All were approved but it was decided that c. The chit system and d. disposable containers would be on a trial basis only of 2 to 3 months.

a. Proposed: 2Lt Whitehead
2nd : Lt Steele
b. Proposed: 2Lt Duff
2nd : Lt Groves
c. Proposed: Maj Lunn
2nd : 2Lt Rawkins

d. Proposed Lt Shevington
Seconded Capt Franks.

6. Expenses in the Mess

The PMC explained that for two audit periods running the mess expenditure exceeded its income by about sixty pounds. The mess subscription rate at present was based on the lowest pay for each rank and this would have to be reviewed.

The PMC stated that expenditure would have to be watched carefully and made the following suggestions.

a. Mess Waiters Jackets at present are costly in laundry bills. He suggested that the waiters wore blues if they were obtainable (The Quartermaster confirmed that they were indeed obtainable) and that the mess committee should investigate this form or alternative forms of dress.

b. That the newspaper order should be more strictly controlled and that newspapers should be reduced in number when officers were away.

c. That the mess should economise on cleaning materials and that plants and flowers should be ordered for parties only

These measures were approved in general and no vote was taken.

7. Civic Sunday - 22 June 69 at WARLEY

The PMC reminded officers that the Battalion was entertaining the Lords Lieutenant and the Mayors of Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire at the Civic Sunday Service and Tea at WARLEY on Sunday 22 June. Names would be required and the Mess Secretary was to inform the Regimental Secretary who would be attending. The Commanding Officer endorsed the PMC's remarks and said that the Battalion must be well represented.

Done m/m 5 June 69.

8. Newspapers & Periodicals

The PMC suggested that the meeting review the newspapers and periodicals at present on order to the Mess.

After some discussion it was decided that the newspaper order remain the same but that the following magazines be cancelled:

Time weekly
Life "
Field "
Radio + TV Times weekly.

Done m/m 21 May 69

In addition it was decided to place an order for the Economist (weekly).

These measures would make a saving of Six Shillings per week on Mess Expenditure.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1330 hrs.

Mr Manager Capt
Mess Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE MESS MEETING HELD AT POLEMIDHIA CAMP ON 30 OCT 69.

1. The following Mess Members were present:
Majors - Randall, Lunn, Gill.
Captains - Gee, Woodrow, Jefferson, Cross, Keith, Styles, Lambert, Norris, Denny, Franks.

2. Mess Handover by 1 Wore R
The PMC explained that he had paid £20 for Mess stock taken over from 1 Wore R. This was a reduction on the initial price presented by excluding items such as garden furniture that the Mess did not want. All bills outstanding in UK were either paid or about to be paid.

3. Mess Fees and 1771
a. The PMC asked Major Lunn to explain the System of Mess Subscriptions for Cyprus. Because running costs of the Mess are lower than in UK, the a Majors Subscription would be reduced from £4/15/- to £1/10/-. Entertainment, though, would be increased from £1 to £2 for a Major. There will also be a large number of Regimental Mess guests, and these will be paid for on a pro-rata basis throughout the three district messes.
b. Major Lunn also explained the System of claiming on 1771 for visits outside the Zone. Many claimed, apart from whatever sum might be deducted for a meal which may have been paid for, would be paid into messing. This method is used to finance visits of other Contingents to POLEMIDHIA CAMP.
c. Fees towards the Silver Fund are to be increased from

1/- to 2/6d to allow for travel damage.

4. Messing
The PMC suggested that the present System of light lunches be continued, and hoped that the Standard of messing would improve once the Mess had more hot-plates. He agreed to Suggestions that a Selection of pies should be made for Evening meals. Other decisions taken:
a. The extra messing charge of 3/6d was adequate
b. Fines are to be imposed if Mess Members arrive late, or fail to book out, for meals.
c. Breakfast timings are to Stand, although individuals may book early meals.

5. Mess Functions
The PMC stated that the programme of Mess Functions was to be published in the near future.

6. Membership of Clubs
The PMC stated that the Mess had been invited to join the BERENGARIA Club at a cost of £5 for block membership. It was agreed that this should be accepted. The EPISKOPI Club offered more expensive terms at 275 mils per head per month, and membership would not be applied for at this stage for the Mess.

7. Wines
The PMC stated that the Wines member is to publish a list of prices and wines available. Individuals could then order their own wines. The cheap table wines were not to be continued, but a better wine such as Otello

and a Hook was to be available for buying by the glass.

8. Re use of 3 Bar Chits

The advantages and disadvantages of the bar chit system was discussed at length. It was decided that since drinks were much cheaper in Cyprus, and in order to save time in serving drinks, the chit system is to end.

9. Improvements to the Mess

The PMC said that a complete list was to be published. He agreed that a sliding partition would be preferable to curtains between the anteroom and dining-room.

10. Hon Mess membership

The PMC stated that the Commanding Officer had agreed to inviting the following to be Hon Mess members during the Br's tour in Cyprus:

Col Carden, UK Defence Adviser
Brig H.W. Clarke, HQ NEAFELF
Mrs Clarke, WRVS
Flt Lt N. Cargill, RAF

The whereabouts of other Royal Anglians in Cyprus was to be investigated with a view to inviting them to become Hon Mess members.

11. Dartboard

The PMC stated that the dartboard was not to be used during the day, but could have a temporary fixture for use in the evening. This would ensure that it did not interrupt normal use of the anteroom.

12. ED Pay

The PMC stated that ED Pay was to be given to Mess Sgts for formal functions, but at a reduced rate. He agreed that the film projectionist should be paid £1 monthly for his services.

13. Mess Furniture

Several members asked that rooms could be better equipped. The PMC stated that the Property Member would check all Officers' rooms, and would prepare a list of furniture required for the Mess.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1140 hrs.

T.D. Breiley
Capt.
Mess Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MESS MEETING HELD AT FOLEMINHIA CAMP ON 3 JAN 70.

1. The following Mess Members were present:
LT Col BURCH ABE
Majors - LUNN, RANDALL, GEE
Capts - CROSS, VEITCH, LAMBERT, WOODROW, JENNY, JEFFERSON, MELLING, NORRIS, Rev MEARS.
Lts - NORBURY, LYON

2. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.
Proposed: LT Norbury ; Seconded: Capt Woodrow.

3. Mess Finance
The Mess Treasurer reviewed Mess Finance. He stated that the balance had improved by £88, mainly because there had been a profit of £113 on wines, £94 had been received for Sundry Charities, and messing was square.

4. Future Mess Functions and Visitors
a. The PMC stated that a letter would be issued shortly on future functions. A Dinner Night, to which young officers of other Contingents would be invited, was proposed.
Proposed: Capt Woodrow; Seconded: Major Randall
b. A future private party was suggested by the PMC. This was to be reviewed later.

5. Informal Party on 10 Jan 70
The arrangements for the Informal Party on 10 Jan were described by the PMC. The Mess Secretary stated that of the 80 guests invited

30 had replied so far. The PMC stated that the Commanding Officer had agreed to allow £40 to be allocated to help finance the party.

6. Magazines
The PMC stated that "Time" and "Punch" were being received, as well as old magazines from the WRVS. A proposal from Capt Woodrow that the Mess should buy "The Economist" was not passed.

7. Punctuality and Mess Rules
The PMC stated that officers were not punctual to meals, meetings, and formal occasions. This was to be improved. He also said that Mess Rules clearly laid down that Complaints should be made to the Mess Committee and not to the Mess Staff direct.

8. Film Nights
The PMC encouraged members to invite friends to Film Nights.

9. Accn for Parties
The PMC stated that the Mess was having difficulties in accn officers from outstations during parties. Visitors were asked to bring Camp-beds.

10. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1245 hrs.

N J Veitch
... Capt
Mess Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE MESS MEETING HELD AT POLEMIDHIA CAMP ON 14 MAR 70.

1. Re following Mess members were present:
Lt Col K BURCH ABE.
Majors: RANDALL, GILL, SIBLEY, GEE, LUNN.
Captains: DENNY, CROSS, LAMBERT, MENAGE, VEITCH, HELLING, FRANKS, REV MEARS.
Lts: SHERVINGTON, LYON, NIGHTINGALE, WHITEHEAD, LACEY.

2. Re minutes of the last meeting were read and passed. Proposed: Capt LAMBERT
Seconded: LT SHERVINGTON

Finance

3. Re Mess Treasurer summarized Mess Finance. Re account showed an excess of income over expenditure of £167 due to a wine profit of £149 and the crediting to the account of a sum from the RHQ wedding present fund. He stated that the account had recovered from heavy expenses in UK. There were no debtors.

Mess Functions

4. Re PMC outlined arrangements for the Private Party on 21 Mar 70. He requested that Mess members meet their own guests on arrival. He then outlined plan for the Cocktail Party to be held in the Mess garden after the Medal Parade on 3 Apr 70.

5. Handover to 3 LI

Re PMC stated that the first offrs of 3 LI arrives on 2 Apr 70. It may be necessary to

share rooms when the 3 LI Advance Party arrives. Re date of handover was given as 19 Apr 70.

6. Baggage

Regimental property is to be packed by 14 Apr 70. Re PMC stated that unaccompanied baggage was the responsibility of individual officers.

7. Wine for UK

Re PMC asked Mess members to complete demands for duty items for UK as soon as possible.

8. Tiger Buttons

Re PMC asked Mess members to return forms indenting for Tiger Buttons as soon as possible.

9. Reframing of Pictures

Re PMC stated that Major SIBLEY is investigating the reframing of certain Mess pictures since prices in CYPRUS are cheaper than in UK.

10. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1050 hrs

T.J. Sherlin
... Capt
Mess Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MESS MEETING HELD AT NORMANDY BARRACKS, ALDERSHOT ON 16 JUL 70

1. The following Mess Members were present:
Lt Col K. Burch, MBE
Majors: Randall, Ingle, Ford, Sibley, Lunn.
Captains: Cross, Gee, Lambert, Menage, Harrington. Spier, Norbury, Danny, Jenks, Davenport, Belcher.
Lieutenants: Browne, Groves, Lachley, Haylock, Lacey, Priot, Nightingale, Eccles.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed
Proposed: Capt Gee.
Seconded: Capt Menage.

3. Finance
The Mess Treasurer summarised Mess Finance. Another good period was reported with an increase in value of the Mess of £49 from the previous period.
The Entertainment fund stood at £140 at the end of April and at £75 after the Cocktail Party, a charge of 15/- per head was made to help offset the cost of the party.
Messing was in credit £12 at the end of April and approx £15 in credit at present.
Subscriptions appear to be covering day to day expenses.
It is hoped the Mess would receive a grant of £500 from Funded Charities, £329 of this would be used to cover the cost of the Cyprus paintings including framing. £100 would be paid into the Silver Fund.
Proposed. Major Ingle.
Seconded. Capt Norbury.

4. Mess Functions
The PMC outlined the following future functions:
a. Regimental Dinner Night on 3rd September, principal guest Brig Eberhardie.
b. A proposed Ladies Night with formal supper followed by a dance, to be held on a Friday evening.
c. A Film Night with curry supper.
Further details and the date of b.r.c. would be published later.

5. Mess Rules.
The PMC explained the change to the rules of the Mess as posted on the notice board.

6. Croquet Set
The cost of a croquet set, and the possibility of getting a set from the Regimental Secretary Warley to be investigated

7. Presentation
Major Ford presented, on behalf of the Officers of the Paphos District Mess, a Silver Armada Dish to the Mess.

8. Move To Germany.
It was asked that the following points be investigated before the move to Germany:
a. The possibility of getting more pictures, or to rotate some that had been with the Mess for some time.
b. The possibility of getting more garage accommodation for the Mess.

9. The Commanding Officer outlined the location, and organisation of the Mess in Paderborn.

There being no futher business the meeting was closed at 1240 hrs.

Mess Secretary.

Lt Col. 14/9/70

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALAN BROOKE BARRACKS ON 29 DECEMBER 1970

1. The following officers were present:

Majors: Ingle, Lunn, Cuddland, Lywood.

Captains: Denny, Lambert, T.D.A. Veitch, Dewenport

Lieutenants: J.W.A. Veitch, Duff, Haylock, Whitehead.

2nd Lieutenant: Smith.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were outlined and passed:

Proposed Major Lunn
Seconded Major Ingle.

3. The PMC outlined the proposed forecast of future functions to be held in the Mess. They were as follows:

7 Jan	Brigade Commander to lunch.
21 Jan	A Dinner Night - the principal guest to be the Brigade Commander with a total of 9 guests
28 Jan	The Commander in Chief to Tea.
4 Feb	GOC 4th Division to lunch
11 Feb	A Cocktail Party with invitations to about 200 guests
11 Mar	A Dinner night - GOC as principal guest.

4. It was agreed that there should be a Film Night in the mess every Sunday but that this should be on a self supporting basis.

5. Redecoration.
Redecoration of the hall, anterooms and dining rooms will commence on 6th January and should be completed by the 14th.

6. No pictures or silver will be on display until the redecoration is complete.

7. It was agreed that shades should be purchased for the standard lamps and small cushions for the armchairs

8 Dress
The PMC suggested that the present relaxation of the rules of dress should be continued.

9. Living in Officers Informal Party
It was proposed by Captain Veitch that there should be an informal party. This was agreed, the date to be decided later.
Seconded: Lieutenant Duff.

10 Mess Charges and Financial Matters
The Mess stated that the loss of the Colour Television set in ALDERSHOT had now been covered by the Insurance Company.

11. He suggested that the following rates be implemented:

Extra Messing	2·50 DM	per day
Casual Meals	1·05	Breakfast
	2·50	Lunch
	2·50	Dinner
Total Extra Messing	6·05	per day for living out officers.

Officers required to eat in mess for duty reasons should pay 1 DM per meal.

12. Laundry.
The Treasurer informed Mess Members that a washing machine had been purchased for living in officers and for some items of Mess linen.

13 A standard charge of 5 DM per month would be made on Mess Bills. With 12 to 15 officers using the service the initial cost of the machine would be covered in 9 to 10 months.

14 Garages
5 Garages were purchased from 26 Engineer Regiment at a cost of about £500. A charge of 20 DM per month would

be made to these officers using them.

15. Subscriptions
The Treasurer suggested that subscriptions remain the same for a trial period.

16. TV hire costs £3-8-= per month. There would therefore be no charge initially but this would be reviewed.

17. Honorary Members
It was agreed that the following be invited to become Honorary Members of the Mess:

W.R.V.S
Mr Desmond THAIN
The Padre.
The Rev Paul MEARS
Major Dick SARGENT (R. Anglian)

18 Magazines & Periodicals
It was agreed that the following magazines be ordered for the Mess if cost permits:

Country Life	Autocar
Time	Punch
Newsweek	Life
London Illustrated	Paris Match.

19 Wines
The PMC drew the attention of Mess Members to the Wines Selection & Price list. Other cheaper wines would be made available

20. Captain Veitch suggested that a Wine Tasting Party be arranged. The Wines Member said he would investigate.

21. Other Business
It was agreed that a Croquet set be purchased for the Summer.

22. There being no further business the Meeting closed at 1630 hrs.

Mr Menaul
Captain.

J.B. Burke 14 Jan 71
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding
3rd Bn The Royal Anglian Regt

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALANBROOKE BARRACKS, PADERBORN ON 5 JUNE 1971 AT 1200 HRS

1. The following officers were present:

Lt Col	BURCH	Capts	LAMBERT
Majs	PAUL		BROWNE
	LUNN		FISHER
	SIBLEY		LADLEY
	BATES		JENKS
	CROSS		DEXTER
			DENNY
			VEITCH
Lts	STEELE	2nd Lts	OTTER
	CORBETT		THOMPSON
	WHITEHEAD		MONK
	DOWNES		HULL
			SMITH

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the PMC asked that they should be passed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed Capt LAMBERT
Seconded Capt BROWNE

3. Accounts

The Mess Treasurer outlined the current financial state of the Mess. He made the following points:

a. Excess income over expenditure in the last audit period had been Dm 1,300. This was mainly due to:

(1) Income from garage rental

(2) Money recovered from officers for the use of laundry facilities

(3) A good wines profit.

b. Mess subscriptions were not covering the day to day mess expenditure. This was mainly due to leave, courses etc but the situation should improve.

c. Messing was in credit by Dm 192 but this would be compensated by repayment to the Combat Supplies Mess which had been overcharged.

d. Entertainment Fund was in credit by Dm 756 but since then the grant to subsidise the Ladies Dinner Night had reduced the credit to about Dm 500. Subscriptions since then have brought the value up to nearly £100.

4. The Mess Treasurer asked all Mess Members to ensure that when taking wines from the bar that containers were correctly booked out. On occasions this had not been happening.

5 Officers were reminded that personal guests in the mess should not be charged to Mess guests but should be paid for by the officer or officers responsible for them.

6. At this stage the PMC asked for the AFN 15/14 to be passed.

Proposed Capt NORBURY
Seconded Capt JENKS.

17. Composition of the Mess Committee
The PMC announced that the new Mess Committee would consist of:
Mess Secretary - Capt MENAGÉ until 1 July, 1971
Food Member - Capt VEITCH
House Member - Capt FISHER
Wines Member - Lt DUNNES
Silver Member - Capt BROWNE to continue.

18. Proposed Future Mess Functions
The PMC announced the following future functions:
An Informal Party - Sat 26 June
A Guest Night - 13 July.

19. Officers of B Squadron, 9/12th Lancers and 6 Medium Battery would be invited to the Informal Party and the French and American Officers involved in Exercise Iron Grip to the Guest Night on 13 July.

20. The PMC asked officers to invite private guests to the Informal Party.

21. Regimental Duty Arrangements
The PMC outlined the plans for the Buffet Lunch after the parade on 1 July. They were:
a. Use of both our Mess and the Combat Supplies Battalion Mess.
b. Drinks on the lawn - weather permitting.
c. A Buffet Lunch in both Messes.
c. At least 250 guests involving a considerable Lasting problem.

22. The PMC said that all officers had been invited to the Sergeants Mess Ball in the evening.

23. Messing.
The PMC said that a lighter lunch would be served in future with fewer choices since the lunch meal had in the past detracted from the evening meal, the standard of which it was hoped to improve.

24. The PMC asked all members to pay more attention to the booking in and out of meals.

Other Business

25. Major CROSS asked whether it would be possible to install a bell in the ante-room since it was sometimes difficult to order drinks. The PMC replied that a silver bell would be placed in the ante-room.

26. Major LUNN asked if the photographs taken at the Ladies night had been on display since he had not seen them. The PMC asked Capt BROWNE to ensure that these photographs were displayed in the Mess.

27. There was a suggestion by Lt WHITEHEAD that the Mess purchase garden furniture for the patio. The PMC said that he would investigate the cost.

28. Major PAUL requested that the leak in the fish pond be repaired before 1 July since the hose pipe, in use, was unsightly. The PMC undertook to make the necessary arrangements.

29. Capt VEITCH requested that tennis balls be stocked in the bar. This was agreed but the stock must be of a small amount only.

30. Capt BROWNE, the Silver Member, asked all members to take care in handling silver. He said that small pieces of silver had been lost recently including one liqueur thimble and that silver became damaged particularly on guest nights.

31. The PMC said that he would look into the problem of officers and their wives having nowhere to go for a drink in the Mess after a game of tennis. The purchase of garden furniture would alleviate the problem during the warmer weather.

32. The Commanding Officer briefly addressed all officers and there being no further business the meeting closed at 1229 hrs

K. BURCH

6/7/71

K. BURCH, MBE, LIEUTENANT COLONEL
COMMANDING OFFICER, 3 R ANGLIAN

M Marriage
Captain.

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALANBROOKE BARRACKS, PADERBORN, ON 19 OCT 71 AT 1200 HRS.

1. The following officers were present:

LT COL BURCH

Majs	PAUL	Capts	BROWNE
	SIBLEY		VEITCH
	LUNN		GROVES
	CRIDLAND		BENNY
	CROSS		JENKS
	WILLIAMS		FISHER
	LYWOOD		LADLEY FRANKS
			DEXTER GREEN
			PEELE SYMONDS
			NORBURY MENAGE
			GROVES DAVENPORT
Lts	CORBETT	Lts	THOMPSON
	WHITEHEAD		OTTER
	DOWNES		MONK
	DUFF		GOULD
			SOUTHWORTH
			CHISNELL

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the PMC asked that they should be passed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: Capt. NORBURY
Seconded: Capt. BROWNE

3. Accounts

The Mess Treasurer outlined the current financial state of the mess. He made the following points:

a. The overall value of the mess has gone up by DM 1627. This has been done as a result of

a wines profit of £m 1350, and income from investments of some £m 1000.

b. Subscriptions from maintenance were now covering the daily running of the mess.

c. The following grants were made from GPF -

NATO Lunch - £30
Regt Day - £90
SAAFA - £5

d. A subsidy of £m 309 was made from Entertainment for the Beating Retreat Cocktail Party.

e. The main funds now stand at:

Messing - £m 46.00 in credit
Entertainment - £m 838.00 in credit
Silver - £m 582.00 in credit

f. The PMC then proposed that the AFN 1514 be passed.

Proposed: Capt FISHER
Seconded: Maj CRISLAND

4. Future Functions

The PMC outlined the future functions to be held in the mess. These were:

27 Oct 71 - Drinks for Brig ANDERSON, Div Brig, attended by all Regt offrs and their wives. Brig COLEMAN has also been invited.

9 Nov 71 - FFR. Formal lunch to be attended by Brig STANIER and Six Bde Staff offrs

12 Nov 71 - Farewell dinner for Lt Col and Mrs BUECH. To be attended by all offrs, their wives and fiancées.

5. Christmas Entertainment

The PMC stated that the Bn Christmas Entertainment programme has already been published. He asked for suggestions as to mess entertainment.

6. Lt DUFF suggested that an informal party with a discotheque be arranged. Capt BROWNE requested that the party be rather more formal.

7. Capt NORBURY proposed a formal 12th Night Ball, celebrated in the traditional manner.

Seconded: Maj CRISLAND
Passed by a majority.

8. Capt NORBURY proposed a Christmas dinner for living-in officers, to be attended by girl-friends, to be followed by a discotheque to which the families were to be invited.

Seconded: Capt MENAGE
Passed unanimously.

9. Visit of Planned Maintenance Team

The PMC stated that the DOE team was to carry out maintenance in the mess in the near future.

10. The PMC commented on behaviour in the mess following his talk on 16 Sep 71. He stated that some rooms were still untidy, but that parts of general behaviour had been much improved. He warned officers to be more careful with oily boots, and not to leave valuables around.

11. The PMC stated that the laundry-women were unhappy about the amount of work they were expected to do. He requested officers not to make excessive demands.

12. The PMC stated that an official Christmas card had been selected, four hundred of which had been ordered. Orders would be shortly requested.

13. Capt DEXTER asked where the mess photographs, previously

ordered, were. The PMC stated that these would soon be distributed.

14. The following proposals were passed concerning news-papers:

"STERN" to replace "PARIS MATCH"
Proposed: Capt MENAGE
Seconded: Maj CRISLAND
Passed by a majority.

"NEWSWEEK" to be discontinued
Proposed: Capt MENAGE
Seconded: 2LT THOMPSON
Passed by a majority.

"COUNTRYLIFE" to be discontinued
Proposed: 2LT THOMASON
Seconded: LT DUFF
Passed by a majority.

15. 2LT SOUTHWORTH suggested that a deep-freeze be purchased for the kitchen for economy reasons. The PMC agreed that the Food member investigate cost and practicability.

16. The Commanding Officer congratulates the PMC on the excellence of mess entertainment on 13 Jul 71 and during the "Iron Grip" reception.

PMC

1. I will write to HQ 1 ARMD DIV regarding item 7.

2. Clearly I cannot commit him to an event of this nature (and cost) without his approval.

D. Veitch
Capt
Mess Secretary

K. BURCH MBE LIEUTENANT COLONEL 25/JULY/71
COMMANDING OFFICER, 3 R ANGLIAN.

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALANBROOKE BARRACKS, PADERBORN, ON 27 MAR 72 AT 1200 HRS.

1. The following officers were present:

Maj's WOODHOUSE	Capts GROVES	Lts CORBETT
LUNN	PEELE	NOWOSIELSKI
CRISLAND	GEORGE	DUFF
A. VEITCH	SYMONDS	JONNES
T. VEITCH	DEXTER	2Lts GOULD
MORTON	FISHER	MONK
PAUL	MENAGE	HULL
JOSS	GREEN	CHISNALL
		SMITH

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the PMC asked that they should be passed as an accurate record of the meeting.
Proposed: Capt DEXTER
Seconded: 2LT CHISNALL

3. Accounts.
The Mess Treasurer outlined the current financial state of the Mess. He made the following points:
a. The previous period sounded more prosperous than it really has been. The false figure has been reached by including cellar-stock which was not properly of the Mess. The balance has been corrected by a deduction of dm 1500 from stock resulting in the current excess of expenditure over income of dm 1290. A payment of dm 680 for accn stores and a newspaper expenditure of dm 1220 also contributed to the debit figure, as had high transport costs.
b. The state of the funds were outlined as:
(1). Messing - dm 1000 overdrawn, having started

at Sm 464 overdrawn after the previous Quarter. This figure has been reduced after realisation that Sm 450 has not been charged for functions.
It was anticipated that the debt would soon be reduced to a negligible amount after economy measures.
(2). Entertainment - £200 in Credit
(3). Silver - £150 in Credit
c. Profits were running at 11%
d. The PMC proposed that the accts be passed.
Proposed: Maj [illegible]
Seconded: Lt Duff

4. Silver Repairs

The PMC stated that the silver required considerable amount of maintenance. This was estimated at a cost of £250, which the Commanding Officer has authorized to be carried out. £150 was to be payed from the Silver Fund, and £100 from General - an amount to be repayed after raising the Silver Subscription from Sm 1 to Sm 2. The PMC proposed this rise be voted.
Proposed: Lt Dixon
Seconded: Capt MENAGE

5. Maintenance and Closure of the Mess

The PMC stated that he had published the plans for cleaning and disinfesting the mess during the Battalion's time in N IRELAND. He requested that rooms be tidy and valuables secured.

6. Replacement of Regimental Crockery

The PMC stated that Regimental crockery was short in some items, and that proposals had been made to replace or add to the present totals. These totals ranged from 24 Coffee cups to 70 plates.

He suggested that to restore the balance either
a. New Regimental crockery could be bought with the Regimental Star in gold, or
b. We should add to the present stocks with a similar design. This crockery could be bought in Germany or Japan, or from UK.
A majority voted that stocks of an identical design to our present crockery with the Rose Pompadour Eagle motif be ordered and that the totals be brought up to 12 dozen.
Proposed: Capt MENAGE
Seconded: Capt DEXTER
Passed by a majority

7. Periodicals

The PMC Suggested that the System of ordering periodicals from TOC H was unsatisfactory. It was Suggested that orders be made direct to UK.
Proposed: Capt PEEL
Seconded: Maj PAUL
The PMC stated that Contributions towards the Economist, not specified in the previous minutes, were to continue.

8. Messing Charges

Maj PAUL proposed that messing charges return to a daily Sm 2.50 after the current debt has been paid off.
Seconded:
Passed unanimously

9. Charge for Garages

Maj PAUL proposed that UPm investigate the possibility of reducing payment for garages. This should be done with a consideration of the initial cost, life-span and return on the garages. He proposed

that with these considerations in mind the monthly charge be reduced to £1 on 10.
Seconded: Capt MENAGE
Passed unanimously.

10. New Gauges
Capt MENAGE proposed that the cost and practicability of building two more gauges be investigated.
Seconded: Lt MONK
Passed unanimously

11. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1240 hrs.

J. HALL-TIPPING, LIEUTENANT COLONEL
COMMANDING OFFICER, 3 R ANGLIAN

... Major
Hon Secretary

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALANBROOKE BARRACKS, PADERBORN, ON 15 NOV 72 AT 1700 HRS

The following were present:

Majs. Paul	Capts Ladley	Lts Duff
Morton	Styles	Bailey
Woodiss	Norbury	Walsh
Dodd	Downes	2/Lts Monk
Collado	Peates	Chisnall
Williams	Symonds	Power
Veitch	Groves	Graham
Veitch	Green	Cunningham
	Steele	
	Jenks	

The mess secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the PMC asked that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.
Proposed: Capt Ladley
Seconded: Maj Woodiss

1. Silver
The PMC stated that the silver was now in good order. The large candelabra requires attention. The centrepiece is covered with lacquer which has cracked and is now being removed by Gl RUSH.
The system of valuing is to be reviewed by a board of officers with the aim of reducing the insurance premium. Insurance will in future provide for replacement of silver in the event of loss. Irreplaceable items such as medals will no longer be covered.

2. Crockery.

An order has been placed to replace crockery as per the last minutes but up to a set of 6 dozen pieces which is thought to be a more realistic figure. Cost: £183:25 mostly for coffee cups which are expensive.

3. Garages

Capt JENKS offered to provide materials to (commenced 22.2.73) Mnt) build two more garages as voted in the last meeting.

3. Accounts

Lt BAILEY described the salient points. Liquid assets are currently 10 - 12 thousand DM. Excess of income in March was 2076 marks and in July was 90:79 marks. The difference was due to variations in income from investments and in subs due to N.I. tow.

Messing is currently 409 marks in credit.

Silver was in credit 1,702 marks in July and currently in debit 85:28 marks due to repairs of 1943 marks authorised by the last meeting. The deficit will shortly be made up by subs.

Maj PAUL commented on the wines profit of 18%. PMC said this was under consideration and steps would be taken to reduce it.

PMC suggested the accounts be accepted.
Proposed: Lt DUFF
Seconded: Capt NORBURY
Carried without dissent.

4. Future Events

PMC then outlined future events which included:

18 NOV	informal buffet supper and dancing in Keller.
8 DEC	lunch for Brig LAWSON including music.
8 DEC	beating retreat buffet supper and dance - arabic theme - all of both HQ staff to be invited. 12 offrs said they would be inviting two guests. 2 living-in offrs said they would be inviting ladies.
20 DEC	living-in offrs XMAS dinner and dance. Capt NORBURY emphasised that married offrs were guests of living-in offrs at the dance. This was well-received.
6 JAN	traditional 12th night informal party.

5. Billiard Room

PMC suggested that the space could be better used as a ladies room and also to increase space at major functions.

In discussion it became apparent that the billiard table was used regularly and should be kept as such.

6. Party 8th Dec

CO said that we should invite at least 8 offrs from our 2nd battalion as they would just have returned from NI. Final figures would depend on a feasibility study by the PMC.

7. Security

The PMC said that the mess was insecure and had been subjected to various forms of minor pilfering. He pointed out that a major raid by a professional was too readily capable of accomplishment. He suggested the door be locked at night and extra keys be cut.

Proposed: Lt WALSH
Seconded: Capt DEXTER
Carried without dissent.

8. Deep Freeze

See item 15 of meeting 18 OCT. PMC and food member suggested a deep freeze would be an economic asset. The general feeling was that this was so and that a good deep-freeze should be bought and that it should be fitted with a lock—keys to be held by food member and mess colour sergeant— up to £100 to be spent.

proposed: Major WILLIAMS
seconded: Major WOODISSE
carried without dissent.

9. ED Pay

PMC stated that 10 marks for 7-8 hours of work at functions was the low the market rate for casual mess waiters etc. In discussion it became apparent that 20 marks is now the current rate and this was put to the vote.

proposed: Maj Williams
seconded: Capt SYMONDS
Carried without dissent.

10. Extra Messing Charges

See item 3. Food member requested the charge be reduced from 2:50 marks to 2:= marks.

proposed: Capt NORBURY
seconded: 2/Lt MONK
Carried without dissent.

11. Table Mats

The mess now holds 115 of which half are no longer present table. 58 of the Cerises regt county scarves set remain and therefore replacements should blend with these and be sufficient for daily use and functions.

proposed: Lt DUFF
seconded: Capt NORBURY
Carried without dissent

12 Any Other Business

PMC then asked for any other business. Major TDA Veitch reminded the meeting that staff should be asked to join offrs for a drink at XMAS time. Capt Groves suggested 1200 hrs on Fri 22 Dec. This was agreed. PMC then closed the meeting and the CO addressed the assembled offrs briefly on related matters.

13 Childrens Party

It was decided that the mess should contribute 100 marks to the children's XMAS party.

CAPTAIN
MESS SECRETARY.

J. HALL-TIPPING LIEUTENANT COLONEL

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALANBROOKE BARRACKS, PADERBORN, ON 22ND FEBRUARY 1973, AT 1645 HRS.

The following officers were present:

Lt. Col Hall-Tipping.

Majs Collado, Bones, Veitch ARA, Woodrow, Norton

Capts Corbett, Downes, Jenks, Symonds, Davenport, Power

Lt Walsh, Other, Dixon, Belagy, Field

2nd Lts French, Monk, Duthoit, Powell

Lady, Franks, Williamson, Cornish, Groves C, Norbury

The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the PMC asked that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Captain Jenks requested that paragraph 3 be amended as he had offered not to build the garages, but to provide material for building them.

With this amendment the minutes were accepted.

Proposed: Captain C Groves.

Seconded: Captain Jenks.

1. Captain Downs outlined the current financial state of the Mess. He made the following points:

a. The 1514 being circulated showed the state of the Mess at the end of November 1972. Silver was then in debt DM 20.48 as a result of a programme of repair just completed. It was now in credit about DM 130.00.

b. Messing was worth DM 764.36 at the end of November but, as the results of the reduction of the extra messing charge started to be felt, was reducing and at present stood at DM 508.23. However, a substantial credit would be required to restock the deep-freeze on our return from Northern Ireland.

c. Entertainments stood at DM 1041.20.

d. The accumulated General Purpose Fund stood at DM 22,684.54, excess of income over Expenditure in the last quarter being DM 592.61.

e. The wines profit had been reduced from 18% in the previous quarter to a more reasonable 14.1%.

The PMC then suggested that the accounts be accepted.

Proposed: Captain Downs.

Seconded: Lieutenant Dixon.

Carried without dissent.

2. SILVER

The PMC stated that, due to lack of time, the Board of Officers suggested at the last meeting to sit and revalue the mess silver, and to reduce the insurance premium, had not yet sat. It would do so when time permitted. Capt Cornish suggested a professional be obtained to do the revaluing.

3. CROCKERY

The replacement of crockery was underway but another replica of the Regimental badge was required by the glaziers. This was in hand.

4. PABLE MATS

No further progress had been made on the production of new mats since Captain Duthoit failed to agree on a suitable replacement.

5. CHARGES The PMC ~~Captain Jenks~~ said that the Domestic and Assault pioneers were too heavily committed up to the present to provide labour for the building of the two new garages for the Mess.

6. SECURITY

Sufficient keys for all officers requiring them had been cut and issued and the Mess door was now locked at night.

7. DEEP-FREEZE

A deep-freeze had been purchased and was now in use. It was too early yet for any economies resulting from this purchase to be felt.

8. EXTRA-MURALS

The reduction of the messing charge for living-in officers to $2.00 had been effected.

9. DIARY OF EVENTS

The PMC outlined the following coming events:

a. LEAVE. Meals would be available till dinner on the 23rd February and thereafter in the Combat Supplies Battalion Mess. The first meal in this mess after the leave would be breakfast on the 13th March.

b. CAPTAIN TREVOR VEITCH'S WEDDING. An informal party would be thrown at 2100 hrs, 8th March. There would be a reception and buffet in the Mess after the church service on the 9th March.

c. Captains Davenport and Norbury were throwing a party in the Mess on the 10th March.

d. REGIMENTAL WEEK-END, 16th-18th March. Mrs Holme was

coming to this would be a Ladies' night. The Commanding Officer would decide later what form this would take.

10. GAME SHOOTING

Captain Comish minuted that game shooting started on Semenoger Ranges on 18th October. The fee for a gun is $RM 180.00. He suggested the Mess paid for a gun and that the members who used it be charged on their Mess bill at a weekly rate, any loss being paid for by the Mess. There would be eleven guns and three months shooting. Three hundred birds had been put down in preparation for the season.

Proposed: Major Woodrow.

Seconded: Lieutenant Walsh.

As some dissent was audible a vote was taken and this resulted in 14 votes for the proposal and 7 against. The proposal was passed.

11. PERIODICALS

Major Veitch asked that the rather dry selection of magazines and periodicals be reviewed. The Mess Secretary agreed to put up a notice to canvass opinions and the results would be acted on.

12. WINES PROFIT

Major Woodrow asked if the wines profit would continue to reduce to 10%. The wines member said that, because of the rather unsatisfactory method of taking up wines from the cellar and paying NAAFI for them, some fluctuation of profit was inevitable.

13. REGIMENTAL WEEK-END LADIES NIGHT

The Commanding Officer then initiated a discussion

about the form the Ladies' night should take. It was eventually decided that it should be a Dinner-Dance and that the dress would be black-tie.

CAPTAIN
MESS SECRETARY

J. HALLIDAY LIEUTENANT COLONEL
COMMANDING OFFICER, 3 R ANGLIAN

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALBANBROKE BARRACKS PADERBORN ON 22 JAN 74. AT 1715 hrs.

1. The following were present:

Majs. Woodhouse, Williamson, Woodhouse, Franks, Veitch
Lts. Smith, Simmonet, Thompson
2 Lts. Debono, Delhaie, Brook, Zielinski
Capts. Laidley, Steele, Bailey, Groves, Bethell, Dixon, Jenkins, Jenks, Thompson, Ayton
Rev. Bowes.

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the PMC asked that they should be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: Maj. Woodhouse
Seconded: Maj. Woodhouse.

3. Solars.

The PMC stated that amongst matters not resolved with regard to the last meeting was that of the board of officers which had still not been convened. Maj. Woodhouse, Capt Bethell (the other member) and 2Lt Zielinski would comprise the board and would ensure that the insurance premium be reduced as far as possible, but at the same time would also ensure that it be sufficient. A representative of Wilsons Bros (Insurance) Ltd. is to visit the Battalion from 10-12 FEB. The board

was advised to take his advice and submit its findings to the next mess meeting.

4. Maj. Woodrow asked whether or not mess members should be asked to pay an increased subscription, whilst stationed in BAOR, as the repair bill would likely to be considerable. The PMC suggested that the Board of Officers should advise at the next mess meeting.

5. Maj. Welch asked whether or not the mess had arranged for a member of the mess staff to attend a course of instruction at Granards. The PMC stated that Granards had cancelled the last course and were awaiting another date from the Battalion. The Mess member is to contact Granards and arrange a course.

6. Other Items arising from minutes of previous meeting.
The majority of these items awaited comment from the Property member, at the time absent. The Commanding Officer directed that these items be reported on by the Property Member at the next mess meeting.

7. Garages.
The PMC proposed that the proposal to build additional garages be dropped
Proposed : Capt. Jenks.
Seconded : Capt. Jenkins.

8. Security of the Mess.
The PMC stated that the front door of the mess room was not locked at night which was unsatisfactory. Twenty two keys had been cut and issued, subsequently the lock

was changed. The Property member is to investigate the situation.

9. Deep Freeze.
The Food member stated that the deep freeze has proved to be a sound economic investment.

10. Game Shooting.
Maj. Woodrow stated that Maj. Alderton and himself had participated in the Semelagh shoot however only DM 80. of the initial outlay of DM 180 had, as a result, been recovered, as it was nearing the end of the season he recommended that the mess's participation in the Semelagh shoot be discontinued next season.

11. Periodicals.
It was noted with pleasure that a copy of 'Punch' had arrived in the mess. The PMC stated that a subscription had been paid to W.H. Smith & Son for the ensuing year for Punch The Economist and The New Statesman, and that an accurate statement could not be provided in the absence of the Property member.

12 Financial State of the mess.
The AIB 1514 produced for the last audited mess circulated. The PMC asked that it should be passed
Proposed : Maj. Franks
Seconded : Capt. Aplin.

The Mess Secretary outlined the financial state of the mess as it stood at the moment:
CAF: in credit: DM. 16425.82.
SILVER in credit DM. 720.65.
MESSING in credit. DM. 500.00.
ENTERTAINMENT in debt DM 837.16. However the claim for DM 860 for the ROAS Guest night 27 NOV 73 was still being processed by 20 (armd) Bde, and was expected to be paid in the near future.

13. Extension to the Bar.

The Quartermaster outlined a works service that had been entered. Namely that the present counter bar be included in the Granary bar by knocking out the intervening wall. Various other alterations such as additional sink, and additional windows would also be necessary. It is expected that the work be completed by March

14. Purchase of Stereo equipment

The PMC proposed that it would be wise to purchase stereo equipment whilst the Battalion was stationed in BAOR. Maj. Dutch suggested that it was an excellent idea as it would pay for itself quickly, considering the cost of discotechques etc.

Proposed: Maj. Francis
Seconded: Capt Dixon.

The Commanding Officer suggested that at a ceiling be determined on the amount to be spent. DM 850 was suggested.

Proposed: Capt: Aplin.
Seconded: Lt: Smith.

The PMC added that the equipment be purchased by members of the mess under the direction of the mess secretary.

15. Forthcoming events.

A Ladies Guest night will be held on 27 Feb. when The Colonel of The Regiment will be visiting the Battalion.
As many lunches are always a popular form of entertainment, ~~are popular~~. It was proposed that another be held in February.

16 Any other business.

The PMC stated that Mr: Fowles of Norris, the tailor: Norwich was visiting the mess and was available for consultation until 23 Jan.

The Commanding Officer reminded the meeting that all offices were to be in possession of new pattern service dress by July 1975. He added the Norris had been approved as an official Regimental Tailor.

17. Capt Dixon suggested that, as the mess staff had not been entertained for drinks at Christmas time due to the number of functions that had been held, they should be invited into the mess for drinks at some appropriate time. The PMC added that time had been short and that they too had been working hard but that a sum of money had been presented to them on behalf of mess members.

18. Mess Rules

Maj. Franks proposed that new Mess Rules be issued as the present copy was out of date. The PMC assured Maj. Franks that they would be rewritten

19. Parties - decoration.

Maj. Franks proposed that an Entertainments Committee be formed to organise mess parties as the bulk of the work fell upon a few willing members. The Commanding Officer stated that he saw no immediate requirement for such a development and in future the Mess Committee would make the necessary arrangements.

20 Mess Staff.

Maj. Franks requested that members of the mess staff living upstairs be moved to their appropriate accommodation on the ground floor. The PMC stated that this would be effected once the permanent mess staff were appointed

Geo Stiles
Capt:
Mess Secretary.

W. C. Ellis.
M A ARIS
LT COL COMD

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT ALANBROOKE BARRACKS, PADERBORN ON 10 MAY 74 AT 1700 HRS

1. The following officers were present:
The Commanding Officer.

Majors:	Williamson	Captains:	Lacey
	Franks		Bailey
	Barnes		Groves
	Thorogood		Browne
	Woodrow		Dixon
	Taylor		Bebagg
			Ladley
			Edey
Lts	Thompson		Thompson
	Field		Jerks
	Smith		Aplin
	Lamb		
	Otter		
	Telfer	2Lts	Mckay
			Zielinski
			Blythe
			Ritchie
			Page

2. The Mess Secretary read the Minutes of the last meeting and the PMC proposed that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.
Proposed : Major Woodrow
Seconded : Capt Aplin

3 Matters Arising from the last Meeting

Magazines - Lt Otter mentioned that in the past the 'Economist' and 'The New Statesman' had been rejected. The PMC stated that 'Punch' was popular. The question of 'Autocar' was brought up and it was suggested that the Mess purchase this periodical.

Proposed : Capt Aplin
Seconded : Capt Dixon
Carried unanimously

It was then suggested that 'The New Statesman' should no longer be bought.

Proposed : Capt Dixon
Seconded : Lt Otter

Capt Bohagg being the dissenter.

Security - The PMC stated that further keys were being issued to living-in Officers. The Mess would now be locked at 2200 hrs. Officers were to relock the door if they were to go out after this time and were reminded not to forget their keys. A key will be held in the Guard Room and the Guard were under instructions to make the key available should an Officer forget his key. The key was to be returned to the Guard Room once the Officer had been let in.

Mess Rules - Major Woodrow inquired about the progress of the new Mess Rules. The PMC replied that the Paymaster was assisting with the revision of the Mess Rules because of the Pilot Scheme of a separate Mess Treasurer.

~~The Mess Rules should be produced within the next week.~~

4 Financial Situation of the Mess

The Mess Secretary read out the Statement of Account of the Officers Mess as at 10 May 74:

Assets	Cash in Hand	DM	NIL
	Cash in Bank	DM	2081.86
	Petty Cash	DM	224.04
	Debtors	DM	4027.48
		Total	6333.38
Liabilities	Creditors	DM	2627.00 (Est)
	Messing	DM	727.41
	Ent	DM	977.52
	Silver	DM	917.40
		Total	5249.33
	Nett Working Capital	DM	1084.05

This figure does not take into account current Bar and Container stocks.

Major Franks queried the Debtors figure, the PMC explained that this was due to the fact that it was early in the month and the majority of Mess Bills had yet to be paid. The PMC went on to explain that S/Sgt Read was running the account and that there would be an audit at the end of the month. The PMC hoped for a Mess Meeting in June or July so that Mess Members could see the audited accounts.

5. Future Events

The PMC informed Mess Members that some Officers from 2 Royal Anglian would be coming to the Mess later in the evening and everyone was welcome to come for a 'quiet' evening. The PMC outlined the forth-coming programme of events.

25 May	Barbecue and Dancing
14 June	Guest Night
15/16 June	Regimental Weekend on the same lines as the previous one with a Curry Lunch; Private guests would be welcome.

Capt Thompson suggested that it was unfortunate that there had to be a Stag Night on 14th with a Families Weekend to follow. The Commanding Officer said that he hoped for a Guest Night every six weeks, approximately. This would be necessary to invite friends of the Battalion to the Mess before next year when we will be very busy. The date of the Guest Night was unfortunate but it had to be fitted in.

The Commanding officer stated that there were three days which especially concerned the Royal Anglian Regiment. These were Royal Anglian Day, Salamanca Day and Blenheim Day. The Commanding Officer felt that something different should happen on these days and especially the latter two. A

Committee had been set up to look into ideas. The Commanding Officer felt that we should start a tradition of inviting the ~~Sg~~ Warrant ~~Officers and Sgts Mess Members~~ to dine in the Officers Mess on Salamanca Day. However, it was a bad time this year as many were away. Major Franks suggested a Ball but Major Woodrow thought this would require much organization and expense. The Commanding officer asked for ideas. Major Franks stated that we never invited Warrant Officers and Sgts Mess Members and their wives to a function in our Mess. The Commanding Officer stated that we would have some sort of function on both Regimental Days and it was agreed in principle that we should have the Warrant Officers and Sgts Mess Members into the Officers Mess on 22nd July. Major Franks suggested that perhaps a Regimental Representative from Chelsea Hospital could come over. Capt Browne asked if the Commanding Officer envisaged the Officers Mess holding a large function before the Battalion left Paderborn. The Commanding Officer said, "Yes."

The PMC put forward the proposed programme of future social events.

21 July	Curry Lunch - No Band - New Colours
22 July	Salamanca Day
21 Sept	Buffet Dance - Black Tie
26 Sept	Guest Night
1 Nov	Troop Colour - Ladies Guest Night
4-6 Nov	Visit of Lord Mayor of Leicester
5 Nov	Buffet/Guy Fawkes

Capt Bragg suggested combining the functions on 1 Nov and 6 Nov to reduce the load. The Commanding Officer stated that he had tried to do this but it was not feasible due to the Lord Mayor's arrangements but that he would look at the list very carefully.

Major Barnes suggested having a special lunch on 1 Nov but the Commanding Officer thought that as it was a marked occasion for the General and his wife who were to be the principal guests for the Trooping of the Colour, it would be nice to dine them.

Major Franks suggested combining an Officers and Warrant Officers and Sgts Mess Ball on this night, however, it was generally agreed that the ladies enjoyed their Guest Night once a year and this should remain so.

6 Silver and Property

Table Mats - The PMC stated that the Mess had two types of mats. A set of Essex Country Scenes which were above ten years old and a set of Regimentally Crests which were about six years old. It had been proposed in the last Mess Meeting to purchase new Table Mats as the ones stated above were in bad repair. It had proposed prints of soldiers in Regimental period uniforms, of which there was a set of seven. These could be made into Table Mats and

would cost £80.00 for eighty mats. Capt Lacey suggested that perhaps a simple design such as the Garter and Eagle, would be more fitting. It was stated by Capt Lacey and Lt Otter that the Prime Minister had been worn well at the Depot.

The PMC recommended that the new mats should only be used on special occasions.

Major Franks advised that lanes should be obtained to hold the Table Mats so that they would last longer.

Major Woodrow suggested that non-military mats were popular with guests, were cheaper and could be bought off the shelf and replaced more easily. This suggestion was proposed.

Proposed : Lt Otter
Seconded : Major Woodrow

Capt Lacey was the only dissentor. It was agreed that the purchase of the Table Mats be left in the PMC's 'capable' hands.

Crockery - The PMC stated that some of the Regimental crockery was in short supply. The House Member was investigating the possibility of having some made up by Manufacturers.

Stereo Equipment - The PMC wanted to make it clear that he did not recall saying it was a wise move to buy Stereo Equipment.

The SIB were investigating the theft and the Insurance claim had been put in. There had been no reply from the Insurance Company so far. The two speakers and the mains lead had been left behind by the thief/thieves. Capt Aplin was prepared to sell his Stereo, which was an identical model to the one stolen, to the Mess. The PMC recommended that the Mess should wait until the Insurance Company replied, this was agreed.

Shotguns - The property of the Aldworth Horse Fund had been given to the Mess by Lt Col Hall-Tipping. This consisted of three Shotguns and some saddlery. The Shotguns all needed repair and had been valued by Major Woodraw:

Cogswell and Harrison	£100
Midland	£ 75
BSA	£ 56

It was proposed that the two worst be sold and the best (Cogswell and Harrison), be retained and repair.

Proposed : Capt Aplin
Seconded : Capt Lacey

This proposal was carried.

Major Thorgood suggested retaining the guns for use in England. Major Woodraw stated that all three were never used when he was last in England with the Battalion.

Silver - The PMC was to visit Warley to collect silver & medals for the Battalion. The Commanding Officer stated that he had arranged to have the option on items at Warley for the Battalion.

Wilsons (Insorance) Ltd were supposed to have sent a Valuer but owing to illness he was unable to come

Course for Silver man - The Silver Member stated that, due to experience, Lcpl Beasley did not need to attend the course at Garrards. Major Thorgood disagreed and said that the course was invaluable. However, Lcpl Beasley might be leaving and, therefore, it would not be worthwhile sending him on the course. This matter was to be investigated, but it was agreed that someone should be sent.

Drum Majors' Sash and Colour Belts - A new Sash and Colour Belts were to be purchased. The Commanding Officer is investigating the availability of funds to help pay for them. The Commanding Officer stated that he would appreciate ideas on a new design for the Belts.

Saddlery - The Commanding Officer directed that the Saddlery be sold. Capt Lacey stated that there were several interested parties.

Y. Messing -

The Messing Member requested for more effort and care be taken when booking In and Out for meals.

8 Mess Committee

The PMC informed Mess Members of the changes to be made in the Mess Committee.

Major Thorgood was to take over as PMC

Capt Thompson was to take over as Messing Member

Lt Helfer was to take over as Wines Member

Lt Cook was to take over as House Member

Lt Otter was to take over as Silver Member

9 Any Further Business

The Commanding Officer stated that there was a requirement for Coasters and new Decanters. The Commanding Officer would attempt to obtain Essex or Bedford Coasters from the Depot. Photographs of cut glass Decanters would be circulated for the Mess Members perusal. The Commanding Officer and PMC were given a vote of confidence to carry out this task.

The Commanding Officer informed Mess Members that he preferred to have the younger Members of the Mess seated near to him on Guest Nights and Dinner Nights in order that he might get to know them.

The PMC confirmed that Dress Regulations would remain unchanged.

R Thompson.
Lieutenant
Mess Secretary

H.C. Orr
M.A. RE
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Allenbrooke Barracks on 2nd July 1979.

1. The following Officers were present:-
The Commanding Officer
Majors: Williamson Captains: Lang
Franks Barnes
Barnes Rehagg
Thorgood Hartley
Woodson Franks
Taylor Taylor

Lieutenants: Otter 2Lts: Mackay
Simmonds Zielinski
Pope
Cook
Van Hoorn.

2. The acting Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting & the PMC asked that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: Lt Otter
Seconded: Lt Zielinski.

3. Matters arising from the previous meeting:-
a. Magazines: The New Statesman was to

to marshal and Officers were to be used for the two in charge in the Land
marshes.
b. Stage. There was a delay in getting the stage but the market were in hand and they would be arriving soon.
c. Show Ride. The race rides had not been issued yet to the race riders. It was agreed that Summer which was being worked out by the Paymaster.
d. Parking arrangements. Each race was to be taken in turn in a set manner, the 1st the smallest number in the race, a point duly of good is awarded.
e. Race Office. Capt. Marshall is to take over from Maj. Williamson and Maj. Thompson.
f. Planning of Fun. In future the race is to run on Sunday lunch a not round

3. Financial Affairs:
a) Audit Board
The PMC suggested that any problems among the race meetings were well in hand and that the Mess Secretaries had been handed over to Mr. Tolfree with a much simpler system. The profit on wines was £ 58.7s which was slightly under what it should be due to Mess Committee. Our annual audit was fairly good with little light a race like staff to be found the qualified School was given out.
b. Change in Mess Finances.
It was noted that new Standing Mess Committee is to be elected each year.

Mess Secretary & Chairman. It was suggested that an Auditor and Secretary should be for the unit. It was noted that the Mess Committee should be the same as the Mess Committee for the Officers Mess.
Proposed: Capt Berry
Seconded: Capt Ryder.
It was proposed that one more subscription should be for all three regimental funds
Proposed: Maj Franks
Seconded: Maj Williamson
It was also proposed that the total amount subscribed should be raised in accordance with current price increase. The amount to be paid to be settled by the PMC
Proposed: Maj Taylor
Seconded: Lt Emmett

4. Social Events:
a. The results of the survey book arranged for the 21st July was brought up by Capt Ryder. He suggested that it be cancelled due to the fact that very few officers wished to attend. The Commanding Officer agreed and it was decided that the dance be cancelled.
b. Salamanca Day (22 July). It was decided not to have the W.O.s & Sgts Mess to the large number of attendees. However it was decided that a cocktail party with live a combination to take place

all the women.
3. Kitchen Huts (Kitchens). It was suggested that a hut 8' x 6' was to be built. The Commanding Officer said he would be prepared to build the kitchens if the Unit Fund could provide the funds. It was decided that the Unit Fund should provide the funds for the kitchens and that the Regimental Fund might be asked to help out later.
4. Hut for Messes & Canteen (Shop). It was decided that this should be a block 40' x 20' with chairs and a counter in the morning & which shelves would be installed in the evening.

5. Other Huts.
Capt. Cohen stated that new huts would cost about $300. The question arose as to whether the Sergt's Canteen should go on the hill or the R. Regiment site. All concerned including the Sgt & Cpl messes would like the Sergt's Canteen. It was the Commanding Officer said that we should wait until the new Officers came from the Unit Reserve before deciding. The contributions for the huts are as follows:
H.Q. & Sgt $100
Cpl $100
Officers $50
Wall $50.
The Messes of Canteen were voted to and which also. Pte Y. made asked if other Messes had been approached & asked the Commanding Officer replied that they had been discussed with the Regiment & would probably not contribute. The matter was to be discussed with Town Board & Board Members by the Commanding Officer.

6. Salute.
The PMC stated that he had been to Wembley and picked up the last of the shoes. Apparently the rest were on a very poor state of repair. The Commanding Officer agreed that we have more than to the Navy at Brigade HQ and it was also agreed to have some to the Sgt mess. The advisability of Canteen was mentioned but it appears that it is no longer being run. As far as the construction of the other was concerned Officers should be coming over to deal with it.
There are four more Buffalo shoes needed at the Depot which would be required. Capt. Young mentioned a Pte Young (no relation) who ran a shoe repair business in Bay St. Edmonds which was reasonably very good & reasonably priced. The question of repair was discussed but it was decided to leave it for the time being. The

the other sub should remain at 5/6 a
a dozen was adopted if necessary.

7. Repeat Orders
a. Some subs had been called for
5/12/20 but there was still two dozen
subs left.
b. Shoes. Other boots still not received &
no letter and the new numbers were not
called for during the p. Capt Hyde read
out if the men wished to purchase the
shoes & stated the DMC replied that no
letter must go out about either way.
c. Shelters. There has been no action yet
but the committee will soon get round to
it.
d. Table subs. 8/- will be ordered at a
cost of £4 16/-. This means a total of 14/-
each £6. Orders for personal subs have
come in & will be dealt with. The Sgts
mess is buying 100.
e. Chairs. The DMC had visited Army
Pattn & their minimum order was 600 pairs
at an approx cost of £300 only wanted the
15th July. But it was found that there
was enough chairs etc at RHQ to make
up to the correct number without paying
anything. In future we wanted have to buy
Regimental chairs through RHQ and not
Company chairs. This will be much
cheaper. The question of coffee cups was
brought up & it was found that 50
could cost £195. It was decided

not to buy many but to see how good ones
for 10/-. If a success the money was forth-
coming. In this way the mess would have
enough to go round.
f. Repeat orders. The old orders were as
in every book which need were more chairs
shown to the members present. Sgts mess
wanted to £25 plus £15 for the pianos. The
CO mentioned that a silk flower would be de-
barred in the case of a cheaper piano. It was
mentioned was the fact that a hanging would
be use in the process of moving the grand pia-
nos.
g. The Drums. The DMC and the Commun-
ding Officer had had a look at them in the
NAAFI and found the prices for good ones as
follows - £26-15-, £35 & £41. Cheaper ones
were at £25 and German ones were very
expensive. It was decided not to buy expe-
nsive ones due to the end of hostilities.
h. Medal Cases. The DMC had taken one
to Spinks and they had estimated a cost
at £27.10/-. Maj Franks mentioned that
there were good people in the Battalion who could
repair them, but the was refused. The Comm-
anding Officer said that he would have a
look in England in antique shops etc.
i. Television. It was decided to end our
subscription and have it removed at the
end of the month. The Mess Secretary was
instructed to do this.

8. Any Other Business:-
The Working Parties - This was [illegible] at the moment but it appeared that Capt Tombs could lend us a small one from his store until the original was repaired. The Commanding Officer wondered if we could buy one from the PRI on the "hire never" system. This motion was passed.
Proposed Col Avis
Seconded Lt Lamb.
Photo of Officers and ben. Freeland: This could be purchased quickly and cheaply if lots of Offrs bought it. Officers were requested to give their names to the PMC.
Vote of Thanks:-
The Commanding Officer proposed a vote of thanks to the PMC for all the hard work, time and energy he had put into the mess as well as commanding a Mechanized Company.
Proposed: Col Avis
Seconded: Maj Barnes.
Herring Costs:
Maj: Franks stated that as fresh costs had risen then the herring costs would probably have to be raised. The new figure was to be discussed with the PMC.
There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

[signature] Lt
(Acting Mess Secretary).

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Hounslow Barracks on 15th October 1974.

1. The following Officers were present:-

The Commanding Officer
Majors:- Browne, Cordale, Hart, Thorogood, Marshall
Captains:- Light, Bailey, Ealey, Lodley, Thompson, Lacey, Rehagg, Field, Lamb, Aplin, Tombs, Dixon, Cravos
Lieutenants:- Ritchie, MacMurray, Telfer, Simmonett, Otter
2nd Lieutenants:- Zielinski, Crooke.

2. The acting Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the PMC asked that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. The Commanding Officer and Major Thorogood both disagreed on minor points and these were to be ammended.

3. Matters arising from the previous meeting:-
a) Crockery:- The PMC stated that we had all available in the way of good crockery for the Battalion. The Commanding Officer had spoken to

Gen. Freeland and it appeared that we were to buy no more Pompadour skeins but that the Regiment would buy Regimental skeins in bulk to be purchased by Battalions separately

c) Vote of Thanks :- A vote of thanks was proposed by the C.O. towards Major Barnes, Woodrow, Williamson & Franks for their kindness in presenting to the Mess a silver plaque to be affixed to the bar for the table mats. and for the mats which the bar contained

Proposed Col. Avis
Seconded Capt. Aplin.

c) The Old Colours :- It was ~~wished~~ wished to retain the Old Colours in the Battalion but there was an argument about this at the N.O.D and Gen. Holme was to let us know when he arrived. Apparently no churches in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire or Essex wished to have them. It was decided that it would be pleasant to case them and have them hung on each side of the new colours.

d. Colour Bells :- The Garter & Eagle on a blue background without battle honours would cost £270. Gen. Holme was writing to Mayors in Beds, Herts & Essex to try & raise money & there was £100 at RHQ. Some money would have to come from Battalion funds & the new colour Bells would take some twelve to fourteen weeks to arrive.

e) Pictures :- The C.O. was prepared to donate £100 towards their repair. At present one or two were being repaired in Minden and the rest were to wait until our return to England.

f) Silver :- The C.O. had brought four more coasters and we now have all we want. Wilsons had still not come to revalue due to the death of their valuer but would be sending someone as soon as he had taken over. Captains Tenho & Hadley were instructed to deal with this if he arrives whilst the rest of the Battalion is away.

g) Stereo :- Wilsons had replied and we should be getting the money shortly. It was thought that we should buy a new stereo and some pre-recorded tapes for the mess & Mr Smith offered his for sale. It was proposed that we should buy one on return from Ireland :-

Proposed :- Maj Browne
Seconded :- Capt Lamb.

h) Keys :- There would be coming back soon from members who had left the mess & then we could find out how many we needed & ~~perhaps~~ perhaps have some cut.

i) Washing Machine :- The old one was still awaiting a spare part through NAAFI and meanwhile we were still using the one that Capt Tenho had lent us which performed very well. It was proposed that we wait until we got to Catterick

before buying a new one.
Proposed:- Capt. Field
Seconded:- Maj. Woodall.

i) Mess Rules:- The mess rules had been prepared & copies were available to all members after the meeting.

k) Royal Photos:- The acceptance had been sent back and we were awaiting their arrival

l) Old Saddles:- It was proposed that the two remaining hunting saddles be presented to the Catterick saddle club on our arrival.
Proposed:- Maj Thorogood
Seconded:- Capt. Harvey.

m) Shotguns:- The CO. mentioned that there was good rough shooting to be had on the area & that those interested should contact the Range Officer. It was proposed that we hang on to all ours and let a German gunsmith have a look at them with a view to having them re-sleeved.
Proposed:- Maj. Thorogood.
Seconded:- Maj. Browne.
It was afterwards suggested that S/Sgt Ramsay should have a look at them. The cost was to be discussed.

4/. Social Events:-

a) 1st - 5th Nov. A programme of events for this period was handed out to all mess members and discussed. A point was raised by Capt. Belagy who wondered if we really should have the

curry lunch after the Drumhead Service. After much discussion during which the problem of cost was brought up, it was finally agreed that the curry lunch should be on as originally proposed.

b) Functions in 1975:- It was proposed that we should have one curry lunch and dinner per month and one supper night to which ladies were to be invited. The PMC was to confirm dates. It was mentioned that Blenheim day might have to be changed in format. As regards Salamanca day it was decided to have a ~~buffet~~ and band concert to say goodbye to all the Generals and Brigadiers that we have contact with. The return from Ireland party was to have been informal but this was queried and it was decided to have this in dinner jackets instead.

5/. Mess Arrangements in Ireland:-

a). Creggan Camp:- S/Sgt Sutcliffe, Cpl Ruffle, Tibble & Ryan were to be the staff in the Creggan. The problem of keeping meals hot was brought up and Capt. Cowes was instructed to look into obtaining some "hot-boxes" to keep food hot.

b) Fort George:- Cpl Jeffries, L/Cpl Beardy and a cook were to be the staff with Capt. Edey as PMC. Feeding was to be self service in both messes with fairly strict meal timings. A night tray was to be left out.

5/ Payment:- It was proposed to charge all members £3 per month in Ireland to pay for forthcoming events and the week end of the 1st to the 5th Nov. The CO thought that we could pay £5 and said that he would discuss this with the PMC.

6/ Staff whilst Training:-

a) There would be only four staff members left to run the mess during training and from the 25th Oct there would be no cleaning service.

7/ Any Other Business:-

a) The CO mentioned that Brig. Clarke and Capt Platt were coming and that we would have to look after them from the 28-29th Oct. He asked that members and their wives could be present in the mess on Monday 28 Oct at 1830 for one hour for drinks.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed.

(Acting Mess Secretary).

Minutes of an Extraordinary Informal Mess Meeting held at Allanbrooke Bks at 1445 hrs on 29th October 1974.

1. The following Officers were present:

The Commanding Officer

Majors:- Thorogood, Browne, Goodale, Hart, Marshall, Taylor

Captains:- Bailey, Ladley, Thompson, Lacey, Belcagg, Lamb, Aplin, Dixon, Groves

Lieutenants:- Thompson, Smith, MacMurray, Melfer, Summerette, Otter, Gould

2nd Lieutenants:- Zielinski, Crook, Blythe

2. The Meeting was convened to discuss the change in costing of the week-end, 31 October to 5 November and the proposed monthly subscriptions officers would make during the Op Banner tour.

3. A proposal was made that £M 1,000:00 should be withdrawn from Mess funds to assist in payment of the afore-mentioned week-end.
   Proposed : Major Broome
   Seconded : Major Taylor
   Passed unanimously.

4. The PMC discussed the proposed monthly subscriptions officers would make during the Op Banner tour. These were as follows:-

a.	Maintenance	£1 : 00
b.	Silver	£0 : 25
c.	Drums	£0 : 25 (not for attached officers)
d.	Entertainments	£5 : 00

Officers leaving the Battalion immediately after Northern Ireland will not be charged the Entertainments Subscription. The purpose of the Entertainment Subscription is to build up a sum of money to assist in the payment of social functions after the Op Banner tour and to include our first Party in Catterick as well as a Salamanca Party. Capt Behagg and Lt Thompson suggested that this sum of money should be solely for the payment of Mess Guests costs at these engagements as it would be unfair for an officer to pay towards a function when he may not be present. Maj Taylor agreed with this line of thought and principle but pointed out that this could be changed at a further Mess Meeting.
   Proposed : Commanding Officer
   Seconded : PMC
   Passed unanimously

5. The remainder of the Mess Meeting was spent in discussing the format for the week-end 31 October to 5 November.

R M Thompson
R.M. THOMPSON
Lieutenant
Mess Secretary

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Allanbrooke Barracks on 8th May, 1975.

1. The following officers were present:-
The Commanding Officer

Majors: Ladley
Marshall
Goodale
Browne
Hart
Taylor
Thorogood

Captains: Aplin
Lamb
Leigh
Thompson
Groves
Jenks
Simonette
Field

Lieutenants: Thompson
Gould
Duthoit
Telfer
Smith
Otter
Palmer

2nd Lts: Godkin
Blythe
Brehaut
Crook

2 The Mess Secretary read the Minutes of the last meeting and the PMC proposed that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting:

Proposed: Maj Goodale
Seconded: Maj Thorogood

3 Table Mats

The new table mats had arrived and were on display for everyone to see.

4. Royal Photos

The Royal photos had arrived and were displayed to all present.

5. Shotguns

REME had looked at the shotguns; one was in good condition, one in fair condition and one needed re-sleeving. The PMC suggested leaving the repairs until we reach England.
Not done. The Commanding Officer would find out about the gun in Catterick.

6. The money for the stereo had arrived.

7. China

The Regimental china idea had been dropped; the Adjutant suggested contacting in 5 Royal Anglian be tried.

8. Silver

The valuer from Wilsons had still not arrived. When he comes he will be able to give us a list of repairs required. We can then get a repairer to come to the Mess and mend the silver. The Commanding Officer stressed the importance of valuing the silver. The Silver Member requested Mess Members not to handle silver unnecessarily. Maj Browne suggested that while all Royal Anglian Bns were in the U.K., we try to get the premium reduced - the CO said he would investigate.
Done.

9. Colour Belts

There was still no news on the Colour Belts. The CO said he had received £500 from Gen Holme for colour belts and decanters. The CO had ordered four decanters from Aspreys at a cost of £57.50 each. A photo of one of the decanters was displayed to the Mess.

10. New Mess Committee

Mess Secretary - Peter Dixon (After the Mortar Concentration)
Wood Member - Simon Thompson
Wine Member - Seymour Blythe
House Member - Graham Duthoit
Silver Member - Ian Palmer

Proposed: Maj Hunt
Seconded: 2/Lt Crook

11. Functions

The PMC explained the list of functions, a copy of which was passed to all Mess Members. The format of each function was discussed.

12. The PMC suggested special boxes be built to house pictures, etc. during a move, he would investigate.

13. A proposal to have ploughmans lunches in the Spanish Bar everyday was rejected. However, those Mess Members who generally lunched in the Mess agreed that a Ploughman's Lunch

with hot soup would be satisfactory on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

14. Property Board

The PMC read the salient points of letter OMO dated 29th April 1975. The PMC and QM were to negotiate the sale of the officers Mess garages to 2 RRF.

15. Maj Hunt proposed that the Mess buy a blown-up picture of the Christmas Card. This would cost DM 60.00.

Seconded: Maj Goodale.

The PMC would get a frame and arrange for a suitable inscription.

16. There were some outstanding visitors Mess bills. The CO thought there should be a full proof system initiated of obtaining visitors names and addresses. Maj Taylor suggested cash payment for short term visitors. The CO had arranged for a tankard to be presented to SSgt Sutcliffe for his services to the Mess.

17. Captain Field suggested having the guns repaired before going to England. It was agreed we would send the guns with the advance party and obtain the name of a gunsmith from 2 RRF.

18. The Adjutant requested the re-introduction of the 'batting' system. The PMC explained that there was a shortage of staff.

19. Captain Thompson, via 2Lt Crook, suggested a wine tasting party prior to moving to Catterick to assist Members in choosing suitable wines to take to England. After some discussion, the proposal was generally agreed.

20. Lieutenant Thompson proposed that the Mess buy a Croquet Set.
Seconded: Maj Goodale

Lieutenant
Mess Secretary

Minutes of A Mess Meeting held at Alanbrooke Barracks, Paderborn On 16 Jul 75 at 1415 Hrs.

1. The following offices were present:
Lieutenant - Colonel Ams
Majors Aplin, Hart, Thorogood, Goodale, Browne
Captains Lacey, Field, Light, Eday, Dixon
Lieutenants Duthoit, Crooke, Telfer, Palmer, Thompson, Lamb, Graves, Simmonett
2nd Lieutenants Godkin, Bacon, Blythe

2. The Mess Secretary read a summary of the minutes of the last meeting and it was accepted by all present as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Royal Photographs

After investigation it had been found that suitable frames could not be acquired in Germany. The Commanding Officer proposed that the PMC should investigate the cost of buying a photograph of H.R.H Princess Margaret. Captain Graves suggested that the PMC should also investigate the cost of purchasing a photograph of The Queen Mother.

4. Shotguns

The shotguns owned by the Mess would be taken back to the UK by Major Thorogood at the end of July 75. The PMC would arrange for their collection from Bassingbourn.

5. Stereo

The PMC stated that the new stereo kit had now been bought.

6. Silver

The revaluation of the silver had been undertaken by Wilsons. The value of the silver had increased from £35,000 to £57,000.

The PMC once again reminded Mess Members not to handle the silver.

The PMC stated that a lot of silver needed to be repaired. Wilsons had stated that they thought that the repair of some items of silver were beyond the financial resources of the Mess. The PMC proposed that the silver that is used daily, such as goblets, should be repaired during the Taw in Catterick.

The Commanding Officer stated that he would contact Major Stead to see if he could find a suitable person to repair the silver.

The Commanding Officer stated that as all the Royal Anglian Battalions were going to be in the UK, the Battalion had received a middle premium for the insurance of the silver.

The PMC is to find out when the next valuation of the silver is to take place.

7. Boxes

The PMC stated that the cost of purchasing new boxes for the move to Catterick was too high. During the Taw in Catterick the Domestic Pioneers would be asked to build new boxes.

8. Mess Bills

The PMC stated that there were no longer any outstanding visitors Mess Bills.

9. Wine Tasting

The PMC stated that a wine tasting evening had been arranged for 1830 hrs 27 Jul 75. The object of the evening was for Mess Members to select wines before their return to the UK.

10. Croquet Set

The PMC stated that a croquet set had been purchased.

11. Old Colours and Colour Stands

The Commanding Officer stated that the Old Colours will be framed by the National Army Museum at Sandhurst. Once this has been completed it will be decided where the frames will be hung; but it will be in a place where the maximum number of people will be able to see them.

The Commanding Officer stated that the majority of Mess Members felt that the old colour stand should be used to hold the New Colours. The new stand, it was agreed, should be used by the Sergeants Mess and a sub committee would be formed to decide

what Battle honours etc should be placed on it.

12. Functions in The UK.

The Commanding Officer stated that some sort of function will be necessary when the Battalion arrives in Catterick. Mess Members were to think about what type of function should be held.

The PMC and Company Commanders were to investigate the possibility of taking duty free wine back to the UK.

13. Mess Subscriptions

The PMC proposed that the following rates for Mess Subscriptions should be adopted for a three month period in Catterick:-

	Living In	Living Out
Lt Col	£13.60	£5.80
Maj	£10.90	£5.10
Capt	£8.20	£4.20
Lt	£6.50	£3.40
2 Lt	£5.10	£2.70

Major Browne proposed that 2 RRF should be consulted before a decision be made. The Commanding Officer asked the PMC to contact 2RRF about the matter.

14. Silver and Drums

The PMC proposed that the monthly subscription for the Drums and Silver Funds should be raised to 50p each on the return to Catterick. The proposal was passed unanimously.

15. Extra Messing

The Food Member, Captain Thompson, stated that he had been in contact with 2RRF concerning the charges for extra messing on the return to Catterick. He proposed the following rates for a three month trial period:-

a. Living In -	0.30 p
b. Breakfast -	0.20 p
c. Coffee	0.10 p
d. Lunch	0.35 p
e. Tea	0.10 p
f. Dinner	0.35 p

The proposal was passed unanimously.

16. ED Pay

The PMC stated that the rates for ED pay had not been increased since May 71. The rates now being paid were below those paid by the Corporals and Sergeants Mess. It was agreed that the following rates of ED pay should be paid in future:-

	Present	Proposed
S Sgt	£6.30	£9.00 Use of car £5.00
Cpl	£3.95	£7.50
L Cpl	£3.53	£7.50 Casual duty £3.50
Pte	£3.16	£7.50

The PMC would investigate the rates to be paid in Catterick.

17. VAT In The Mess

The PMC stated that many articles in the Mess in Catterick would be liable to VAT if the turnover was over £5,000 per annum. He explained that the portion of the functions

subsidised by the Mess would not be liable to VAT but that members' payments for the functions would be liable. It might be worthwhile contributing a certain amount into an Entertainments/Mess Guests Fund each month.

Major Browne proposed that all Mess Members should pay $1 per month into the Entertainments/Mess Guests' Fund. It was agreed unanimously that this payment should be made on the Battalion arrival in Catterick. The PMC was to liaise with 2 RRF and see what policy they adopt.

18. Future Visitors

The PMC gave a list of the visitors to the Mess for the rest of the tour in Germany.

The Commanding Officer stated that Miss Jean Lovell was to be invited to the lunch on 21 Jul 75 when he would present her with a present in appreciation of the work she had done for the Battalion during the last two years.

19. Xmas Cards

The PMC stated that he had ordered one hundred cards for the Mess. Any Mess Member who wished to purchase cards should contact him.

20. Regimental Dinner 1975

The Commanding Officer stated that the Regimental Dinner would be held at 'The Ivy and Old Club'. As the Battalion would be in the UK at the time of the Dinner he expected as many officers as possible to attend the Dinner.

21. Other Business

Captain Thompson proposed the purchase of a coffee percolator by the Mess before the Battalion return to the UK. It was decided that the PMC should investigate such a purchase.

Captain Thompson proposed the purchase of a barbeque set. It was generally agreed that this was not a good idea.

The Commanding Officer proposed a vote of thanks to Major Marshall for all the hard work that he had carried out during his time as PMC.

The PMC briefly outlined the details of the Farewell Concert and Buffet Supper to be held on 18 Jul 75. There being no further business the meeting was declared closed.

P.R.C. Dix
CAPTAIN
Mess Secretary

Minutes Of A Mess Meeting Held at Alma Barracks Catterick on 28 August 1975 at 1600 hrs.

1. The following officers were present:-

Lieutenant - Colonel	Aris		
Majors	Hart	Captains	Lacey
	Goodale		Belsey
	Aplin		
	Taylor		Dixon
	Browne		Lamb
	Ladley		
	Marshall		Groves
Lieutenants	Duthoit		Seccombe
	Otter		Bailey
	Thompson	2nd Lieutenants	Bacon
	Palmer		Brehaut
	Gould		Godkin
	Telfer		Blythe
	Kirkpatrick		

2. The Mess Secretary read the Minutes of the last meeting and the PMC proposed that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting:
   Proposed : Capt Lacey
   Seconded : Maj Marshall

3. Royal Photographs
   The PMC stated that he had not yet investigated the possibility of purchasing photographs of HRH Princess Margaret and The Queen Mother.

4. Mess Subscriptions
   A decision on the rates for Mess Subscriptions had not yet been taken. It was unlikely that they would differ much from those proposed in the last meeting.

5. ED Pay
   The rates of ED Pay proposed in the last meeting would be adopted in Catterick.

6. VAT
   As the turnover of the Mess would not be over £5,000 before the move to Cyprus, VAT would not be levied on articles sold in the Mess.

7. Mess Committee
   The PMC stated that the following changes were to be made to the Mess Committee:
   Mess Secretary - Capt Lamb (from 1 Nov 75).
   Wines Member - 2Lt Gould (2Lt Blythe to take over in Cyprus).
   The PMC also stated that he wanted to use the Committee more in the running of the Mess. Each member of the Committee would answer relevant questions at Mess Meetings.

8. Entertainments
   It was agreed that the following events would take place:-
   a. 24 Sep - Lunch for Cond 24 Airptbl Bde.
   b. 2 Oct - Band Concert and Buffet Supper.
   c. 3 Oct - Regt Dinner.
   d. 23 Oct - Guest Night.
   e. 16 Nov - Curry Lunch.
   f. 20 Nov - Guest Night.
   g. 11 Dec - Christmas Party.
   The GOC 3 Div would be invited during Dec 75, most probably during the Champion Platoon Competition.

9. Regimental Dinner - 3 Oct 75

The PMC stated that a coach could be hired for $120. A notice would be displayed in the Mess asking which officers would be willing to take their cars to London.

10. Messing Charges

The rates for messing will be as follows:

a. Extra messing - 25p.

b. Canteen Meals

(1) Breakfast - 20p
(2) Coffee - 10p (per week)
(3) Lunch - 35p
(4) Tea - 10p
(5) Dinner - 35p

11. Mess Dress

The Mess Rules state that at weekends jackets will be worn at all meals. The PMC proposed that they ought to be ammended so that pullovers etc could be worn at breakfast and lunch on Saturdays and Sundays. Maj Aplin proposed that the Mess Rules should be ammended so that jackets / ties could be worn on Wednesdays.

Proposed : Lt Col Other
Seconded : Maj Browne.

12. Crockery and Glass

The Commanding Officer stated that the Mess incurred a bill for $80 on leaving Paderborn. He stated that those individuals who were in Paderborn would have to pay, a charge appearing each month on the Mess Bills until the debt was cleared. Investigations

would be made to see if the credit received from the container account in Paderborn could be used to offset some of the debt.

Proposed : Major Hart
Seconded : Major Marshall.

13. Dress For Mess Staff

It had been suggested that new jackets etc should be made for the Mess Staff. In view of the move to Cyprus there would be no immediate change to the present dress.

The Commanding Officer stated that arrangements were to be made for the laundering of the Mess Staffs' white shirts.

14. Repairs of Property and Silver

There is still a lot of property that needs repairing. Every effort will be made to repair some of the silver and pictures before the move to Cyprus.

The RHAs at Bury-St. Edmunds and at Warleigh will be approached to see if there are any funds that could be used to help with cost of the silver repairs.

A Board of Officers would be appointed to decide the priority that should be adopted for the repair of the silver.

15. Boxes

Certain boxes would be made by the Domestic Pioneers before the move to Cyprus.

Lt Other is to investigate the possibility of using foam that eventually solidifies and thus encases objects in boxes.

16. Balting

A letter giving the details of the balting service had been issued to all offices by the PMC.

17. Meal Timings

The PMC proposed that at the evening meal there should only be one choice and that it would be served by the waiters. This would mean that all offices should be in the Dining Room by 1945 hrs.

Proposed : Major Aplin
Seconded : 2Lt Brehaut.

18 Bar Lunches

These would continue in Cattenick and would be served on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

19. Security of The Mess

The PMC emphasized the importance that must be placed on the security of the Mess. Security Instructions will be issued by 22 Sept. 78.

20 Wines.

The PMC stated that a night Tax would be re introduced. It would probably be situated in the TV Room and the PMC reminded all offices to sign for their drinks.

The cost of repairing the existing bar could not be justified in view of our short stay in Cattenick.

It was decided that draught 'Tartan' and 'White Label' should be available in the bar.

Capt Lamb stated that the Mess had managed to bring back 115 litres of white wine from Padesbon and the duty had only been $24.

21. Mounting of Old Colours.

The Commanding Officer stated that he had heard from the National Army Museum who suggested that it would be better for us to mount and frame the Colours rather than send them to the Museum.

A committee would be formed to decide what material should be used as a background. It was agreed that Mrs Aris would organise the mounting of the Colours with other wives from the Mess.

22 Other Business

Maj Brown stated that he believed that the Leicestershire Regiment possessed some very nice paintings that the Mess might now borrow. The Commanding Officer said he would discuss the matter with RHQ Royal Anglian Regt.

The PMC was asked to negotiate with the Cpls Mess for a suitable night on which a Games Night could be held.

Major Hoar reminded those present that the Mess had bought a gun in the local shoot and that it should be used as often as possible.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 17.15 hrs.

P. RC Dixi
CAPTAIN
Mess Sec.

Minutes Of A Mess Meeting Held at Alma Barracks, Catterick on 18 November 75 at 1600 Hrs

1. The following officers were present :-

Lieutenant - Colonel	Ahs	Captains	Dixon
Majors	Hart		Bchagg
	Goodale		Lacey
	Taylor		Graves
	Hannigton - Spicer		Dawes
	Ladley		
Lieutenants	Kilpatrick		
	Otter		

2. The Mess Secretary read the Minutes of the last meeting and the PMC proposed that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting :

Proposed : Maj Ladley.
Seconded : Maj Hart.

3. Mess Subscriptions

The PMC stated that from 1 Jan 76 mess subscriptions would be expressed as a daily rate. The new rates would be as follows:

a. Serving and Attached Officers

	Living In	Living Out
Lt Col	44 p	19 p
Maj	35 p	17 p
Capt	27 p	[illegible] p
Lt	21 p	14 p
2Lt	17 p	[illegible] p

11 p
9 p

b. Temporary Visitors

Standard rate £10p per day for all ofpicers.

4. Entertainments and Visitors

The PMC announced a list of the visitors to the Mess for the period Nov 75 - Jan 76.

It was decided that the Ladies Guest Night (10th) would take the form of a traditional Christmas Dinner, followed by a disco. The dress ~~was~~ it was decided would be Mess kit, and a Committee under the PMC would be formed to co-ordinate all the details.

The Commanding Officer stated that he would investigate the possibility of reducing the cost of the Ladies Guest Night by using existing funds.

5. Silver

The Commanding Officer stated that all the silver had been checked for damage and it was estimated that the cost of the repairs would be about £800.

A retrospective claim had been made to Wilsons for damage incurred during transit. £850 had been acquired from Regimental HQ, some of which could be used to cover the cost of repairs.

The Commanding Officer emphasized that it was the duty of all officers to make sure that great care was taken of the silver especially after functions. The Silver Member is to ensure that he is

present absence & silver is passed prior to moving Loan Fund

6 Colours

The Commanding Officer stated that the flag and colour was valid shortly & steps on the risk of stitching the Colour into a background material. Once they have been completed they will be carried and then finally framed.

7 Decorations

The Pres stated that he was taking the new decoration to Hagenys to have them engraved with the Regimental Crest.

8 Christmas Cards

The Pres stated that as a result of receiving postal charges it had been decided not to send official cards at Christmas. The Commanding Officer stated that he will check to see if there are any special cases where cards should be sent.

9 Silver Subscription

The Commanding Officer stated that he agreed in some part for the silver was $40 and he felt that the monthly subscription paid by officers should be increased from 50p to £1 per month:

Proposed: Maj Radley
Seconded: Maj Taylor

10 Mess Security

The Pres stated that the Mess will close from 1200 hrs 18 Dec 76 until 1200 hrs 3 Jan 76, and that the Mess Staff will carry out a full security check of the Mess.

11 Other Business

The Pres stated that Mess Meeting relating to plans ahead for music for the Christmas period should be as soon as possible in Cyprus. It was agreed that any use of Strictly Laugh from 'Cook and Carry' should be libelled to a levy which will enable the Mess to make its profit.

The Adjutant stated that £75 had been spent on new leopard skins for the Drums and that the eight Essex Drums were being repaired for a cost of £160. He also stated that it was hoped to have 'scarfs' made for the Drums in Cyprus, and that the Pipes will have to wear their Dress and helmets.

The Adjutant stated that Stores had been approached with a view to purchasing badges of rank for Mk 6 Dress. It was indicated that the Mess should make a bulk purchase which would be available to officers in Cyprus.

Major Taylor proposed that the short goes and by the Mess should be examined and revalued by a local gunsmith. After agreement had been expressed Major Taylo

agreed to undertake this task.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1705 hours.

P.R.C. Dixon
CHAIRMAN.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Alma Barracks on Tuesday 9th December 1915 at 1130 hrs.

1. The following Officers were present:-

Lieutenant-Colonel Avis

Majors Hart — Captains Lancey
Hannington-Spicer — Bellegg
Styles — Craven
Goodale — Bailey
Lading — Scrivener
Taylor — Walton
Browne — Field
Aplin

Lieutenants Gould — Second Lieutenant Craddock
Thompson
Otter
Telfer
Dutfoit
Kilpatrick
Blythe

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the P.M.C. proposed that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting:

Proposed: Major Aplin
Seconded: Major Browne

CROCKERY

3. The PMC stated that the £86 31p damage to crockery incurred in Paderborn would be recovered by a levy on every Officer who served in Germany. Each Officer would be required to pay £2. 79p which would be broken into two parts — £1 on the November mess bill
£1 79p on the December mess bill.

Officers who have since left the Battalion had been sent bills through

the port.

DECANTERS

4. The PMC. stated that the new Decanters had now been engraved with the Regimental Crest on the stoppers, and that the silver coasters originally hoped for had proved too expensive. However, the PMC. continued, a design for coasters made out of black hardwood was in the port, and would be ready before the Battalion move to Cyprus.

5. LADIES GUEST NIGHT

The PMC. stated that the order of dress ~~was~~ for the Ladies Guest night was to be Mess Kit. Officers and their wives were to arrive at 7.30pm for 8pm, in either a Minibus or in their private cars - to be parked behind the mess.

A punch would be presented to each guest on entry to be consumed in the Anteroom and bar. The Drummers would provide entertainment during the meal, with the Band providing the music both during and after the meal.

A total of three toasts would be made after the meal. These would be "The Loyal Toast", "The Colonel in Chief" and "The Ladies."

A session of "Horse Racing" was rejected by a show of hands 5 for - 19 against. But by way of amusement a Divot ~~has been~~ would be Laid on in the Bar.

The Commanding Officer decided that the Ladies would withdraw before the gentlemen after dinner. He also asked the PMC. to breakdown the costing of the function into three parts.

a. Pre and After Dinner Drinks.

b. Drinks for the Band and Drums

c. Wine at the Dining Table.

6. CORPORALS MESS DRAW.

The PMC. asked for volunteers to attend the Corporals Mess Draw. Still having two invitations outstanding. The following people were asked to attend :-

Major Lasley

Lieutenant Blythe

Second Lieutenant Godwin.

7. WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS CHRISTMAS DRINKS.

The Commanding Officer stated that the warrant Officers and Sergeants had been invited for drinks at 1200 hrs on Thursday 11th December 1975.

8. SILVER

The Commanding Officer stated that some of the Mess silver had been reduced to scrap. He suggested that it should be melted down and used to make a new piece of Mess silver, as its value as a saleable items was less than as pure metal. The type of piece to be made would bear an appropriate Regimental design or motif, possibly in the form of a Canvas Infantry Soldier.

The Adjutant suggested that some new goblets be made Captain Bellagy suggested that a Northern Ireland Soldier be made with a plinth on which could be placed a plaque commemorating those members of the Battalion killed during the tour.

Major Browne suggested that Officers who served in North-Ireland would be prepared to contribute to have a piece

of memorial silver made.

The Commanding Officer resolved the discussion by stating that he would ask Tom Stead what could be made up from the silver scrap, and that he would enquire ~~enquiring~~ about the cost of making a Northern Ireland Soldier.

Another Mess Meeting would be held to present the relevant figures and decide on a purchase.

9 MAINTENANCE OF SILVER.

The Commanding Officer reiterated the problem of the cleaning of the Mess Silver. All mess members were encouraged to take an interest in the silver and the care of it. The present repairs done should last the mess at least twenty years.

10 ROYAL LEICESTER SILVER.

The Commanding Officer stated that he had been down to Leicester to pick up certain pieces of Royal Leicester silver which are not in current use. Some pieces would be kept in the Officers Mess and the remainder in the Sergeants Mess.

11 THE COLOURS.

The Commanding Officer stated that Corporal Plumb was producing frames for the Old Colours. The Ladies continued their good work in spite of problems. When finished the Colours would be hung, with a citation of those who contributed to the framing of them, in the Officers Mess, the Sergeants Mess or Battalion Headquarters

12. THE COLOUR BELTS.

The Commanding Officer stated that he had investigated the matter of Battle Honours on the Colour Belts and suggested that twenty Battle Honours equally divided between the Bedfordshire and Essex Regiments should be put on the colour belts in the following way

Ten battle honours between the years 1918 and the Cenotaph on the Queens Colour

Ten of the older battle honours on the Regimental Colour.

The whole Mess agreed with this idea.

13 OTHER BUSINESS.

The PMC stated that on Friday 12th December 1975 the civilian staff would be presented with a £5 Christmas box. In spite of their working odd hours particularly at Mess Functions, these civilians receive no Extra Duty Pay and deserve this box.

The Adjutant had received samples of badges of rank for No 11 dress from Stones, which were passed around the members present. The cost of both crowns and stars was 75p.

Lt Otter suggested that the silver-scrap should be sold, the proceeds of which should be used to pay part of the insurance premium for the mess silver.

The PMC replied by saying that the Mess in Cyprus would be a Garrison Mess, claiming silver subscriptions from all Garrison Officers who use our Mess.

The Commanding Officer added that selling items of silver was a most ~~extra~~ rare function, which would need to be done each year, further depleting the items of Mess Silver, which made it an undesirable practice.

The Commanding Officer stated that the mess should vote at the next Silver Subscription every six to three months, and that every move the Barracks made should be forward by a claim on Wilsons the silver insurance company.

Captain Simmons suggested that a Prince of a Northern Ireland Pompadour be commissioned instead of another piece of mess silver.

Major Lading enquired whether the V.Cs in the mess were the genuine medals or not.

The PMC replied that he had been trying to find out from former mess members the exact location of the medals, but had so far obtained no success.

Major Lading suggested that Colonel Keith Bovell would probably know their location.

The Commanding Officer stated that, in future, should any item of mess property be placed in the safe keeping of a bank, it should be to the bank of the Royal Anglian Regiment, to avoid the loss of control which had arisen in this case.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 12.30hrs

W.W. Lord
R.C. Lord
Lieutenant
MESS SECRETARY.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Alma Barracks on Friday 9th January 1976 at 1200hrs

1. The following Officers were present:-

Lieutenant Colonel	Ains	
Majors	Herrington-Spier	
	Taylor	Goodale
	Styles	
	Williamson	
CAPTAINS	Lamb	Walsh
	Palmer	Lacey
	Belagg	Bowes
	Field	Thompson
Lieutenants	DeHart	Ambrose
	French	Edwards
	Blythe	Telfer
	Gould	
Second Lieutenants	Godlein	
	Brehant	

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the PMC proposed that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting:

Proposed: Major Herrington-Spier
seconded: Captain Danner

Ladies Guest Night.

3. The CO stated that the Ladies Guest Night held on 10th December 1975 was thoroughly enjoyed by Lieutenant General Sir Ian and Lady Freeland and all the Ladies. The PMC stated that a grant of £50- from the Aldworth Horse Fund went towards the cost and so a double ticket would cost £6—. The charge for the Sergeants' Mess Drinks would be £3-16 each.

V.C.'s

4. The V.C's have been located at the Holts Branch of Williams & Glyns Bank. The PMC said that he would be seeing them the following week. The CO stated that the citations would be printed and placed under each V.C.

Mess functions January - February

5. The PMC stated that the following functions would be held in the Mess during the next two months.

15th January a lunch for three visiting Staff Officers three to attend are living-in officers, CO, 2IC, and Adj.

19th January a buffet lunch for Major General Holme. The format would be a cold buffet with a hot meal available, tables will be allotted to Mess members.

The following lunches will follow the same format:

21st January Brigadier Clarke
25th January Lieutenant Sir Jim Wilson
30th January Brigadier Santhgate.

Silver.

6. The decanters: The PMC went to Aspreys and showed those present a drawing of how the decanters will look and the inscription that will be on each coaster. The decanters will be sent to Cyprus by Aspreys so that we can take advantage of the export facilities.

The PMC stated that he had been to Garrards to inquire about the Northern Ireland Soldier - this is an 8½ inch standard mould statuette and costs £550— and can have any extras added appropriate to the Regiment.

The CO stated that on 12th December he went to see Tom Stead with reference to the old Silver problem. It would appear that the best deal would be to sell off the rubbish to a dealer and then invest the money in something like a statuette.

The Silver money technically belongs to the Royal Anglian Regiment and not the Essex, Beds & Herts., but we may get some, if not all, of the money resulting from the sale and melting down of the silver. If the Mess sells the items at between £5— to £10 per item little cash will be raised. However, after three tours in Northern Ireland it was felt we should buy something/name to keep to commemorate the dead inflation costs down. It is felt that we could raise the money through Regimental H.Q. Essex and Major General Holme. Another way would be to write to all officers who served with the Companies in Northern Ireland and ask them to contribute £5 or so each. The remainder would be raised from within the Mess and O.R.F. and the CO's fund. It is up to the Mess to decide whether we believe it is the right thing to buy and the right time.

The Silver which has be repaired cost the Mess a total of £1073—52. Of this, £446-25 has been returned and the insurance company are providing £200— , and £62-50 comes from the Drums. The Silver Fund is in credit to £136— and can pay the premium on the insurance from Mess bills. Money is also coming from Regimental H.Q.

The bill for the Coasters is £70— but with the silver plaques and inscriptions is £265— , this, plus the cost of embolgoning the Colour Belts must be found from within the Mess. The CO is sure we can find the money especially as we have £500— due from the sale of the Mess Garages in Paderborn. The Statuette would be a seperate cost. Capt. Thompson asked what value the Silver was and could it be used for the Statuette. The PMC stated that it cannot be used without refining it and the benefits from this will be limited and the statuette will be of a different silver. Garrards, in any case, will only make a statuette with their own silver.

Maj. Styles suggested that it would be nice to have something made from old Regimental silver and knows that this is so.

The PMC stated that this seemed to be too troublesome.

Capt. Lacey stated that there were about 40 officers past and present

which would raise about £200 to £230. This left about £300 still to be found. Can we afford to do it? Capt. Walsh then asked the CO for an indication of how much we are liable to pay. The CO considered asking people for £5 as a realistic sum today. The CO then asked if we were keen to have a statuette? Maj. Williamson said that he was not keen on the Gantarde statuette and felt is was very poor quality silver and was becoming popular in other Messes.

Maj. Hemington-Spier suggested auctioning the silver on the open market, but the silver was considered to be of too poor quality. The CO pointed out that the melting down is being dealt with by Tom Stead and the saleable items have been priced by the CO and PMC and are all around the £5 mark. The CO said he was not keen to lose silver on the open market but preferred to keep it within the Regiment by its Officers.

The PMC suggested that the decanters quite adeptly commemorated our tours in Northern Ireland, rather than a statuette and would save cash. The CO said that the names of the fallen could be added to the plaques if necessary. Maj. Williamson agreed and suggested that it would be something different.

~~Wrote~~ ~~wording~~ Proposed by Maj. Taylor
Seconded by Capt. Lamb
The vote was carried unanimously in favour of the decanters.

The Colour Belts were being embroidered and would be ready before we left for Cyprus.

Mess Revaluation Board

7. Maj. Taylor revalued property and two decisions were needed on:
   a. saddlery
   b. Elephant Foot Box.

   There were two saddles, the Hunter class one is M/S and one pony 15 hand saddle in a useable condition, plus reins etc. of

various types. Lt. Col. Hall-Tipping has asked if he can purchase the good saddle. The PMC suggests that we donate the reins etc. to the Episkopi Saddle Club. Capt. Lacey asked if anyone was going to London and Maj Williamson offered to take the saddle and deliver it to Lt. Col. Hall-Tipping.

Lt. Gould had asked to buy the Foot Box, but Capt. Belogg objected and suggested that it should be auctioned. This was seconded by Maj. Taylor. The PMC took a vote and many showed an interest in purchase by auction. It was agreed to take the Elephant Foot Box to Cyprus and auction it there.

Arrangements for the Bar.

8. The PMC stated that a Bar could be maintained until the last day. The range of drinks will go down and when the Barrel of beer is finished only canned beer will be available.

Any Other Business.

9. Maj. Styles asked if those who do not eat a whole midday meal could pay half-price. The CO asked the state of the Messing fund.
   The PMC replied £70.
   Maj. Styles suggested that the soup, cheese and biscuits of the existing meal should be half the meal price.
   This was seconded by Capt. S. Thompson.

Lt. Blyth suggested that a Scrapbook for the Bar should be started. The CO confirmed that a new one will be started in Cyprus.

Maj. Taylor enquired into the Mess Shot guns. Metcalfs of Richmond have revalued the Shotguns at £150 for two of them and the other at £80 after refurbishing which would cost about £10 to 20 and this is now in hand. Therefore there would soon be three Shotguns in working order. It was asked if we wanted to take them to Cyprus and if so who would take them. Were three necessary in Cyprus

if not, should one be sold. The PMC suggested that it was not worth taking them and we could give them to the Depot or sell them. Maj. Taylor opposed this and said that for future shooting there was a danger in lending guns as they would not be cared for. Maj Harrington-Spier said that shooting was held in Cyprus and we would be asked to participate by the locals.

Maj. Styles said that if they were not used they would not present a problem. The PMC said he was keen to give them to the Depot so that they would be used. The CO said that David Hemingway could asses if they are required and if they would be looked after, he may even look after them himself.

The PMC asked for a vote on taking them to Cyprus.

Maj Williamson suggested keeping one gun and either sell or loan the others.

The CO said they are expensive items and was reluctant to sell them.

Maj. Taylor stated that the two good guns were appreciating, the third gun was poor and worth nothing and proposed £75

The PMC took a vote, to retain two guns and sell the poor third gun; the motion was carried

Maj. Styles proposed to keep all, only two ~~were~~ votes for.

The proposal to take the best two to Cyprus was carried unanimously.

Capt. Downs suggested that next year there should be a New Years Eve Ball.

There being no further business the PMC closed the meeting.

P. F. Lamb

P. F. LAMB

CAPTAIN

MESS SECRETARY.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Episkopi Garrison on Friday 27th February 1976 at 1200 Hours.

1. The following officers were present :-

Lieutenant Colonel	Arris	
Majors:	Hart	Taylor
	Harrington-Spier	Williamson
	Goodale	Grant Peterkin SDO
Captains:	Lamb	Downes
	Lacey	Groves
	Field	Young SDO
	Bebegg	Horne SDO
	Seccombe	Neale RSigs
	Otter	Goodman RSigs.
Lieutenants	Gould	Best RTR
	Ambrose	Elson RSigs.
	Edwards	
	Gordon	
Second Lieutenants	Godkin	Miss Spence WRAC
	Brehaut	

2. The PMC announced those members who will form the Mess Committee for 'B' Mess, Episkopi Garrison.

PMC	Major Harrington-Spier
Mess Secretary	Captain Lamb
Wines	Captain Horne SDO
Food	Second Lieutenant Godkin
Property/House	Maj Dunlop RSigs
Silver	Captain Palmer
Gardens	Major Williamson
Entertainments	PMC.

The committee was proposed by Major Goodale and seconded by Major Grant Peterkin.

5. Mess Redecoration

The PMC announced that assistance from various agencies to make the Mess more comfortable was readily forthcoming. A decoration committee has been established with Major Goodale as chairman. The Committee would assess the curtains, carpets and re-paint decor in the Mess. Furniture fittings will be exchanged for new 'G' Plan furniture and that which cannot be replaced would be renovated. A Pictures Hanging committee will be supervised by Major Williamson.

The PMC continued by stating the proposed improvements beginning with the Ante Room. The carpet will remain but the walls and ceiling are to be redecorated. The curtains will be replaced where necessary, but the chairs in poor condition are not replaceable. However, Barrack Stores will issue complete new furniture in the next week to ten days. This includes: Sofas, arm chairs, ordinary chairs, ordinary tables and a magazine table to the scale of seventy persons.

The Hallway: The carpeting on the floor and stairs is to be changed along with the curtains. The hallway is a bit of a clutter, the result of an unplanned move, this is to be made into a more appealing hallway. The Bar will be made more habitable and the hallway area by the Bar would become the notice board area. The hallway by the verandah will be recarpeted.

Dining Room: The carpet and furniture cannot be exchanged however, the carpeting near the waiters door will be replaced.

Bedrooms: These will receive new carpets, curtains and new 'G' Plan furniture. They will also be redecorated.

Apparently twenty five sets of 'G' Plan furniture have arrived in Cyprus and it is hoped that the Mess will receive all the sets

but some may have to be retained by Stores as a reserve.

All the rooms in the Mess will be brought up to standard, so if rooms are without a piece of furniture and the occupant is entitled to it he will get it.

Toilets/Bathrooms: All the fittings will be removed and the walls are to be retiled or half tiled.

Gardens: These are to be tended by Capt Kennedy and the Mayes.

Major Grant Peterkin asked if curtains could be put up in the bathroom.

The PMC said that this would be done.

Major Taylor asked if the old leather chairs could be retained, and Major Williamson asked if it was possible to obtain old furniture from Ordnance Stores auctioning 'Sale'.

The PMC said that if the old type furniture could be retained by finding more would the Mess want it?

The Mess replied yes.

The CO suggested that cloth covers should be made for the old chairs to brighten them up.

The PMC said he will investigate cloth chair covers for the old chairs.

Captain Horne asked the time scale for the repainting.

The PMC replied that the kitchen was already done. The other rooms would be done as soon as Major Goodale had selected the colours then the painters will start.

Major Williamson said the pictures would be hung after the redecoration.

Captain Groves suggested sighting the pictures before the repainting.

The PMC asked that the proposed redecoration takes place, the leather chairs be retained with cloth covers. That curtains be obtained for the bathroom and the pictures

hooks be placed on the walls before repainting.
Proposed by Major Hunt : Seconded by Major Williamson.
Carried unanimously.

4. Mess Subscriptions
The PMC said that he had talked to Colonel Selkwood of 'A' Mess and agreed to run our Mess slightly apart from 'A' Mess. We would retain our own committee to run our Mess rather than be a shadow to 'A' Mess.
The extra Messing charge in 'A' Mess is 200 mils per day and in 'B' Mess 300 mils per day. An effort would be made to reduce our extra messing to 200 mils a day.
Wines: This was a problem in that very little income came into the Mess apart from Bar Sales. The Mess Bar profits are broken down and a portion given to 3 R. Anglian, Scots Dragoon Guards Squadron and the Royal Signals Squadron. This means that if we want to buy something ~~for~~ the money would be forthcoming from 'A' Mess, but the property would become part of 'B' Mess and not the sub unit.
The CO said that the profits from the Bar should be divided between the Scots Dragoon Guards and the remainder to the permanent part of the Mess, e.g. 3 R. Anglian and Royal Signals.
Entertainments: 'A' Mess have agreed not to charge us for the films in their Mess. It is proposed to run a film weekly in 'B' Mess and a charge will be made.
Silver: all Mess Members, less the Scots Dragoon Guards, will pay £C1 per month to maintain the silver on display daily. The cleaning of the silver may prove a problem because the materials are costly. We will not be contributing to 'A' Mess Silver fund.
Telephones: If a Mess member makes a private telephone call the operator will asker for the Bar Number and he will be billed through his Mess Bill.

Garages: 'A' Mess will continue to charge us for the garages as per the DCI. Some of the garages are Mess owned, others are MOD provided.
Staff Gratuity Fund: The charge of 350 mils per month is made to all Mess Bills. This is a substantial sum and pays for the Christmas bonus to the Mess staff. The staff take this bonus for granted and their annual budget relies on it. The same ~~charge~~ charge will be kept.
Maintenance Subscriptions: Major Williamson asked what they were? The PMC replied that he was confused by the Mess Rules which quotes a charge lower than in U.K. However, DCI's quote a daily charge to be made but this is different to that in Mess Rules.
Mess Bills: These would continue to be run by WO II Reed and he will produce the Mess Bills. 'A' Mess will continue to run the account and WO II Reed will be our representative at the end of month check.
The PMC asked that the following should be proposed:
The extra Messing be reviewed and reduced to 200 mils.~~for~~
The profits from the Wines be divided as stated. A monthly film charge be made. The Mess Subscriptions be normal.
The silver subscription of £C1 be made by all mess members less the Scots Dragoon Guards. That private telephone call are put on mess bills and that the payment for the garages remain normal.
Major Grant Peterkin offered to pay a contribution from the Scots Dragoon Guards towards the cleaning materials for the silver. This was accepted.
Proposed by Major Grant Peterkin
Seconded by Second Lieutenant Brehaut.
Carried unanimously.

5. Entertainments. The PMC stated that a Mess Dinner Night would be held once a month, the first is to be on 2nd April and the next on 26th May. It is hoped that an Opening Party in the form of a Band Concert will be held at Cuxton on 23rd April. The venue may have to be reviewed if it is going to be too cold for an outdoor function. There will be a monthly curry lunch at Bevenger in to coincide with the Church Service. The food etc. would be prepared in 'S' Mess and taken to Bevenger in to the club room. A Summer Ball is proposed the date as yet undecided. Informal parties will be held during the course of time.
It is recommended that parties be kept within normal working hours, where possible, in order to keep the costs down. The Mess is only allowed five hundred hours a month for Extra Duty Pay.
The Adjutant reminded the Mess that July 22nd was Salamanca Day and it is traditional to entertain the Warrant Officers in the Mess.
The proposed entertainments were accepted and proposed by Lieutenant Ambrose and seconded by Second Lieutenant Godkin.

6. Other Business.
Major Williamson asked about the scale of newspapers and magazines in the Mess.
The PMC replied that he was unsure of the amount of money available to the Mess but would investigate what was on order and what was actually being received...
Major Goodale said that all the newspapers and magazines were ordered locally with the ~~exc~~ exception of the Economist which is sent airmail from U.K.

The PMC said that he would review the newspapers and magazines with a representative from the Scots Dragoon Guards and Royal Signals to decide what magazines the Mess wanted and how much funds were available.
Captain Lacey asked if the married officers could buy bottles of spirits and cigarettes from the Bar.
It was pointed out that the Mess is sealed with a duty free allocation which takes in to account the married officers. It would be to the Mess' advantage to let this continue.
Major Goodale asked that the Barmen should be dressed properly with a bow-tie and white shirt etc..
The CO said he wants all the Mess waiters in Mess Dress when on duty in the Mess.
Major Goodale stated that he did not like the hand washing arrangements in the toilets, and asked if the automatic soap dispensers could be removed. Perhaps a suitably scented soap could be provided instead.
Major Williamson asked if the "Gents" sign could be replaced as it reminded him of those seen at Railway Stations. Could proper notices be made?
Captain Otter asked if we owned hair and clothe brushes?
The PMC replied that they would be put out when the MFO box had been opened.
Major Williamson stated that he wanted something done about the quality of the Port.
The Wines member would investigate the problem.
There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1255 hours.

P.F. Lamb.
P.F. LAMB
CAPTAIN
MESS SECRETARY.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Episkopi Garrison on Friday 2nd July 1976 at 1200 hrs

1. The following officers were present :-

Lieutenant Colonel Ants

Majors Hart
Taylor
Styles
Williamson
Harrington-Spicer
Grundy R. Signals
Dunlop R. Signals
Wells 15/19H.
Rydell

Captains Groves
Soccombe
Downes
Lamb
Lacey
Thompson
Palmer
Duff
Gould
Neale R. Signals
Downing RADC
Turnor WRAC
Prettwich 15/19H
Farrell 15/19H
Scourfield-Evans RAOC

Lieutenants French
Duthoit
Ambrose
Anson 15/19H
Floyd 15/19H

2nd Lieutenants Randall

Mess Spence W.R.V.S.

2. The P.M.C. announced that there had been changes in the mess committee and that it would now be:-

P.M.C. Major Williamson
Mess Secretary. Lt French until August then Capt Walsh.
Wines Capt Prettwich 15/19H
Food 2Lt Bacon
Property and Silver Lt French
Gardens Major Williamson
House Major Dunlop R. Signals

3. Future Events

It was announced that the curry lunch planned for the 4 Jul 76 would now be on the 11 Jul 76. Other than that all events planned on the programme would stand.

4. Newspapers

The current issue of newspapers was read out and the members were asked if they wished to make any adjustments to this order. Captain Scourfield-Evans proposed that instead of 2 Daily Mirrors we should have 2 Daily Mails and 1 copy only of the Daily Mirror. This was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

5. Magazines.

The current situation on magazines was explained by the P.M.C. and the members were asked to chose which magazines they wanted to avoid a duplication of certain types of magazine. The various alternatives were put to the vote and the following magazines were chosen:- The Economist
Antaeus
Field
International Defence Review
Time
Punch.
Illustrated London News.

This new order to be implemented as soon as possible.

6. Sitrep on Mess decoration and refurnishing

The P.M.C then explained the situation on the refurbishing of the mess. He explained that the ground floor was nearly complete and that the next stage was the rewiring of rooms upstairs followed by redecoration of Officers rooms coupled with the replacement of old furniture with new.

7. Garden Furniture

Major Wells asked what the situation was concerning garden furniture. It was explained that we had 6 metal tables and 24 chairs at present, with a number of canvas chairs in need of renovation. The property manager was asked to inquire into the cost of repair materials and renovation of the canvas chairs. It was decided that the mess committee would have gathered the information and that a mess meeting would not be necessary.

8. Mess Finance.

Major Bunlop asked what the situation was concerning the running of a separate mess account from "A" Mess. The Commanding Officer stated that this was still under review and that the purchase of any garden furniture would come from 3.L. Anglian G.P.F. and not "A" Mess.

9. Corps of Drums.

Captain Lacey explained that a large amount of money had been spent of the refitting of the corps of Drums and that the next expenditure would be on scarlets. This he explained would involve a considerable sum. However he explained that it was a golden opportunity whilst in Cyprus to get them made cheaply. The Commanding Officer then explained that he had asked the Regimental Sergeant Major to ask the Sergeants mess whether they would pay subscriptions to the corps of Drums as well. The same was to be asked of the corporals mess but they would pay quarterly. It was also stated that mess subscriptions may be raised from 500 mils to

£1.000 to cover the rising costs. This however would be subject to discussion at a Royal Anglian get together at a later date.

10. Mess staff Uniforms

Major Bunlop asked if a decision on the staff uniforms had been made. The P.M.C. mentioned that this had and that a joint mess fund would pay for the issue of new uniforms. It was explained that if this did not happen and that this mess ended up paying then all mess members would be requested to "chip in".

11. Eating Outside

Lieutenant Bathoit asked if the dining table could be moved outside. This was agreed unanimously by the living in members. The P.M.C. said that he would arrange for this to be done as soon as possible.

12. Vote of Thanks

The Commanding Officer then stated that he would like to thank Major Harrington-Spier for all his hard work using up much of his free time in sorting out and tidying up the mess. He said that there had been a great improvement as a result of these efforts.

13. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1237 hrs.

A.F. French.
Lt
Mess Secretary.

P McWilliamson
Maj PMC

Minutes of a Mess meeting held at Episkopi Garrison on 24th September 1976 at 1245 hrs.

1. The following officers were present:

Lieutenant - Colonel Dodd

Majors Hart
Harrington - Spies
Styles
Taylor
Williamson
Wells 15/19H
Dunlop R. Signals
Edge R. Signals

Lieutenants French, Ahern, Carter
Crook, Floyd.

Mrs E Spence W.R.V.S.

Captains Benagg
Downes
Duff
Field
Groves
Gordon
Gould
Lacey
Otter
Seccombe

Goodman R. Signals
Neale R. Signals
Downing RADC
Turner WRAC
Scourfield-Evans RAOC

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were read. The P.M.C. pointed out that the mess Secretary had omitted to include the "Illustrated London News" amongst the magazines. Having amended this the minutes were passed.

Proposed Maj Dunlop.
Seconded Capt Lacey.

3. Mess Committee

The P.M.C. stated that Capt Welsh had now taken over as Mess Secretary and he proposed that 2 Lt Bacon should take over as food

member on the departure of Capt Downing. In the absence of 2 Lt Bacon there were no objections to this suggestion.

4 Garden Furniture

The P.M.C. explained that we had now got some chairs to go with the six metal tables however some difficulty had been encountered in the obtaining of ~~some~~ umbrellas. He said that the umbrellas and canvas chairs would be obtained and repaired respectively in time for next summer.

5. Corps of Drums

Captain Lacey stated that as the sergeants (mess) and corporals mess had elected to also make contributions it would not be necessary to admit the Officers mess contribution at present.

6. Mess Uniform.

The P.M.C. stated that the civilian waiters mess uniform had now been obtained and paid for from the "A" mess fund.

7. Policy

The P.M.C. stated that although 'A' and 'B' mess were theoretically one mess attempts had been made to break away and retain an individualism. He added that it would be desirable to have more control over mess funds. There were however, he pointed out, politico - military problems which must be considered. He hoped to obtain a separate messing account in order that more control could be kept by the food member. It was

pointed out that mess members must not hinder these aims by using "A" mess in an incorrect manner. As an example, attendance at films might was mentioned. As we as a mess d.d not subscribe to their entertainment fund we must not just watch their films for which they pay. In future mess members must sign a book using a book and help share the cost. Major Wells expressed concern that the gap may become too great if we cut ourselves off completely. The P.M.C. stated that socially this should not be the case. "A" mess members could drink in "B" mess and vice - versa.

8. Entertainment

The P.M.C. explained the situation on showing films in the mess. He asked for mess members views on the subject. It was unanimously agreed that showing films once every two weeks would be a very good idea. After much discussion the choice of days was put to the vote. 14 voted for Friday and five for Tuesday. There were no other starters. After further deliberation it was decided to have films on Friday evenings at 2015 hrs, dinner to commence at 1915 hrs. The films would be advertised by letter and those attending would be requested to ~~provide~~ return a proforma.

On the subject of other entertainment. A number of nights were arranged. The following functions being suggested and accepted by the members present:

5th Nov - Guy Fawkes Party

11 Nov - Luncheon with H.R.H. the Princess Margaret

16 Oct - Pub night

18 Dec - Ladies Guest night

7 Jan - An informal party

The subject of Dinner nights was then raised. The commanding officer expressed a preference for Ladies guest nights as opposed to Stag night type dinners. The general feeling of the mess members present was in favour of this suggestion. At present however no suitable night could be arranged for a Ladies guest night other than the previously arranged occasion for the 18th December.

9. Decoration

The P.M.C. then clarified the state of the mess refurbishing programme. The electricians had nearly finished and the painters were now working in the mess. He drew members attention to a letter he had published and requested that ~~members~~ they follow his instructions. He added that Sgt Buckman was refurbishing the medal cases prior to their positioning in the Dining and Ladies rooms. New curtains would be provided in the Ante - room for the royal visit and new furniture would continue to replace old.

10. Forwarding address book.

The P.M.C then held up a forwarding address book which had been recently bought. He explained to members that by using it they should receive their mail rather than

let it accumulate in their pigeon holes.

11. Messing
Captain Bonnin requested that lives out book in prior to their taking lunch and that a phone call was all that was necessary.

12. Property for disposal
The P.M.C pointed out that there were various items of property for sale. These he stated were now on display and anyone interested should make offers to the property member.

13. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1410 hrs.

A.F. French. Lt
Acting Mess Secretary.

P Williamson
Maj PMC

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Epinkopi Garrison on the 30th of December 1976 at 1500 hrs.

1. The following officers were present:-

Lieutenant-Colonel Dodd
Majors Hart
Wright
Styles
Williamson
Harrington-Spier
Wells 15/19 H
Crunch 259 Sigs
Dunlop "
Edge "
Rycroft RAChD.
Capts Lacey
Duff
Lamb
Bethagy
Fidal
Hogg
Downes
Groves
Palmer
Otter
Neale 259 Sigs
Ambrose RAPC
Farrell 15/19 H.
Scourfield-Evans RAOC
Lts Crook 2/Lts Heritage 14/20 H
French Floyd 15/19 H.
Robinson Mrs Spence WRVS
Pearson Miss Jackson SSAFA.
Perry

2. The minute of the previous Mess Meeting were read and passed.
Proposed: Maj Harrington - Spain
Seconded: Capt Otter.

3. Kitchen Committee
The PMC gave a brief run-down of the Mess Committee and stated that Lt Coote had now taken over as Mess Secretary. The rest of the committee was as follows:
Food - Lt Bacon
Wines - Capt Pentreath
Home - Maj Dunlop
Silver and Property - Lt Fenwick.
The PMC went on to say that he was also holding down the post of Gardens member and felt that we should have a proper one instead. Maj Wells immediately proposed Lt Floyd on the strength of his forthcoming enlistment at Agricultural College. This proposal was passed unanimously

4. Past Entertainments
The PMC stated that the bill of £2.000 per head for the Royal lunch would be appearing on December mess bill and not November. This was also the case for the debit or credit from the Roulette game. This was apparently due to the vagaries of A Mess accounting system.

5. Newspapers and Magazines
The International Defence Review was shortly to be made available in the Mess but, despite popular request, we would not buy the Colour supplements. However Maj Cundy very kindly was said that he would let us have his old copies in the Mess for all to read.

6. Garden Furniture
The property member stated that he was well in hand and that there were no problems.

7. Planning
On the 1st of January our own planning account would come into operation. It was to be run by the Planning Member, the Quartermaster and Sgt Lancaster jointly. This would have the added advantage of being able to use up the remainder of the money in the account.
The PMC stated that extra planning would now be broken down meal by meal. Coupled with this was a request to use the booking in and out book more often. Thus when an Officer had booked out he would not be charged for a meal and vice versa.

8. Entertainment
There was a general reminder to all mess members that we had been invited to the Sgts Mess for drinks at

at 1230 hrs on the 31st December.

Regarding films; the PMC stated that the best price that we could get was £13 per film. However, due to some hard bargaining ~~on~~ on his part, we had not payed for the Pink Panther films and as such were only about 800 mils in debt overall after three films.

The PMC mentioned that he had conferred with the Commanding Officer, the Second in Command, OC 15/19 H and OC 284 Sigs about functions for the forthcoming year. In general the following had been decided on:-

A big function in the middle of the year and a smaller cocktail party when we were due to leave.

The band concert was to be repeated but with a reduced more selective guest list. This would be a function for all members.

Beach parties would happen more frequently.

We would continue with film nights.

Curry lunches would go on in the winter.

We would have a guest night once a quarter, some with & some without ladies.

Maj: Crandy mentioned, in confidence, that the Staff band of the Royal Signals was coming out in September and would we like to use it? There were two suggestions

One was to use it for a guest night, and the other to use it with our band for a Curious concert. Maj. Crandy said he would find out the form and let us know.

After much discussion the following functions were agreed upon:-

7th Jan - a 12th night party.
30th Jan - Curry lunch
8th Feb - Guest night (no ladies)
18th March - Informal party
3rd April - Curry lunch.
1st July - Band concert

The first film night was to be on the 21st of January. Brig Carters visit (25th to 29th of April) would include a more informal buffet style dinner so that he could meet people.

Capt Lacey proposed that a net charge be applied to all Officers in respect of the films in order ease the problem of paying for them. This was defeated.

Maj Crandy asked if the Signal Squadron could have a private dinner night in honour of the visit of their Signal Officer in Chief. This was agreed.

9. Dress.

The P.M.C. issued a reminder on the dress that was to be adopted in the mess in the evenings. He also asked Officers to be careful of damage to furniture and fittings. This was probably, he said, due to the efforts of the servants to clean it.

He asked that Officers should remember to pay mess bills on time in order to simplify accounting.

10. Infantry 200 Club.
We pay £10 a year towards this organisation and so far have not won a thing. The Commanding Officer and Second in Command said that they would make a decision on the matter.

11. Any Other Business
Elephants feet were mentioned by Capt. Behagg but the answer was that we could not dispose of it until R.H.Q had let us know whether we could or not. The P.R.C. said that some old silver was to be sold shortly by R.H.Q and presumably all details would arrive together.
2nd Lt Floyd proposed the setting up of a night tray. This was carried unanimously by the living in members and the P.R.C requested that Officers should not be forgetful when signing for drinks.
Some very attractive ties were exhibited for sale as were some photos of the Officers in 1974. Printed backings to Lt Col Aris' farewell photo had now become available and those Officers wishing to buy them were requested to contact the Mess Secretary.

12. There being no other business the meeting was closed at 1410hrs.

(CM).

Lt. Mess Secretary.

P.M.McWilliamson
Maj
PMC

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Salamanca Barracks on the 6th April 1977 at 1300 hrs.

1. The following Officers were present:-

Lt Col Dodd
Maj's Shevington
Wright
Harrington-Spicer
Edge 259 Sigs
Cromby 259 Sigs
Capt's Bishopp
Seccombe
Downes
Groves
Walsh
Palmer
Gordon
Hogg
Gould
Lamb
Duff
Lacey
Maclean 259 Sigs
Ambrose RAPC
Neale 259 Sigs
Scourfield-Evans RAOC
Mrs Crook
Bacon
Brehaut
Duthoit
Perry
Straker 15/19H
Agnew 15/19H.
2Lt's Carnell
Johnstone 15/19H
Hunter 15/19H
Mrs Spence
Rev Ryall. RACD.

2. The minutes of the last mess meeting were read and passed.
Prop. Capt Neale
2nd. Capt Downes

3. Matters arising from the Previous Meeting.

The Infantry 200 Club was mentioned and the C.O. said that as yet he had been unable to get around to finding out about this. He said he would do so soon.

The Mess Committee: The P.M.C. stated that he would be handing over to Maj Harrington-Spicer at the end of April. There were to be no other changes.

The Nursing Account: This had been handed back to Mess and would remain in their hands.

The Elephants Foot: This had been returned to R.H.Q and was not to be disposed of. Auction about the sale of silver had been put up on the mess notice board and it was hoped that all had seen it.

Royal Signals Band: Maj Cromby informed the mess that the band would not be coming out to Cyprus.

4. Lt.Col. Avis's Letter Rack.

This was to be put up when the D.O.E. had finished plastering the wall. A vote of thanks to Lt.Col. Avis was proposed by the P.M.C. and seconded by the C.O. The motion was carried. Officers of 259 Sigs Sqn were to continue to use alphabetical pigeon holes.

The P.M.C. suggested that it might be a good idea if Officers were to purchase a small engraved nameplate, in silver, which was to be affixed below their respective pigeon holes. Capt Seccombe proposed that the date of commissioning

be engraved as well. This was seconded by the C.O. and carried. Capt. Downes suggested that copperplate script should be used instead of an ordinary capital. This was agreed.
The P.M.C. requested that dates of commissioning be passed onto him; also names of those Officers who did not want to be remembered in this "elephants graveyard." It was also decided that the plates should be kept in the mess whenever an Officer should leave the Battalion; at which stage the C.O. stated that "he could think of several Officers who might go away and never come back again."

5. Entertainment.

A list of events and reminders was issued:-
April 12: Mr Brown (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Defence) was lunching in the Mess: living in members were reminded that they would be lunching in the Sergt's Mess.
April ~~11~~ 17th: The Film night (Royal Flash) was changed from the Friday to the Sunday in order not to clash with a Function in the Officers Club.
April 25: The Colonel of the Regiment of the 15/19H would be lunching in the Mess.
April 26: The Signal Officer in Chief was going to be dining in the Mess.
May - During the first week Brig. Carter was going to be visiting the Battalion and there was to be a buffet supper on the 3rd to which all mess members were to be invited and ladies.

July - 1st. The proposed Band concert had now been confirmed.
July - 8th. The mess had been invited to 'A' Mess summer Ball at a cost of £7.50 a double ticket.
July - 11-15th. These were the dates of the visit of the Director of Infantry and the C.O. suggested that we invite all the Infantry Officers in the WSBA to a dinner night, payment of for which was to be spread over some months in order to spread the load.

Capt. Duff proposed that we should have plenty of beach parties during May and June. This was seconded by Lt. Brabant and carried.

Capt. Secombe proposed that we hold a Jubilee ladies Guest night on a date to be fixed but on or about the 10th June. This was seconded by Capt. Walsh and carried.

Lt Duthoit reminded the mess that he would like to book a date in August for the Officers vs Sergeants cricket match.

6. Any Other Business.

Capt Gordon requested that we invite some of the teachers to our functions as they teach many of our Battalion children. This was agreed.

Maj. Shervington requested that Guest lists should be published in advance of a function. This was agreed. He also requested that some thought be given to improving the bar service at functions and also that the band

the [illegible] proved there [illegible] was a
[illegible] [illegible]

2. There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 1905 hrs.

[signature]
Lt Col
Unit Secretary.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Sobraon Barracks on the 27th July 1979 at 1830 hrs

1. The following Officers were present:-

Lt Col Dodd
Majors: Dodd
Williamson
Wright
Broadshaw
Harrison Unit
Murray 15/19 H

Capts: Bebbington — Lts: Fennell
Duff — Crook
Field — Young
Gould — Buchanan
Other — Nixon
Edwards — Adams 15/19 H
Ambrose RAPC — Stanbra 15/19 H
Groves — 2Lts: Brown
Thompson — Carver
Palmer — Page
Prestwich 15/19 H — Hunter 15/19 H
McAleenan 257 Sigs

2. The minutes of the last mess meeting were read and passed as a true record.

Proposed: Maj Williamson
Seconded: Maj Wright

3. Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Infantry 200 Club.

The Inf 200 club was set up by the Director of Infantry to meet requests to fund prizes, expeditions, sports etc. The cost of membership is £10.00 per annum and each year there is one

draw giving the following prizes:
two at £200.00
two at £100.00
twelve at £50.00
twenty one at £25.00
and for every ten members three further prizes of £25.00 per year. Having explained this the PMC stated that he felt it was a worthwhile 'lottery'.
No one disagreed and therefore the mess subscription was to be continued.

Silver.

The Silver plaques for the letter rack donated by Lt. Col. Amis are being made in Lamaca and would collected by the PMC when ready.

Ladies Dinner Night.

This fell by the way due to other commitments.

Cricket Match.

This has been arranged for 28th August.

4. The PMC discussed the matter of ED Pay for the Military Mess Staff. We differed from 'A' Mess in that we paid less to our staff. Regardless of the number of functions held each month the Military Mess Staff were paid the following rates of ED Pay:

Ptes: £5-500
LCpl: £6-500
Cpl: £7-500
Sgt: £8-000
SSgt: £9-000

The PMC then asked the Mess if they would agree to an increase in ED Pay by £1.000 per rank per month. The PMC explained how the individual had to spend his own money on things necessary for the jobs and

our rates were much lower than 'A' Mess. A vote was taken and agreed unanimously to increase the ED Pay but it was felt that perhaps £1-000 was not enough. Maj Hervey proposed an increase of £2-000 and the Paymaster proposed an increase of £3-000. Capt. Thompson was concerned about the increase falling in line with phase 3 of the Incomes Policy! A vote was taken on a £3-000 increase and proposed by Capt Otter seconded by Lt. Crook, and carried unanimously.

5. Band Concert.

The CO and PMC thanked all mess members for their cooperation in making the concert a success. Payment of it was to be £6.000 per head and individuals were paying £2.500 on May and June Mess bills. However, the 'A' Mess Accountant failed to make the charge on the June bill so this will be added to the August bills and the balance will appear on the July Mess bills.

6. Photos.

Photos of the Concert were in the Mess SSgt's office in albums available to be viewed and orders placed.

7. The CO wished the following record to be made, that a vote of thanks be recorded to Maj Herrington-Spier for all his effort put into organising the Concert and making it a success.

8. Mess Committee.

The committee is under review and by the next meeting there will be changes to the following:
Silver / Property : Lt. French away on courses.

House member: Maj. Dunlop posted in Sept. The CO remarked that House member should stay with 259 Sigs Sqn.

Messing Member: The PMC said it was crucial to have continuity and an assistant would also be appointed.

As a result of Salamanca Dinner Night the Mess had lost 1 fish fork and 1 fruit fork. A further search would be carried out and if not found a claim made immediately on the insurance.

9. Mess Management.

The PMC directed the following comment to those people who feed in the Mess. Firstly, meal timings as published in a letter were to be adhered to, eg Breakfast ends at 0830. Also, 'two legged mice' were getting into the kitchen late at night. SSgt Lancaster had suggested that cheese, butter etc could be provided in the fridge on the verandah for use by the late nighters, and that nuts and crisps could also be made available.

Washing Machine

The linens-in were requested to use the machine properly as the rubbish extracted from it was making it a costly on repairs

Bar

Members were asked to use the night trap after 2300hrs rather than keep the barman on. The barmen's hours of opening tended to fluctuate and sometimes the bar closed at 2100. Maj Williamson suggested that the bar stayed open until 2300 and closed at 0300 hrs.

10. Functions.

July had been a heavy month and therefore

August would be slimmed down. It was agreed to hold a beach party on 27 Aug. after Ex. Dry Stone. The PMC said he would investigate the location.

Sept. - After much discussion it was agreed to hold a Ladies Dinner Night on Sat 24 Sept.

Oct. - General Sir Jack Dye, colonel of the regiment was due to visit the Bn during the week 11-14 Oct. and it is proposed to have a Buffet Supper on 11th Oct. Curry lunches would start at the end of Oct. and as 23rd. is a 6 Coy Church Sunday that day was best suited.

All proposals for forthcoming functions were carried unanimously.

11. Prints.

Maj Williamson a way of improving our collection of Prints and showed six examples. The aim is to buy them but do we want them and if so where is the money coming from? The CO reminded us that framing was far cheaper in Cyprus than in UK. It was agreed by the Mess to buy only the Print of the 'Battle of Salamanca' and the vote taken on payment was to be out of G.P.F and have the Print framed in Cyprus.

12. Any Other Business.

The Adj. asked about the Photos of HRH visit - a knotty problem - however, they are in for printing and should be ready in approx ten days.

2Lt Brown asked if the Mess would stock taking the Guardian newspaper, described as superficial by the PMC. However, it was agreed to buy the Guardian in place of the Daily Mail.

The Orderly opened in accordance taking services at morning Parade.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1157 hrs.

P.J. Le Cornu Capt.

pp Lt Crook
Mess Secretary.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Salamanca Barracks 24/10/52

1. The following Officers were present:-

The C.O.
Majors Bradshaw — Lt Dalkeith
Style — 24th Flight RAF
Duff Duke 257 Sqn — Rockford Times
Edge 257 Sqn
Capts Dawes
Anslow RAPC
Edwards
Cross
Lacey
Bebagg
Seccombe

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed as true record of the event
Proposed - Capt. Anslow
Seconded - Maj. Duff.

3. Matters arising from the previous meeting :-
a/. The photographs of the Board Convent were now available and should be collected from the mess Sgt.
b/. Whilst the evening meeting was away on the course a problem had occured in that someone had to stand in for Jim. This problem had been virtually eliminated by the arrival of Lt Roffe

and it was also noted that Mt Pulhair was standing in for the time being.

g. The new post of the Battle of Balaclava had arrived and had been hung.

h. The Guardian newspaper subscription had been entered and should be arriving in the Mess shortly.

i. The washing machine would not now be available to mess members due to the unacceptably high cost of repairing it which was heavily subsidised by A. Ross. It was possible that the service might be continued later.

j. Cheese and biscuits were to be made available to those under-nourished members of the Mess who came in late at night.

k. As regards the missing items of silver it was stated that a claim had been put in to recoup the cost.

l. Capt Andrews wondered about the photos of Princess Margarets visit. The PMC stated that a draft had been received and that the photos should materialize shortly.

m. Mess Committee - Maj Dunlop was about to leave the Mess and as such someone would have to replace him. It was desireable that someone from 259 Sqn should replace him. The P/Lds were to be asked for a mess member - in the mean time Lt Floyd was standing in.

i. Containers - Apparently A Mess members were not returning their containers and in order to improve the present state of the account members were asked to return containers Std x new.

ii. Messing

The present system of paying extra messing per meal as follows:-

Breakfast 40 mils
Lunch 85 "
Dinner 125 "

was to be discontinued because of the very small amounts of money coming in. The old system of full or no payment was to be reinstated.

iii. Doors

The P.M.C directed that doors in public rooms should be tightened up so that members should wear at least a cracknit or blazer when in yacht hit. The knotty problem of when a T. shirt becomes a sweat shirt was not solved.

iv. Functions

After some discussion the following functions were agreed upon or had already been arranged:-

4/11/77 - an informal party.
13/11/77 - Remembrance Sunday service at 1100 followed by a Curry lunch.

9/12/77 - Mess Christmas Ball.
16/12/77 - Ladies Night and Christmas Party.
13/12/77 - Warrant Officers + Seargents Mess Christmas Party.
23/12/77 - W.O.s + Sgts. were to invited into the Mess for drinks at midday and it was also thought that some medals would be presented.
6/1/78 12th Night Party.
13/1/78 Final Mess entertainment.

7/. Any Other Business
2/Lt Floyd asked that a copy of the Lion newspaper should be provided for the Mess. This was agreed.
The meeting was closed at 1240hrs.

P.M.C Mess Secretary

C.O. [illegible] Lt Col

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Salamanca Barracks on 16th of January 1978.

1. The following Officers were present:-

The Commanding Officer
Majors Harrington-Spier Offg.
" Bradenham
" Shevington
" Wright
Captains Walsh
Bahagg
Groves
Palmer
Seccombe
Ambrose
Lt Cook
2/Lts Weigold
" Cunnell
" Tansley.

2. It was not possible to read the minutes of the previous Mess meeting as the minutes book had already been packed and sent to England.

3. The PMC introduced the meeting and said that the farewell cocktail party had cost a total of £162. The C.O. was paying £82 and all other members were to pay £2.500. The CO remarked that he felt that it had been a very good party.

4. The Mess Committee:-

There were to be some changes in the Mess Committee for Belfast and Northern Ireland. The new appointments were as follows:-

PMC - Maj. Bradshaw.
Mess Secretary - Capt. Walsh.
Wines - Lt/E Hare (in Belfast)
Maj. Comish (in Ulster).
Food - Lt Brehaut (in Belfast)
Capt. Polson (in Ulster).
Silver & Property - Capt. Power.
House - Capt James.
Gardens - Capt Downes

The Mess Bills would be prepared by Capt Ambrose for which the CO thanked him. The motion was proposed by Maj Shevrington and carried.

5. The PMC stated that he would be going to Harrocs to pick up some more silver plates for the letter board in order not to have to purchase any in England.

6. The Paymaster gave the meeting a brief run down on the state of the Mess finances and it was decided to keep what we had for Ulster and not to spend any in Belfast.

7. Vote of Thanks. The Commanding Officer proposed that a vote of thanks be passed in favour of Major Brian Harrington-Spier for his work as PMC. This motion was carried unanimously.

8. At this stage in the proceedings the chair was handed over to Major Bradshaw by Major Harrington-Spier and he new PMC began by discussing entertainments in Belfast. It was decided that only two functions should be held; both during March and none in April.

16th March - a Buffet supper for the WRAF team.
22nd March - a ladies Guest Night for Brian and Sue Harrington-Spier.

Entertainment in Ireland was discussed and it was decided that a ~~ball~~ major function should be held some time after our arrival on a date yet to be decided. The CO remarked that working lunches were to be used as a means of making contact until the beginning of June.

9. Dining Out & In

As regarded this matter the Commanding Officer directed that the Mess should obey Mess rules. With reference to leaving gifts he said that this was a matter of discretion and that the Mess should remain flexible. The CO also mentioned that the Mess should buy a leaving present for Major Harrington-Spier whilst we were still in Cyprus.

10. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1255hrs.

Lt Col Crook Mess Secretary

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Kiwi Barracks Bulford on the 8th. March 1978

1. The following officers were present.

The Commanding Officer.

Majors Thompson, Cornish, Veitch, Duff, Sherrington, Bradshaw

Captains Walsh, Edwards, Thompson, Otter, James, Daines, Mallett, Secombe, Power, Ambrose, Bebbington

Lts Cunnell, Mason

2Lt Weigold

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, and the PMC asked that they be accepted as a true record of the last meeting.

Proposer Major Sherrington
Seconder Major Duff.

3. Future Social Functions

The PMC began by itemizing the various social functions planned during our stay in Bulford.

13th March - Buffet Supper
22nd March - Ladies Guest Night.
5th May - Regimental Reunion.

A general discussion then ensued about the arrangements for the Regimental Reunion. The PMC agreed to obtain more details, particularly about the planned luncheon.

4. Running of the Mess

a. Mess Subscriptions.

	Living In	Living Out
Lt Col	£12	£3-00
Major	£10	£2-50
Captain	£8	£2-00
Lt	£6	£1-50
2Lt	£4	£1-00

Drums - Royal Anglian Officers only 50p.
Silver - All Officers £1-00
Sports - All Officers 30p ~~to be announced by PRI.~~
Extra Messing - 25p.

b. Casual meals £1-12 a day plus extra messing.

Breakdown Breakfast 22p
Lunch 49p
Dinner 66p.

c. The PMC asked all living out officers to remember to look in by 1000 hrs if they required lunch or dinner on that day.

d. Meal Timings

Breakfast 0715 - 0745 hrs
Lunch 1245 - 1330 hrs
Dinner 1930 hrs

e. Extra Duty Pay. - The PMC then read out the current E.D. pay rates. After some discussion it was agreed that there should be a direct conversion from Cyprist pounds to Sterling.

Proposer Captain Edwards
Seconder Captain Davies.

f Pay Phone. The PMC explained that despite energetic efforts to establish the cost of installing a pay phone in the mess, It was still unclear how much it would cost to install one. It was agreed that if it cost £50, it was not to be installed, if only £11 then this was acceptable.

g Laundry. Efforts to secure a laundry had failed. The PMC appealed to members for any suggestions on alleviating the situation.

h Room Cleaning Service. The PMC mentioned that it was unclear as to how much at present the cleaning ladies would do in lines in rooms as regards cleaning. The matter was to be investigated.

g i Dining in of New Officers. By general consensus it was agreed that this was best left until the battalion arrived in Belfast.

5 Dinner Club - 3rd Bn The PMC drew mess members attention to this club. Major Veitch said further details would follow.

6. Purchase of Discs Equipment

Captain Power explained at some length the advantages of the mess buying its own equipment. He quoted various estimates ranging from £250 to £500 He further suggested that some of the monies expended could be recouped by hiring out the discs.

After a short discussion it was proposed that a sub-committee should look into the matter of which equipment to buy the ceiling on expenditure to be £500

Proposer Major Duff
Seconder Captain Thompson.

The Commanding Officer stated that if the equipment were to be laid out, then some adequate arrangement must be made to insure it against damage.

7. Other Business

a. Film Nights - Major Veitch suggested having a couple of film nights. After some discussion the suggestion was turned down.
b. Social Function with 1 R Anglian. Again after some discussion, it was agreed that this was best left until 1 R Anglian came to Ireland.
c Silver Captain Otter raised the matter of the present rate of subscription.

He suggested that the rising of the subscription to £1 from 50p was only a temporary measure while the battalion was in Cyprus, and it should now revert to 50p. The Commanding Officer asked the Paymaster how much the Silver Fund stood at. - Roughly £26. The PMC closed the discussion by saying he would look into the matter.

d. Major Duff raised the matter of whether or not the ~~of~~ silver plates for the letter rack had ever been collected from Larnaca. Major Veitch stated that they hadn't, but arrangements had been made for the silversmith to make them if they were required.

e Photographs The Adjutant suggested that to speed up the distribution of any photographs which might be taken of the Queen Mothers Visit, a sub-committee should be formed. The Commanding Officer directed that Lt Crook would lead the committee.

PMC

MESS SECRETARY.

JMP WALSH
CAPTAIN.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Palace Barracks on the 26th May 1978

1. The following officers were present

The Commanding Officer, Majors Cornish, Duff, Thompson, Veitch, Bairnetson, Sherrington, Bradshaw; Captains Walsh, Palmer, Otter, Mallett, French, Ambrose, Thompson, Gould, Balogg, Hervé, Downes, Seccombe, Sharma, Second Lieutenants Mc Elroy, Lane, Weigold; Lieutenants Crook, Mason, Brehaut, Bacon, Clements, Brown

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, and the PMC asked that they be accepted as a true record of the last meeting

Proposer Captain Downes
Seconder Captain Otter.

3. Matters arising

a. Silver Subscription. The PMC explained that, partly owing to the Messes

financial position, ~~as~~ which he would refer to later, and partly because of damage to the silver, some of which would not be claimable on the insurance, he felt it essential that the subscription should remain at £1 a month. This was agreed.

Proposer. Captain French
Seconder. Lieutenant Mason.

4. Miscellaneous Domestic Points

The PMC then addressed the livers-in on the following points:-

a. Livers-in were asked not to move furniture, but to give Colour Sergeant Lancaster a list of what they wanted.

b. A washing machine had been bought for £103. Mrs Lancaster, working on a self employed basis, would do officers' laundry at the following rates:-

(i) Washing only 60p

(ii) Washing and ironing £1-60p

The monies would be split between Mrs Lancaster and the washing machine account.

c. Suits would be worn at Dinner on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Officers were asked to go in together on these evenings.

The PMC then made a number of more general points:-

d. Alterations to Meal Timings:-

Breakfast would continue until 0930 hrs on Sunday.

Coffee would now be extended to 1100 hrs.

e. The Mess had just spent £40 on seed for the Mess Garden. Wives requiring either flowers or vegetables should see Colour Sergeant Lancaster who would agree a fair price with them. At present only rhubarb was available.

f. Newspapers. The order would remain the same at present.

g. Mess Staff. In future an NCO would be on duty until 2200 hrs each day as well as the duty waiter and barman.

h. Complaints. Officers were reminded that complaints should not be addressed to the Mess Staff, ~~and~~ but to the Mess Committee.

i. The kitchen was out-of-bounds to Mess members.

j. The PMC was going to investigate the possibility of getting work jackets for the Mess Staff. It was envisaged that they would be a nylon fabric. He mentioned that when the Mess finances allowed it, Ptes Brown and Mackenzie required Mess livery.

5. Functions

The PMC proposed that functions should be put on a regular basis to allow for forward planning. He suggested the following:-

a. First Sunday of the month - Curry Lunch

b. Second Saturday of the month - Buffet Supper and Disco

c. Third Saturday of the month - Pub Lunch

d. ~~Every~~ Fourth Friday of the month - Dinner Night

e Film night every Tuesday.

Major Duff supported by several officers was not in favour of a Dinner night every month. He suggested one a quarter. The PMC then explained that for a number of reasons it was more likely that Dinner Nights would only be held once every couple of months. The Commanding Officer, while agreeing that that once a month was possibly too often, felt that Dinner Nights should be held at least bi-monthly. He also asked for any further suggestions from the members on future Mess functions. There being none the PMC asked for a proposer for the package he had suggested.

Proposer Major Sherrington
Seconder Lieutenant Bacon

The motion was carried unanimously.

6. Finance

The PMC then explained to the Mess where it stood financially. In essence the Mess was £306 in debt. Against that could be set £1,100 which was not accessible until 1982. The main reason for this was the lack of income in Cyprus, while out-goings had continued.

In view of the poor financial situation, it would be necessary to watch expenditure, while keeping up a good standard

7. E.D. Pay

The PMC then suggested a cut in ED Pay to help ease the financial position. He further explained that to save paying tax the Mess Staff should be paid in kind ie. cigarettes. After some discussion it was decided to leave E.D. rates at their present level, with a review to be held at the next meeting. ~~The~~ plan to pay the Mess Staff in kind was not agreed.

Proposer The Commanding Officer
Seconder Captain Otter.

8 Disco

The PMC suggested that the disco must be pushed commercially if the Mess was ever to recoup the large expenditure made. He suggested a more aggressive advertising campaign, and a larger sub-committee. It was agreed that the first £20 would be paid into the Disco account to help pay for new records and to reduce the capital sum expended. Any remaining monies made on a particular engagement would go to the officer involved. ~~in~~.

Proposer Captain French
Seconder Captain Seconde.

9. Gaming Machine.

Captain Barnes suggested hiring a gaming machine at a cost of £8 per week in the hopes that the Mess would make a profit. Major Veitch suggested hiring machines to others, and on being told this was illegal, remarked that he would rather go on in poverty. There then ensued a spirited discussion about the merits of the said machine. The PMC closed the discussion by asking members to decide whether they wished to take a gamble. Captain Barnes proposed and Captain Bebagg seconded the plan to have a gaming machine installed. There were 7 votes for, and 13 against, with 7 abstentions. The motion was therefore defeated.

10. Pool Table.

Lieutenant Brehaut suggested that a Pool Table be installed. The suggestion was put to the vote, with the result as follas
For. 2 Against 18 Abstentions 7.

11. Drink

The PMC mentioned that if the married members of the Mess were to be encouraged to buy their drink in the Mess, then cellar prices must be competitive with those outside. He suggested 5% ~~profit~~ as a suitable figure subject to the Commanding Officers approval. The following proposed Captain Gould Seconded Major Shevington. The motion was carried unanimously.

12. Silver and Property

a. Queen Mothers Picture. Efforts would be made by the battalion to obtain the picture.

b. Major Shevington spoke of the need for more pictures, and he suggested several possible sources. The PMC agreed to look into the matter further.

c. Loss of Property. The PMC said that, in the absence of the Property Member, he was not in a position to speak on this one.

d. Loss of Silver. A check of the silver had revealed that 6 Bedfordshire spoons were missing. The Mess Secretary was briefed to write to the cavalry and Wilsons.

e. The Infantry Demonstration Battalion had written asking for pieces of silver, on a long loan. The Silver Member said that we had little in the way of good silver spare. Major Duff suggested loaning the second set of Drums.

It was decided that the matter would be further looked into, but whatever was sent, would only be on a 4 year loan

Proposer Captain Otter
Seconder Lt Brehaut.

f. The subject of the Bedford Train, at present on loan to the Mayor of Bedford was raised. It was suggested that this should be retrieved, and a new piece substituted, especially as the town seemed to think they had been given it.

g. The PMC stated that it was important that proper boxes were made for our pictures as the damage being done was prohibitive. When Mess funds allowed he planned to proceed with this.

h. He further stated that he planned to display the medal cases in the anteroom.

i. The Silver Member was asked to see if the Mess had a book showing the silver on photographs. If not Captain Thompson had offered to have the silver photographed.

13. Honorary Membership

The PMC stated that it was planned to extend honorary membership to all Royal Anglians serving in Northern Ireland. Major A.W.C. Baxter was also to be offered honorary membership.

14. Redecoration of the Bar

The PMC stated that the Commanding Officer has recognised the bar, and he suggested the subalterns should redecorate it. The OM offered to have it redecorated, provided the subalterns made suggestions on the colour scheme.

15. Any Other Business

a. Captain Thompson asked if it was planned to give back bar chits. The PMC pointed out that this would involve considerable work, but it would be done providing he could guarantee he would always complete a chit for every order.

b. Captain Thompson further suggested that the silver be revalued. The PMC was not sure we could afford to pay the full price. Captain ~~Seccombe~~ Seccombe suggested an index linked policy. It was decided that the Silver Member would investigate.

c. Night Duty. Major Cornish, the Wines member, brought up the subject of losses on the night duty which amounted to £8-71. The PMC asked members to be less forgetful in future.

d. Breakages. The Wines Member further mentioned that wine, spirits, crisps etc had been damaged in transit to a total of £36. A discussion ensued as to how to pay for this loss, it was made memorable by the adjutants defence of the Mess Staffs demarcation rights. It was finally decided that the insurance should pay, or failing that, it should be written off.

Proposer Captain Ambrose
Seconder Captain Downes.

d Soda Stream. In conclusion Major Cornish said he was investigating the possibility of the Mess purchasing one.

e. It was stated that the Gordons had arranged to purchase Tyrone Crystal in bulk from the factory at a saving of. 20%. The Mess Secretary offered to investigate. Major Thompson doubted if he would have time.

f. The possibility of the Mess joining various clubs was discussed and the Mess Secretary was asked to investigate.

g. Lieutenant Brown asked whether or not the films shown in the Mess cost money. The PMC replied that each film cost £7-50.

The meeting closed at 1930 hrs.

PMC

MESS SECRETARY

JMP WALSH
CAPTAIN

30/5

COMMANDING OFFICER.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Palace Barracks on the 21st August 1978.

1. The following officers were not present.

Majors Thompson and Balagg
Captains Ambrose and Thompson, & Mason.
Lieutenants Crook, Brebant, Page, ~~Lane~~, ~~the E.~~
Second Lieutenants Tansley, Weigold, Hungries. Lane and Mc Elroy.

2 The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, and the PMC asked that they be accepted as a true record of the last meeting

Proposer Major Skerrington
Seconder Captain Otter

3 Matters Arising

The PMC then made the following points.

a. Silver RHQ were investigating the feasibility of having one insurance to cover all 3 battalions. It was hoped that this would be cheaper.

b. Work Jackets These would cost £8 each and would be in dark blue.

c ED Pay It was not planned to review E.D. pay unless members particularly wished to. None wished to.

d EPNS Claret Jugs 3 of these were being loaned to the Demonstration Battalion for 4 years.

e Leicester Silver A number of items were being given to the 2nd Battalion, while at the same time the portrait of the Queen Mother was being collected for exhibition in the Mess.

f. Soda Stream The wines member stated that on further investigation it was not worth purchasing the item.

g Clubs The Mess had joined the local Yacht Club, and expected to join the Beagling Club. The Golf club had not proved a worthwhile proposition.

h Films These now cost £9 but thanks to an arrangement with the PRI. they now only cost the Mess £4-50

i Newspapers It was planned to order an SUN. newspaper.

j Toilet Paper The soft scented variety would be installed at the specific request of the wines member.

4. New Committee Members

The following were elected to the committee

Wines - Lt Clements
Food - Capt Seccombe
Property and House - Lt Brelaut.

5. Vote of Thanks

A vote of thanks was proposed, in relation to the hard work that Sylvia and Tony Downes had put into the bar. This was carried unanimously.

6. Financial State

The PMC gave a short resume on the Mess finances. In essence there had been a considerable improvement in the Messes financial state, but we were still in debt, and the situation needed watching.

7 Disco This had been doing reasonably well, and with the return of the Captain T. Power it was hoped to do even better. The Commanding Officer said he would review the situation in the New Year.

8. Legacy Purchase

Two ex members of the battalion had left £300 and £100 respectively to the Mess. The PMC asked for any suggestions on how the money should be spent. Various suggestions were made mainly on the theme of pictures. It was finally agreed to spend the larger sum on a painting to ~~commorate~~ commemorate our service in Northern Ireland

Proposer Major Veitch
Seconder Captain Sharma.
In favour 8 Against 1 Abstentions 9.

The Commanding Officer then agreed with Captain Gould's suggesting that the lesser legacy should be spent on a water colour depicting a local scene.

The Mess Secretary was tasked to write to a number of painters, with a view to finding out if they could paint a picture for the Mess; and if so

how much they would charge.

9. Mess Entertainments

The PMC gave the dates of various forthcoming entertainments. These were as follows:
Dinner Night 22nd September and 24th November.
Curry Lunch 3rd September and 12th November.
Ladies Guest Night 23rd December.

Major Duff asked if it was not possible to give the cost of individual entertainments before they took place. The PMC made the point that there were certain difficulties in doing this, as the number coming to the do effected the final cost. Captain Davies mentioned that normally messing charges were as follows.

Bar Lunch - 50p
Curry Lunch - 70p
Suffa Evening - £1-50 to £2-00.

10. Tankards

Captain French proposed that all members of the Mess should purchase a tankard, which they would take with them when they left. After some discussion it was decided to leave the matter up to individuals.

11. Other Matters

a. Colours Major Cornish suggested that the Colours should be on permanent display. This was agreed.
b. Paintings. Major Veitch suggested that the various pictures on loan

to messes should be rotated occasional.
c. Spring Ball Major Cornish suggested that the battalion should hold a Spring Ball during the time the 1st Battalion was here.
d. Mess Staff Major Sherrington wondered if the Mess Staff were sufficient in number. The PMC replied that he felt given the weakness of rifle companies it was difficult to justify increasing the size of the staff.
e. Presentation to Regimental ~~Steward~~ Sergeant. The Commanding Officer mentioned that Tom Steed was ~~leaving~~ retiring soon, and that he would make a ruling on what contribution the Mess would make.

The meeting closed at 1812 hrs.

PMC

MESS SECRETARY.

COMMANDING OFFICER. 30/9.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Palace Barracks on the 9th October 1978

1. The following officers were not present,

Major Bradshaw, Captains Bacon, James, Mason, Otter, Power and Thompson.
Lieutenants Clements and Crook
Second Lieutenants Lane Mc Elroy Weigold and Rungies.

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, and the P.M.C. asked that they be considered and accepted as a true record.

Proposer Captain: Secombe
Seconder Captain: Gould.

3. MATTERS ARISING.

The PMC then referred to a number of matters arising:

a. Work Jackets. These were now in use, and had been purchased at a cost of £8 each.

b. Livery. To equip every member of the Mess staff with proper livery would be prohibitively expensive. He suggested that if Mess members were to donate their mess jackets, this would be one answer to the problem. A number of members agreed to do this. The QM. was also going to issue new Blues trousers where necessary.

c. Films. These had been losing money on almost every occasion. Mess members were asked if they wished to continue.

to have films every week. A majority of the Mess were in favour of the present arrangement.

d. Periodicals. The PMC commented on the periodicals currently being received. After some discussion it was agreed that "Field" and "Country Life" should be replaced by "Punch" and "Illustrated London News" Back copies would not be auctioned. Old copies could be taken from the Mess Office.

e. Vote of Thanks. The PMC proposed a vote of thanks to Major Bradshaw for all his hard work in setting up the Mess. This was endorsed by all Mess members.

f. Mess Staff. No changes were anticipated. Company Commanders were asked to look for replacements, so that a proper rotation of junior Mess staff could be maintained.

g. Mess Rules Supplement. The attention of Mess members was drawn to the supplement.

h. Toilet Paper. The PMC commented that the disappearance rate of the soft toilet paper was unacceptably high. If matters did not improve, it would be removed, and replaced by Government issue.

i. Private Parties. The PMC mentioned that the T.V. room was ideally suited for private parties.

j. Bar Timings. Captain Downes suggested that these should be extended on Saturday and Sunday to 1400 hrs.

This was agreed.

4. FINANCIAL STATE

The Paymaster stated that the Messes financial position was slowly improving, but still gave cause for concern. He went on to say that the Mess would have to register for VAT which would cut the bar profits. The PMC stated that prices would not be raised until the New Year.

a. Disco. The disco account showed a net profit of £98 at the present time. It was decided that the decision as to whether to charge for engagements within the Mess would be at the discretion of the PMC.

b. Mess Bill Supplement. The PMC suggested that a 50p supplement be added to Mess Bills for Oct. to Dec. inclusive, to cover the cost of the Mess Staff presents. This was agreed.

SHOTGUNS

5. The Padre described the state of the two Mess shotguns. He thought the Cogswell was still serviceable, but the BSA was virtually worthless and unusable. After some discussion it was decided to sell the BSA and its case, and keep the Cogswell.

BEQUESTS

6. The PMC reminded Mess members that there had been two bequests of £350 and £100 respectively. Investigation by the Mess Secretary and himself pointed towards three possibilities.

a. Portrait of Princess Margaret by Stern.
b. Oil painting and water colour by either Ken Howard, or John Lowry, a local artist.

After a look at paintings by the rejected artists it was decided to investigate further the possibility of Lowry being commissioned. The Commanding Officer suggested that a small committee be formed to discuss the format with the artist.

7. ENTERTAINMENTS

The PMC gave out details of the entertainments for the period up to Christmas. The following amendments were made to the functions list:

a. Party on the 4th November (WOs') added.
b. Concert on the 19th November cancelled.
c. Dance on the 16th December changed to the 9th December.

8 Mess Closure. It was planned to close the Mess on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. A night tray only would be available and breakfasts.

9 Decorations Party. This would be organised by Lt N Brehaut.

MISCELLANEOUS

10 Pictures. The Gundamuck portrait at present in the Army Museum would hopefully be returned to the battalion while it was stationed at Colchester.

11. Major Veitch had brought back a number of pictures from Warley as well as a Court Martial Book, which would be of interest to Mess Members.

12 Visit to Bushmills The plan to visit the whiskey distillery at Bushmills was dropped owing to lack of support.

13 Christmas Cards Major Cornish raised the matter of Christmas Cards for VIPs. The PMC replied that this matter was in hand.

14. Silver Name Plates Many officers who had left had not gone into the Elephants Grave Yard, and several officers now serving with the battalion had not had silver plates put into the Letter Rack. The PMC stated that this would be resolved as a matter of priority.

PMC 14/12

MESS SECRETARY

COMMANDING OFFICER 14/12

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Palace Barracks on Monday 22nd January 1979.

1. The following officers were not present Majors Veitch Thompson and Turner. Second Lieutenant Lane.

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting. The PMC asked that they be accepted as a true record of the previous meeting.
Proposer Captain Gould
Seconder Captain Downes.

3. MATTERS ARISING.
The PMC commented as follows
a. Mess Livery The plan to equip the Mess Staff with white Mess Jackets to be donated by Mess members has been abandoned, owing to a lack of donors.
b. Periodicals It was not planned to change the periodicals for the present.

4. AUDIT
The audit had shown that the Mess account was in a much healthier position than it had been for some time. Careful control was still required to ensure the account remained in credit. The PMC asked that the audit be accepted
Proposer Lieutenant N. Brolant
Seconder Lieutenant T. Page.
Note. (a) A further £68.91 had still to be cleared for Mess Staff gratuities. The paymaster

was arranging collection from Mess Bills.
(b) The Mess unanimously agreed that the ladies Night presents, each costing £2.35 approx should be funded from GPF the function therefore being subsidised by a total of £65.67.
(c) The PMC thanked Lt Brehaut for organising the Christmas decorations and especially thanked Mrs Dawes and Mrs Walsh.

5. MESS COMMITTEE.

The PMC announced the following appointments,
PMC - Major B.R. Cornish (wef 31 March)
Mess Secretary - Captain I. Palmer (wef 1 Feb)
Silver Member - Captain A Mason (To continue)
Food Member - Lieutenant G. Brown (wef 1 Feb)
Wines Member - Lieutenant T. Page (wef. 1 Feb)
House Member - Lieutenant P. Keal. (wef 15 Feb)
Dress Member - Captain T.M.T. Power (To continue)
Gardens Member - Captain A Dawes (To continue)

Note - A Property Depreciation Committee would be convened in February comprising the PMC, 2x House Members, and Captain Ambrose.

6. MESS STAFF

The PMC expressed the thanks of the Mess to CSgt Lancaster for his efforts in the previous 2½ years. He went on to say that it was the responsibility of Mess members to look for new junior Mess Staff so that a proper rotation could be maintained. The PMC requested that complaints regarding the conduct and performance of the Mess Staff should be channelled through the Mess Committee. He then outlined the staff

chain of command: Messing - Cpl Ruffell, Wines, - Cpl Jeffery, Waiters - Cpl Roberts. Civilian Staff - CSgt Coe.

7. SUMMER BALL

It was proposed by Major Cornish that there should be a Summer Ball on the 30th June 1979. After some discussion it was decided that it would be an officers only ball, and that the 1st Battalion would be invited to attend. A sub-committee chaired by Major Cornish is to be formed to carry out a feasibility study. This should report to the Mess by 31 March.

8. SILVER.

a. Silver Jubilee. It was proposed by Captain Seccombe that a fund be started to pay for a suitable piece of silver, to commerate the Silver Jubilee of the Regiment in 1989. The sum suggested was 25p per month, to be adjusted to keep up with inflation. Subscriptions should include all officers serving with the Bn and attached officers. The proposal was accepted.

b. Repairs. The damage done to the silver whilst in transit was being repaired by Mr Heyes in Holywood. It was expected that the Insurance company would pay a fair proportion of the damage.

c. Goblets. Captain Mason proposed that as the goblets tended to be damaged whilst in use in the bar, 5p felt a proportion of the bar profit should be transferred to the Silver account to help pay for any damage done. After a short discussion the proposal was not accepted.

d. Boxes. The matter of making boxes for the Regimental property was raised. Captain Wake replied that now that the pioneers had more time, it was intended to investigate which pieces of property would benefit from having a crate made for them. One of the main problems was that crating items increased their baggage charges.

e. Mess Holder. The PMC drew the Messes attention to the fact that a 56th Foot mess holder had been lost by the Sergeants Mess. Garrards have been tasked to produce either a replica or a mess holder with a Royal Anglian crest, which will be paid for by the Sergeants Mess.

f. Silver Cup. The PMC announced that a suitably engraved cup would in future be presented to the Mess, (Officers or Sgts) which won the annual rugby and cricket match. The losers to pay for the engraving. The cup, the Booke Cup was shown to the meeting.

9. SHOTGUNS

The Padre spoke on the matter of the Mess shotguns. It transpired that the Mess did in fact own 4 shotguns, a BSA, Cogswell, Midland, and a Spanish gun. The BSA, at the request of Mess members, had been sold for £25. The Cogswell required considerable work to bring it up to standard, while the Midland and the Spanish were in reasonable condition. After options had been discussed, the Padre was briefed to investigate selling or part-exchanging the Cogswell and the Spanish, for a

new gun suitable for the Mess requirements. The Midland would be retained and repaired as necessary.

The PMC reminded members that shotguns were not to be kept in Mess members rooms overnight, but should be returned to the armoury.

10 DISCO.

The PMC stated that the disco had been a great success, and that the disco fund had £250 in it. Captain Power pointed out that there was still a certain amount of equipment to buy, which was likely to cost about £200. The PMC gave instructions that the necessary equipment should be bought without delay. The Commanding Officer remarked that if possible the initial outlay of £800 should be paid off by November 1979. The PMC directed that bills and fees were to be presented to the Paymaster speedily, and that a full and detailed stock list of records and disco equipment be maintained.

11. FILM EVENINGS.

It was decided that instead of having a film every week, they should be reduced to two a month, and be held on Sunday evenings. The poor selection was, as usual, deplored.

12 TYRONE CRYSTALS.

It had been suggested that the Mess might purchase a set of Tyrone Crystal. Investigation by the Commanding Officer indicated that the price would be around £1500. The idea was rejected.

13 BREAKAGES

The recent handover of Mess Sergeants had shown that the Mess had sustained at least £160 worth of breakages, while in Palace Barracks, over and above our breakage allowance. The PMC commented that he hoped the situation would improve in the months to come by improved management of the staff. He pointed out that there were four methods of recovering money for breakages:-

a. Mess Subscriptions
b. Individual charges.
c. Functions - a nominal fee per officer
d. Mess Staff.

14. MESS RULES.

a. Dress. Combat jackets are not to be worn in the Dining Room.

b. Suits. These are to be worn on Monday Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

c. Bar. The custom of gathering at 1945hs in the bar, on those evenings when suits are worn, was to be continued.

d. Lunchtime Dress. The PMC commented that he had received a complaint, concerning the dress of officers at lunch when in civilian clothes. The Commanding Officer stated that he was not going to lay down a hard and fast rule, but that he expected officers to exercise good taste in this matter.

e. Mess Annex. The PMC stated that a guest room suitable for lady guests was available for bookings on a first come

first served basis.

f. Ladies Dining in Mess. There were two schools of thought; one that ladies should be allowed to dine in the Mess at any time, the second that some restrictions should be placed, ie that particular evenings be reserved for males only. After some discussion it was agreed that ladies could dine in the Mess at any time but the situation would be reviewed at the next meeting.

15 MISCELLANEOUS.

a. Band Concert. Details for this function were given out by the Adjutant.

b. Future Functions. These included.

7 February - Black Tie Party
11 February - Curry Lunch
13 ~~February~~ February - Farewell to the Commanding Officer.
17 February - Valentines Day Party.

c. HRH Photograph. The PMC read out a number of letters enclosing payment in connection with the photograph produced on the occasion of HRH Princess Margarets visit to the battalion in Cyprus in 1976!

d. Mess Furnishing. The PMC asked everyone to look after the leather covered armchairs as they could not be replaced. He further mentioned that as yet there was still no sign of the curtains and carpets which had been ordered in the previous year.

e. Gardens. A profit had been made last year, and this was now been spent

on seeds and plants for the coming year.

f. Presentations to the Mess. The PMC reported that the following had made presentations to the Mess.

General Jackson - Medals.
Captain Mallett - Plaque
Lieutenant Mc Elroy - Plaque
Second Lieutenant Arogeiris - Plaque
Major Harrington - Spurs - Print.

g. Regimental Prints for Sale. A number of prints depicting the Raising of the Regiment, and the uniforms of the 16th Foot, were available at very low prices. A draw was held to determine the order in which they would be offered to Mess members. The PMC will issue them as they become available from Major Girdwood.

16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Supper Evening. The Adjutant proposed, and was seconded by Major Barnetson, that now the Tuesday film had stopped, Mess members living out should be encouraged to come in on Wednesday evenings. The proposal was agreed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1843 hrs.

P J Shenyton 5/2
PMC

MESS SECRETARY

COMMANDING OFFICER. 6/2

Minutes of a Mess Meeting Held at Palace Barracks on Thursday 29th March 1979

1. The following Officers were not present:
Majors - Thompson
Captains - Bacon, Brehaut, Crook
Lieutenants - Brown, Keal.
2nd Lieutenants - Morling, Kemp.

2. The Mess Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting. The PMC asked that they be accepted as a true record.
Proposed Captain Gould.
Seconded Lieutenant Page.

3. MATTERS ARISING
The PMC commented as follows:
a. Property Depreciation. The PMC, Paymaster, and Lt. Keal rationalised the Mess property and a notice would appear on the Mess noticeboard outlining the details.
b. Crests. These were being made for the Silver and Pictures and up to £200 had been authorized to pay for their cost.
c. Brooke Cup. The Officers would play the Sergeants' Mess at Rugby on Sunday 22nd April at noon. The Padre was to bless the Officers' Team. The Officers are invited to a Curry Lunch in the Sergeants' Mess after the game.
d. Shotguns. The Padre reported that he had sold the BSA for £25 and was proceeding with the action agreed at the previous meeting. Once firm progress had been made a note would be placed on the Mess noticeboard.

e. Disco. The PMC requested the Adjutant to report on the progress made with the Disco. The Disco Property list had not been prepared but the purchases were not complete. Captain Brehaut had still to be refunded for the swivel light. The Disco had not been boathed recently and it was therefore decided to advertise in the Visor.

f. Breakages. The PMC indicated that a gold band cup now cost £1-05p. and a saucer 56p. An Officers quarterly allowance was only 73p. Due to Mess activities the expenditure for breakages to crockery and glass had continued to rise. Captain Downes had investigated the purchase of a new service for the Mess. Major Cornish was requested to form a sub-committee to investigate the matter. Captain Downes pointed-out that the new china did not cost significantly less than the gold band service but it was much more robust. Most crockery seemed to be damaged in Officers' rooms or during washing-up. A set of 36 covers would cost £357. The current breakages bill was already £242. The PMC directed that a committee must therefore be formed. The Commanding Officer suggested that there should be an investigation to ascertain where most of the breakages were occurring. The PMC pointed-out that this was an on-going problem and tighter control was now being applied in the Kitchen. On Guest Nights the Mess Staff have been instructed to clear the decks before the Officers started performing.

g. Ladies Annex. This was no longer available due to an influx of new Officers. The question of Ladies dining-in was raised. A discussion followed with the outcome that the system of Ladies dining at anytime had

not been abused to-date and Lieutenant Pages suggested that due to the deployment cycle the present flexible system should continue. The Commanding Officer agreed to this and the PMC committed.

h. Gardens. The PMC brought it to the notice of the Mess that dogs had dammaged seeds and bulbs in the garden. Dogs must be controlled and Officers owning them will be held responsible. During functions dogs would not be allowed in any public rooms.

i. Prints. Major Girdlestone has any number of "Raising of the Regiment" and these had arrived. These were given to Captain Walsh, Lieutenant Clements and 2nd Lieutenant Morling via the Mess Secretary. The one set of Bedfordshire prints were given to Major Duff and the remaining sets will follow.

j. Curtains and Carpets. The carpets have arrived and the QM was now only awaiting the arrival of the contractor to lay them. The curtains had still not arrived.

PLANNED EXPENDITURE

a. Silver. This was last valued in the Summer of 1974. The current value is in the region of £65,000. Due to inflation this may increase by up to one-third. Negotiations with Garrards reveal that the revaluation could cost up to £300 but, hopefully, RHQ would assist. A discussion arose on the subject and the Commanding Officer said that the matter should be left until all the implications were known. However, a valuation might be done from the Silver Book, photographs, and the last valuation. Major Cornish mentioned the possibility of obtaining an index-linked policy. The PMC directed that

the matter should be discussed as a major topic nearer to the time of the readjudication.

b. Restoration of Pictures. Damaged Pictures will be repaired and funds will be set marked to this end on return to Colchester.

c. The Budget. The PMC stated that the Mess had £100 available to purchase spirits at pre-budget prices. It was agreed that this would happen.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Lt Col. Dodd was thanked for his print of Colchester Castle. Mr. Cooney had still not completed the work for the presentation to Lt Col. Dodd. or those for the Mess. Brigadier de Linde had bequeathed a cigarette box to the Mess and it would be displayed at the next Mess meeting.

6. 56th FOOT MENU-HOLDER

Garrards were producing a replica of the menu-holder which had been lost by the Sergeants' Mess and it would cost them £176.

7. SUMMER BALL

The PMC requested Major Cornish to report on this topic. Major Cornish stated that the 1st Battalion would not assist in this function and thus it would simply be a function for 3rd Battalion Officers. The maximum cost would be £9 for a single ticket. The GOC and Brigadier Thorne would be invited free of charge. All remaining people invited would have to pay. It might activate to commence paying monthly from April onwards. A discussion then arose as to the best date and

whether or not the Pompadours' Band should be involved. It was agreed that the 30th June 1979 would be the day: the dance band hired by the Sergeants' Mess at Christmas would play and Officers would pay £5 each from April to June to spread the cost and that a sub-committee to arrange the function would be formed.

8. MESSING

The PMC stated that both the systems for attendance at functions used by Captains Walsh and Palmer had not succeeded as Officers had failed to inform the Mess of their intentions. In future it will be left to Officers to book out for functions. Officers failing to comply would be charged for the Disco and meal. Married Officers would pay for their Wives' absence also.

This system will be tried for the next quarter and the Mess Secretary would liaise with the adjutant concerning Officers on leave.

9. EXTRA MESSING.

This would remain at 25p per Officer as Cpl. Duffel provided such a good service at this rate. Living-in Officers will pay extra-messing unless booking-out for 48hrs. well in advance. Whilst Captain Downes thought this system was fair Captain French disagreed and considered that 24 hrs. was more equitable. It was agreed that the 24 hr rule would apply but extra-messing would be charged to anyone flouting the rules including those members who surreptitiously eat Stilton in lieu of booking-in for meals.

10 SECURITY OF THE MESS.
The PMC proposed that the Mess be locked at night and living-in members be issued with keys. After some discussion, however, it was decided that the system should stay as it is for the present and be reviewed in Colchester.

11 WASHING MACHINE
The washing machine sub-account received 20p per load and the machine was virtually paid for. The 20p therefore could be used to fund Mrs. Lancaster's leave. Captain Newcombe suggested taking out a maintainance insurance policy. A discussion arose as to whether Mrs. Lancaster should have an increase in pay, should Officers be allowed to use the machine themselves, and the desireability of taking the machine to Colchester and risking damage in transit or selling it to 2RRF.
The PMC directed that decisions would be taken at the next meeting but that Officers would not be allowed to use the machine themselves. Mrs. Lancaster would receive an immediate 20p per load rise.

12 MISCELLANEOUS
a. Mess Bills. The PMC requested that Mess Bills be paid within seven days of presentation. Should queries arise the bill should be paid in full and refunds would be made as necessary. If Officers wished a longer period in order to settle a particular bill they should deal directly with the PMC at the time of presentation of the bill
b. Mess Rules. A new folder of Mess Rules would be

presented to each Officer. The Rules had not been changed in substance save that a short account of the Colours, Silver, and Drums had been included.
c. Functions. Ten Officers from the RCDS would be visiting on the 30th March and Major Connits and Captain Palmer would decide upon which living-out Officers would dine-in.
d. Silver Damage. A damaged silver goblet was shown to the meeting. The repair costs were going to be very expensive and, therefore, Officers should be particularly careful when handling silver especially at functions.
e. Audit. The audit would be on the 30th June and thus, unless the commanding Officer desired a meeting earlier, the next Mess meeting should take place in mid-July.

13. OTHER BUSINESS.
a. Vote of Thanks. Major Veitch proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing PMC, Major Sherrington. The mess was now running smoothly and the layout and pictures on display were all very good. There had also been a great improvement in the organisation of the Mess staff.
b. Morning Coffee. Captain Gould raised the matter of the 10p. charge for coffee. If this charge were dropped more Officers would participate and this could only be to the general good. The PMC directed that the Messing Member would investigate the possibility of a decrease in price. [After note: Captain Gould was seen to drink two cups of coffee the next morning and so they only cost him 5p. each].
c. Dogs. The Medical Officer suggested that Dogs be

banned from all public rooms unless the owner was present and the dog was on a collar and lead. The Padre suggested that it would be better to leave the matter as it was and that the PMC would talk to the owners of dogs if they had been badly behaved. Major Duff suggested that dogs would behave better in the Mess if certain members refrained from deliberately provoking and exciting them. Captain French said that Dogs should not eat bones downstairs. The Padre emphasised that a proper handover of dogs should occur if a dog was to remain in the Mess whilst the owner was on leave. The Commanding Officer stated that dogs must behave in public rooms. Puppies must be controlled by a lead if necessary, until properly trained. The PMC ruled that if a dog was so badly behaved that was still misbehaving on a lead it would be removed from the Mess. Dogs are banned from all public rooms when a Mess function is being held.

d. Pictures. Major Veitch asked about description plates being placed on the Pictures. The PMC stated that this was not possible in Northern Ireland and the new PMC would investigate the position in Colchester.

e. Bookcase. Major Veitch requested that a good, lockable, glass fronted bookcase which could stand on a table be purchase to house the Mess library. An inventory for the books should also be included. The PMC directed that the House Member should investigate the matter. Captain Seconde suggested that Officers who discovered Regimental histories whilst browsing in book shops should purchase them on behalf of the Mess. The PMC said that he would be prepared to refund up to £10.

f. Silver Book. Major Veitch suggested that a comprehensive silver book including the Pictures and Drums be compiled in Colchester.

g. Presentation. Major Veitch suggested that Gpl Ruffel and Gpl Jeffrey should receive a gift from the Mess on their departure, in recognition of their services to the Mess over many years. The PMC reminded the meeting that everyone was responsible for looking at their rotidies to see if any had suitable qualities for mess employment.

h. Crockery. Major Veitch suggested that the Mess began to save towards replacing the Ewen Crested China and action should be taken soon. Major Duff and Captain Palmer both stated that this matter had been raised in Paderborn in 1971 and considered to be too expensive then. The PMC directed that the House Member would look into the cost of purchasing a new service of crested crockery.

i. Official Guests. The Second-in-Command asked if we had entertained all those members of 39 Brigade and HQNI who should be invited to the Mess. The PMC stated that a good cross-section had been entertained at various functions rather than at an official cocktail party. The list of staff and invitations would be checked.

j. Polished Furniture Captain Downes reminded the Mess to take care of furniture which had been re-polished otherwise bills would be raised against the Mess on handover.

k. Language From matters arising in the 22nd. January Mess Meeting but by error not recorded in the previous minutes, the Padre would like to request that certain Mess Members did not deliberately use bad language when Ladies were

present.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1845 hrs.

Palmer
IOC PALMER 3/A
FOR PMC.
Draft approved by PMC and signed in his absence.

Palmer
IOC PALMER
MESS SECRETARY.

[signature]
Lt Col
Commanding Officer
9 April 1979

Minutes of a Mess Meeting Held at Palace Barracks on Tuesday 8th May 1979

1. The following Officers were not present:
   Major Turner
   Captains Brehaut, French, Gould, Mason, Seccombe, Walsh.
   Lieutenant Weigold.

2. The PMC asked that the Mess Minutes which had been printed and distributed to all Members be accepted as a true record of the previous meeting.
   Proposed: Major Downes.
   Seconded: Lieutenant Page.

3. MATTERS ARISING
   The PMC commented as follows:
   a. Property Depreciation. The notice outlining the rationalisation of Mess Property had been displayed on the noticeboard that day. There were no comments.
   b. Crates. The construction of these is now underway.
   c. Bro the Cup. The Officers Mess would pay for the engraving of the cup as a result of the victory by the opposing team.
   d. Shotguns. The shot-guns would be dealt with soon.
   e. Disco. This had not been advertised in Visor and the PMC asked the Adjutant if this was going to happen. The Adjutant replied that the Disco would be advertised for Officer's Mess in the near future. The fund was still $256-21p in debt and to pay this off by the end of the tour

it would have to earn £43 per month.
f. Breakages Board. The conclusion of this Board was that there was no need to purchase a complete set of crockery. There was, however, a necessity to buy 36 cups and saucers of the pattern already agreed.
g. Curtains and Carpets. The Quarter Master reported that he was still awaiting the contractor.
h. Pre Budget Drink. The Wines Member reported that the £100 allocated had been spent on drinks prior to the budget.
i. Pictures. The PMC and Major Sherrington would visit Tom Caldwell soon and attempt to improve the situation vis-a-vis the Cooney Pictures.
j. Cigarette Box. The cigarette box presented by Lt. Col. F. des Thorpe CMG DSO was returned to the W.O's and Sergeants Mess as it had originally been presented by them. The Commanding Officer felt that this was the most appropriate course of action.
k. Booking in. The Mening Member reported that this had improved with the new system adopted by the Mess Secretary.
l. Warning-in. Some Officers were still forgetting to warn-in of the Mess for meals. Would they kindly remember to warn-in in good time in future.
m. Security. No action had been taken to improve Mess Security and the Garden Door would be left unbolted as usual. Would Officers who exercised Dogs late at night lock the front Door upon their return. The PMC agreed to speak to the Mess Colour Sergeant on this matter.
n. Coffee. The Mening Member reported that it

was not possible to reduce the price of morning coffee.
o. Dogs. The PMC reminded Dog owners that Dogs were still appearing in public rooms during Mess Functions. This practice is to cease forthwith.
p. Silver Book. This book will be made up commencing in Northern Ireland after the new Silver Member had been appointed.
q. Crockery. It was reported that in 1974 it would have cost £296 for 600 pieces of Pompradent Crockery. This was considered to be a very low estimate and it was agreed that the Pregency Member would verify the old figure and obtain a new estimate.
r. Bookcase. The Property Member reported that a 4'10" x 2'9" bookcase would cost approximately £200. A larger model would cost £320. The Commanding Officer felt that this would be too expensive and it would be better to wait until the auction rooms in Colchester could be visited where doubtless something more reasonably priced could be purchased.

4. CARICATURE PICTURE

The PMC reported that Mr. Friers from Holywood could produce such a picture as the one displayed 36" x 24" in size. For black and white the cost would be £5 per person depicted and colour would cost £10 per person. The Belfast Litho Printers could later then make a print, the largest size being 26" x 18". The cost for black and white would be: up to 25, £34; from 26-50 copies a further £6. A colour print (up to 50 in total) would cost approximately £250. The PMC suggested that the Mess might purchase a colour original and the

members black and white prints. Mr. Fries would require individual photographs and to attend a Mess Function in order to meet all Members. He would also require "pen pictures" of each Officer to be depicted. A general discussion then arose on the topic. The Medical Officer indicated that Mr. Fries took a long time to produce the original. The Commanding Officer was in favour of the idea and the Adjutant suggested that the Picture should include those people who had been present at any time during the tour.

Proposer: Captain Crook
Seconder: Lieutenant Page.

The meeting voted that we should then go ahead and ask Mr. Fries to start work. The discussion continued and the Commanding Officer suggested that the Mess might purchase a colour original. 2nd Lieutenant Dean felt that £10 per head was exhorbitant. Lieutenant Clements pointed out that the quality of some of the peripheral characters (caballeros!) was rather poor, and decent drawings should be produced. It was therefore decided to go ahead with black and white only and invite those Members who have departed to participate. Major Sherrington enquired if there would be enough room for this and to include those Officers who had been attached to the Battalion. This would have to be investigated and the PMC said that all the Officers in the Mess would be depicted. A vote was taken in favour of a black and white production.

5 SUMMER BALL.

a. Layout. The PMC described the layout stating

that a Marquee would be erected on the Car Park to the left of the Mess and entrance to the building would be through the Main Door as usual. The Dance Floor would be in the Marquee and lights would be erected in the trees. There would be a barbecue in the trees between 1.0 am and 2.0 am. If the weather was fair Dancing would take place on the lawn. The Quarter Master was invited to comment on the Marquee. Major Downes stated that a white Marquee would cost £70 per day and would be required for three days minimum. A larger Marquee could cost up to £300 per day. Major Downes suggested that an inner Marquee could be decorated and used for a dining room. The Mess Rooms could then be used to accommodate Officers and their guests: this would greatly reduce the cost of the function. A discussion then arose as to the efficacy of using a Marquee at all. The PMC finally decided to dispense with the private hire of a Marquee and use an inner Marquee as a dining room and the Ball would then be held in the public rooms of the Mess.

b. Tickets. The PMC invited comment from those present concerning guests and payment. The Commanding Officer stated that people would not expect to come to such a function free and would be prepared to pay. We should therefore invite them indicating that their ticket would cost £9.

c. Bar. The advantages and disadvantages of a cash bar were discussed. The Pay master suggested that a cash bar was not a good idea and should be avoided. It was preferable to issue chits to paying guests, with their address, and they could be sent

a Mess Bill for drinks after the Ball. The Commanding Officer favoured this and it was generally agreed by the Mess. Official guests, of course, would have their drinks free as "Mess Guests".

d. Numbers. It was agreed that the function would support about 150 people. Therefore to assess numbers the Mess Secretary would place a notice on the Officers Mess Noticeboard requesting which Officers would be attending and how many guests they intended to bring.

e. Invitations. Two kinds of invitations would be produced one for guests and one for guests who would be invited to pay for their ticket and drinks. Only the GOC and Brigadier David Thorne would be invited as Official Mess Guests.

f. Food. The PMC stated that the £2-50p. included within the cost of the ticket would cover the cost of Dinner, Barbeque and breakfast. Were Officers interested in having luxuries, such as Oysters, at 25p each? Members felt that this would be an unnecessary extravagance.

g. Music and Finance. Music would be provided from 9.0pm until 1.0am by the group Kentucky Flair. This would cost £100. From 1.0am to 6.0am a Disco would play. This would cost £45. The Paymaster stated that F.D. pay had been taken into account at £5 per person. Tickets should therefore cost approximately £9 each.

h. Attendance. The PMC was aware that some Officers did not wish to support the function. The Commanding Officer pointed out that the function was not a first-line duty affair but he was keen for Officers to support their own Ball.

6. SILVER.

The PMC suggested that Mr Clements take over from Captain Mason as Silver Member.

Proposed: Captain Crook.

Seconded: Lieutenant Brown.

The PMC expressed his thanks to Captain Mason for all his hard work during his period of office. The appointment would commence on 1st June 1979 and would be for one year. His tasks will include construction of the Silver Boxes, compiling the silver photographs album, and moving to Colchester.

7. MESS SECRETARY

The PMC suggested that Captain Bickhaut would replace Captain Palmer in August as the present incumbent was moving into a civilian career.

Proposed: Lieutenant Kane.

Seconded: 2nd Lieutenant Deane.

8. HOUSE/PROPERTY MEMBER.

The PMC suggested that Captain J.C. Bechett fulfill this post.

Proposed: Captain Keal.

Seconded: Lieutenant Clements.

The handover was to be complete by the 1st October 1979.

9. 2 RRF Recce

The PMC stated that there were no rooms presently available in the Mess and that the mobile home accommodation was not acceptable. The PMC asked whether married Officers were prepared to put-up the Families Officers in their homes. Seperate arrangements would have to be made

for the opposite numbers of Batchelor Officers.

10 STAFF GRATUITIES

The PMC suggested that as last year the Men might be prepared to give the civilian and military Men Staff a Christmas present; particularly as the Battalion will have been at Palace Barracks for virtually another year since the previous Christmas. The cost last year was £120. It was suggested that 50p be paid by each Officer monthly, from now until November. The Adjutant enquired about the arrangements for Men Staff in Colchester. Both the Commanding Officer and the Quarter Master indicated that that was a problem for 1WFR to deal with.

Proposed: Lieutenant Brown.
Seconded: Captain Power.

11. PRESENTATION TO CORPORALS RUFFLE AND JEFFERY

The PMC stated that Corporal Ruffle, the last remaining Essex Regiment soldier in the Battalion, may be leaving the Army in July 1980 and Corporal Jeffery was remaining behind at the end of the Year and it was doubted if he would ever leave with the Pompadours again. Both soldiers had been loyal servants of the Men over a number of years and perhaps should be presented with identical presents.

The PMC displayed a cold cast metal soldier, with a replica Royal Anglian cap badge, in Northern Ireland order. The cost, including engraving was £31-75p each which would work out at approximately £1 for each Officer.

The Commanding Officer agreed with the idea and

thought that it might be worth writing to former Members of the Mess, who had been posted, and enquiring if they wished to donate to a present fund.

12. LOAN OF SILVER TO 10 UDR

A request had been made by RHQ for us to lend 10 UDR some silver as they were a Queens Division affiliated Battalion. Accordingly a silver cup was chosen to the Mess which would be sent to 10 UDR on temporary loan.

13 DINNER NIGHT 23rd. MAY.

The PMC announced that this function was now cancelled.

14 SSAFA CONCERT

The PMC announced that there would be a Band Concert and Beating Retreat at Castle Ward in order to raise funds for SSAFA. There would be a Mess Picnic afterwards and any Members wishing to attend this function should append their names to the list which would appear on the Officers Mess noticeboard. The cost would be £3 each plus the cost of the picnic.

15. 1 ROYAL ANGLIAN

The PMC stated that he had written to all Officers of 1 Royal Anglian inviting them to become Honorary Mess members and to make full use of our Mess during their stay in Ulster.

16. REGIMENTAL PRINTS

Many prints had now arrived and were being distrib-

ated charges would be made on Mess Bills. Should any problems arise officers should consult the Mess Secretary.

17. MESS MINUTES.
The PMC reminded members that printed copies of the Mess minutes were about private matters and should not be left in general view in rooms of offices.

18. OTHER BUSINESS.
a. Wines. The Wines member informed the Mess that up to £1 worth of items was being taken from the night tray each evening. No chits were being signed. There would be a review of the situation within one week and if the losses continued the service would cease. Major Downes stated that this loss amounted to the overall profit on a considerable number of bar sales.
b. Dining Club. The Adjutant requested that members should arrange their memberships through him.
c. Shooting. The adjutant was going to make arrangements with IWFR to take over their membership of the SDTA shoot. The total cost was £50 for a half gun for a full season and therefore £25 should guarantee 3-5 days shooting at least. The PMC enquired whether any members were interested in the Mess obtaining a half gun. There was no response.
d. Visitors to the Mess. Captain Bacon indicated that some Mess Members were not always as welcoming and courteous to Mess visitors as was the custom. The Commanding Officer said that this should not happen

and guests could be bought drinks at no cleared cost to any Mess Member, as chits could be signed for as "Mess Guest".

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.0pm.

I G C PALMER
MESS SECRETARY.

B. R. CORNISH
Major
P.M.C.

Minutes of a Mess Meeting held at Palace Barracks Holywood at 1700 hrs on Monday 17th September 1979

1. The following Officers were not present;

Majors — Turner, Williamson, Cooper, Gray.
Captains – Gould, Palmer, Brown, Bacon.
Lieutenants – Scragg, Morling, Kemp, Tansley, Dean.

2. The PMC asked that the minutes which had been printed and distributed to all Mess members be accepted as a true record of the previous meeting.

Proposed: Major Downes
Seconded: Captain Clements

3. Matters arising

a. Crates. The crates for both the Silver and Property were nearly completed and packing would be organised by the respective Mess commitee members

b. Brooke Cup. The engraving for the Rugby defeat had been paid for but the cost of the engraving after our further defeat at cricket was still outstanding.

c. Shotguns The PMC explained that a shotgun belonging to the public had been mistakenly sold. The Mess would have to recover this gun, at a cost of £80.50. This was the price it had been sold for.

d. Disco The PMC stated the Disco had been paid for and suggested that it now be used free of charge at Mess functions. The Adjutant pointed out there

would still be a need to maintain running costs and that Officers should pay a nominal fee. Captain Ambrose pointed out that external functions should be able to subsidise running costs, and that the monies now recouped should be transferred to GPF. It was agreed that the Disco should generally be used free of charge at Mess functions and that the outstanding £440.50 be transferred back to GPF. The PMC asked that Captain Power and all Officers who had helped him be given a vote of thanks.

e. Crockery The PMC said that the new style crockery had been introduced in the Mess and was satisfactory. There was general agreement.

f. Carpets and Curtains. The refitting of the Mess was now complete and the PMC thanked Major Downes for all the work he had put into this. Major Downes said that it was unlikely that a new carpet would be fitted in the Bar.

g. Cooney Pictures. The PMC displayed a partially completed picture which is to be presented to the last Commanding Officer, when finished, to commemorate his tenure in Command. He explained that as to the two remaining pictures which the Mess had ordered, we were up against the "Paddy factor" and that it may be that the Battalion will have left by the time they are complete. Captain Walsh said that he is staying in Ulster and he would be glad to ensure the paintings are completed and up to standard. The PMC thanked him for his kind offer.

h. Security. The security of the Mess by night is still not good enough. The PMC agreed to speak to the Mess staff again.

i. Dogs Dogs are not allowed in Public rooms during functions.

j. Regimental Crockery Due to the exhorbitant cost the idea of purchasing new Regimental crockery was dismissed.

k. Caricature picture This was now complete, framed, and hanging in the Mess. The PMC asked that a vote of thanks be given to Captain Gould for all his enterprise in the matter. The Mess was informed that all Officers at ERE who appeared on the Caricature had been sent a copy and that also the three Regimental secretaries and the Chelmsford and Essex Museum had been sent complimentary copies.

l. Summer Ball The PMC said it was now in the past and explained that the budgeting had come to within £9 of that planned. The Commanding Officer on behalf of the Officers thanked the PMC, QM and Mess staff for their hard work which had resulted in a most successful Ball.

m. Silver. Captain Clements explained that there were still some repairs to Goblets and Candleabra which could only be done in Colchester. He also said that he would ensure the photograph album would be completed in Colchester. Two silver spoons had been lost at the Summer Ball, an insurance claim had been registered for them. One of the carriages from the Bedford train had been damaged ie. a Mess waiter had dropped it and broken two wheels. It may not be possible to claim on the insurance as they were made of wood. Capt Clements will inform the Mess of developements in both matters at the next Mess meeting.

n. Staff Gratuities Colchester The PMC stated that he had written to the PMC of 1 WFR and arranged that the Mess staff (civilian) in Colchester would not receive a Christmas present from us.

o. Presentations The PMC annoked that Cpl Jeffery was staying with 2 RRF and that it is intended to present him with a statuette at the Ladies night on the 13 October 1979

p. Donations The PMC explained to Mess members that all Officers had known C/sgt Sutcliffe had been written to and asked if they would care to donate £2 to help pay for the statuette given to him.

q. Loan of Silver The Punchard Bowl had been lent to 10 UDR. It was now sub-alloted by RHQ to them and had been transfered from our books.

r. Shooting Captain Paver stated that the Mess had no places on the Stamford shoot, but may be able to go as guests of Regimental Officers. He added that both he and Lieutenant Weigold had guns on the Colchester Garrison shoot and might be able to accomodate guest guns.

4. The Mess Account

The general situation of the Mess Account is now considerably improved, the Mess now being both viable and healthy. The Commanding Officer stated that he was happy with this state of affairs, but concerned over the amount of stock held in the cellar. He was pleased to hear that it was largely held on a "Sale or return" basis from NAAFI. The PMC asked that the Mess Account for the half year ending 31st July 1979 be passed.

Proposer: Major Dawes
Seconded: Major Steele

5. Crockery Breakages

The PMC said that since our arrival in N. Ireland the Mess had to pay £315 in crockery breakage charges which was over and above our free crockery allowance. This was an appalling state of affairs. However he had recently instituted a tighter system of controls amongst the Mess

staff and breakages had dropped appreciably. As the money had been paid off during our tour in Ulster there was no to levy a special payment. However he wanted Officers to be aware of the position. The Commanding Officer said he felt the majority of breakage occurred at Mess staff level, and that it is the duty of all Officers to be aware of this.

6 Picture Repair Fund

The PMC explained the situation regarding pictures was:

a. On return to Colchester we must get:

(1) "The Earl of Derby" Cleaned and repaired.

(2) "Walcourt" Cleaned and repaired.

(3) "Schellenburg" Cleaned.

b. The PMC has written asking the Management Trustees of the Regimental Funded Charities to split the cost of repairs 50/50. Although we shall not know for certain before their next meeting 27/28 Nov 79 the PMC feels they will agree.

c. There appear to be three ways of paying our share of the repairs.

(1) We start a picture repair fund and contribute 50p a head.

(2) Pay straight from GPF.

(3) Pay with money transferred from the Silver fund.

d. The PMC pointed out at this stage that the Silver fund stood at £802.89. The Silver member felt that only £150.00 could be transferred to GPF for this purpose as other Silver repairs are pending.

A spirited discussion began. A majority of Officers felt that the repairs were necessary but were concerned about the cost. The Commanding Officer

said he felt that the repairs were important, but that a firm decision should be taken in Colchester when the situation would be reviewed.

7. Silver

The Silver will have to be revalued in Colchester and the next premium is £250 (approx). Several Officers asked whether it is possible to get an index-linked insurance so as to prevent constant, expensive revaluation. Captain Clements agreed to look into this on our return. Captain French asked if all Officers would keep an eye on the way in which Mess silver was handled by the staff, so as prevent damage.

8. Ladies Guest Night

a. Captain French proposed that the Ladies Night ~~of~~ planned for the night of 13 Oct 79 be cancelled, seconded by Captain Paver. A vote was taken, the motion was defeated by 10-4.

The PMC said that it would be possible to pay for food alone from GPF. He felt that as the present Mess Members had been responsible for helping to stabilise the Mess accounts that they should benefit. The Commanding Officer warned that the money should be used in a cautionary manner so as to maintain the account in credit. Captain Ambrose explained that the money was available and to pay for the food alone (£250) would not cause overstretch. A vote was taken for the food only to be paid for by GPF. 10-4 in favour.

b. To avoid an Officer having to run the Disco the PMC explained that he had provisionally booked the same outside disco as had appeared at the Summer Ball @ £55 to play from 2230-0300. Captain Power felt this was expensive and said he

would try and arrange an alternative. (Afternote. He was unable to find an alternative therefore the PMC confirmed his provisional booking.)

c. The PMC further explained that all Young Officers would receive an education in the game of roulette prior to the Ladies Night.

d. All Honorary Mess Members had been invited except the GOC and the Commander 3 Infantry Brigade.

9. Roulette

Captain Beckett quoted various prices for roulettes wheels which are available. The average price being £200 for a wheel and chips. Captain Ambrose said that the price of 8 pence a chip seemed to be too much. The PMC asked if any Mess member would have any objection to him buying a wheel of his choice for £80 (approx) and then trying to get the chips seperately at a more reasonable price. Captain Walsh felt that the Mess shouldnit be rushed into buying a wheel. The PMC found general agreement to his proposal and confirmed that he would buy a wheel.

10. Regimental Table Mats

The PMC displayed a table mat with a Regimental design on it. He explained that these had recently been produced by RHQ and asked if the Mess wanted a set. He added that if the Mess did order any, they would be in the proper Pompadour colour with the Eagle and Garter in the centre. He also said that the Sgts Mess had shown an interest and that a bulk order would make the price per mat cheaper viz;

100 mats @ £1·95 + VAT
200 mats @ £1·87½ + VAT

There was general agreement that the Mess should order some and the PMC suggested that we should wait and see what the proof set looked like before ordering. Captain Page suggested ordering extra mats to be sold in the PRI Shop, this was agreed.

11, Staff Gratuities

Captain Clements suggested that the amount of money that is spent on staff gratuities was out of line with the way in which a gratuity is intended, and that often he did not think the civilian staff deserved it. He added that they were not volunteers, and were paid for working here anyway. He asked whether other Officers had any views. After some discussion it was decided to stop paying staff gratuities monthly, on Mess bills, as of this meeting. The money which had accumulated since last Christmas £64·59 should be spent on a drinks party for the Staff, before we left Ulster.

12. Gaming Machine

Captain Keal suggested the Mess consider placing a gaming machine in the bar. The PMC read from the Mess minutes book to remind members of the comments made when this issue was last raised at a Mess meeting. Captain Power asked 'What price our pride' and during a subdued conversation the Commanding Officer suggested that the Mess might become like "Las Vegas". The PMC asked for a swift conclusion

Proposed: Captain Keal
Seconded: Major Steele
7 for : 10 against
Motion defeated

13. Silver Anniversary

The PMC explained that Captain Secombe at a Mess meeting on 22 January 1979 had suggested that a silver fund be created with the specific intention of purchasing a piece of silver to commemorate 25 years of The Royal Anglian Regiment in 1989 (formation 1964). The PMC was concerned that several Officers felt it was designed for the 300th anniversary of the formation of the 16th of Foot in 1988 (Raising of Regiment in Reading in Oct 1688). The PMC asked that Officers be clear in their minds as to where they wanted their money to go, so he might then write to RHQ and lodge a deed. The fund now stands at £63.50 and at the present rate of subscription the fund would realise £1000. After a noisy discussion several votes and re-votes were taken all of which acheived nothing. The Commanding Officer and PMC agreed that it would be reconsidered in Colchester.

14. Monthly Standing Charges

a. Major Dawnes, the QM, explained that our return to Colchester would drastically effect the cost, standard and quality of the food in the Mess. Lieutenant Weigold on behalf of the Food Member suggested that extra messing charges be raised to 35p a day on returning to Colchester. A discussion then started as to the efficiency of the booking out system. A motion to charge extra messing by individual meals was then proposed and a vote taken.

Proposed: Captain Beckett
Seconded: Lieutenant Errington-Weddle
For: 6. Against 11. motion defeated

b. The earlier proposal of increasing extra messing charges to 35p a day as of our arrival in Colchester was passed unanimously. The Commanding Officer said that the Messing Member must be aware of the pitfalls of bad budgeting in Colchester and ordered that a close check be kept on the Messing account.

15. Discotheque

The PMC pointed out that Captain Power had been the driving force behind the disco for 18 months and suggested that Second Lieutenant Morling become Disco Member in Colchester.

Proposed: Major Thompson
Seconded: Captain French
Passed unanimously.

16. Wines

The PMC suggested that Captain Bacon take over as Wines Member on 1 Oct 79.

Proposed: Captain Clements
Seconded: Captain Walsh

17. Miscellaneous

The PMC made a variety of minor points.

a. Rooms

The PMC asked that all married Officers who were going to be moving into the Mess before our departure should inform him by 1200 hrs Fri 21 Sep 79 so that he could allocate

rooms in plenty of time.

b. Mess C/Sgt

The PMC reminded Officers that CM Jefferey was now carrying at the duties of Mess C/Sgt and asked if Officers would object to him receiving the ED pay of C/Sgt rank. There were no objections.

c. New PMC

Major Thompson will be taking over as PMC as soon as possible.

18. Any Other Business

a. Vote of thanks

The Commanding Officer thanked Major Cornish, the orgoing PMC, for all his work as PMC especially all the functions he had been involved with.

b. Children in the Mess

Captain Page said he felt concerned about the way in which parents seem to allow their children to run wild in the Mess. The Commanding Officer agreed and directed that parents are responsible for their children in the Mess. Captain Walsh suggested that films be shown to keep children amused during Mess functions.

c. Fathers Night

Major Steele suggested that a Fathers Guest Night be held in the Mess in Colchester sometime after our return from Kenya. There was unanimous agreement.

d. Farewell Party

Major Thompson said that Officers from 2 RRF must be in no doubt that they

would be expected to pay their share of the Mess party to be held on Sat 10 Nov 79. A disco will be required for the evening also.

e. Investment/Horse Purchase

Captain Ambrose, the Pay-master, asked if Officers would be interested in a talk/film on the subject. All present thought it a good idea. The talk will take place on Mon 15 Oct 79, Captain Ambrose will arrange.

f. Booking in

Captain Power asked all Officers to be more punctilious when booking in. Especially for Mess functions.

g. Colchester Mess

The PMC said that rooms in the Colchester Mess would be allocated by the new PMC, and would not be taken on a first come first served basis.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1904 hrs.

NTG BLEMAUR
Captain
Mess Secretary

EH Thompson
Major
PMC

Minutes of an Extra Ordinary Mess Meeting held in Meance Bks, Colchester at 1530 hrs on 21 Nov 79

1. The following officers were present:
   The Commanding Officer
   Majors: Downes
   Child
   Turner
   Williamson
   Steele
   Cornish
   Captains: Gould
   Keal
   Clements
   Mason
   Bacon
   Brehaut
   Subalterns: Weigold
   Dean
   Scragg
   Morling
   Kemp.

2. The Mess minutes were not read as directed by the PMC.

3. The PMC explained that the meeting had been called to iron out several minor points on Mess administration. As the Mess was visited by Princess Anne shortly before our arrival it had been redecorated. Consequently Officers must take extra care with their rooms, fittings and paintwork. The PMC further explained that Officers would be expected to sign for their rooms after a reallocation of

furniture to ensure the correct scaling had taken place. The Mess contains a Billiard room in which Officers must be careful so as not to cause damage. The PMC also asked that electric lights be switched off when not in use. The staffing of the Mess was discussed, the military staff are being revised to enable them to better understand their duties. Several Officers asked if civilian staff would be cleaning rooms other than public rooms. The QM explained that he had asked for additional staff, but that they would not clean personal rooms as the result of a theft sometime ago when their integrity had been doubted. The PMC asked whether Officers might then have batmen. The Commanding Officer said he felt that all Officers needed a Batman/Runner on operations and felt that this could be continued into the Mess. The PMC suggested that they could also supplement the Mess staff during functions. Captain Bacon expressed concern as to a standard of pay and orders for a batman. The Commanding Officer directed that batting would start from the 2 Jan 1980 and pay would be fixed at £6 a month, plus ED for functions.

2. Mfo Boxes

The PMC said they must all be returned by the 7 Dec 1979 and corridors must be kept clear.

3. Meal Timings

The PMC stated that meals would be taken as follows:

Breakfast: Tues-Fri 0715 - 0815
Sat-Mon 0830 - 0930

Lunch; 1245 - 1330
Friday Bar Lunch 1330 - 1415

Dinner; 1945

The PMC added that for Dinner Officers are expected to be in the Bar from 1930 and to all enter the Dining Room together. The food itself would be on a self service basis.

4 Washing Machine

The PMC said the Ladies who had done the washing in N. Ireland were willing to do it again and asked whether Officers wanted this service or were prepared to do their own washing, using the machine. A vote was taken.

5 for washing by Ladies.
6 for washing by Officers.

Captain Bacon was asked to look into the cost of a tumble dryer. Neither Mrs Dent nor Mrs Weed are prepared to take on this job for the limited numbers of officers requiring this service.

5. Papers and Publications

The PMC suggested a possible list of papers to the Mess, to be taken daily. These were

Times x 2
Telegraph x 2
Sun x 1
Express x 1
Mirror x 1

These were agreed on by all. The Sunday papers were confirmed as:

Times x 1
Observer x 1
Express x 1
News of the World x 1
Telegraph x 1

The PMC said we would take the Colchester Gazette but would ask the PRO as to the desirability of The Colchester Evening Gazette. As for publications it was agreed by vote to take the field magazine

4 for Country Life
5 for The Field

The Mess Secretary will investigate the possibility of getting The Economist and also renew our subscription to The International Defense Review.

Major Williamson proposed we should order The Illustrated London News a vote was taken.

7 for
8 against. Motion defeated.

It was agreed unanimously that the Mess should get the magazines Now and Punch. Also the Mess agreed to not take any Motoring Magazines. Finally Major Cornish asked if the papers could be delivered by Breakfast each morning.

6 SECURITY

The PMC said that he was concerned about the security of the Mess. As of January 1980 Officers would be issued with a front door key and the Mess would be locked at night. A pool of spare keys would be kept and additionally one would remain in the Guardroom.

7 Discotheque

The PMC confirmed that 2Lt Morling will be running the Disco in Colchester.

8 Functions

The PMC suggested the following functions which after some discussion

were agreed on by all present:

a. 6 Dec 79 WOs/Sgts to Officers Mess 1200-1400.
b. Mess party after Captain Browne's Wedding.
c. 19 Jan 80 Low Cost No Theme party
d. 20 Jan 80 Curry Lunch
e. 1 Feb 80 Regimental Guest Night (Father)

9 Mess Secretary. The PMC suggested that Captain Gould take over as Mess Secretary.
Proposed: Captain Bacon
Seconded: Major Cornish

10 Any Other Business
a. Morning Tea Major Williamson asked that morning tea should be brought around at the following times:
Tuesday to Friday 0700
Saturday to Monday 0800 Unless a notice is attached to the door.
There was general agreement to the timings. The PMC added that the Waiter would carry two teapots one with sugar and one without.
b. Functions Major Cornish asked if we would be having any parties to honour local dignitaries. The Commanding Officer said that these would be held only if Regimental Headquarters would allow us a grant.
c. Garages
The Mess has ten garages. Officers were asked to give their names to

the Mess Secretary if required a garage.
d. Honorary Members of the Mess. Major Cornish asked if this subject would be clarified. The PMC said it would be done more completely in January but that the following should be considered as Honorary Mess Members now.
Major Martin Franks
Hon Col [illegible] Paul
Maj [illegible] Haywood
e. Lampshades Major Cornish asked if the "horrid" lampshades in the Anne room could be exchanged. Major Downes said he felt it unlikely bearing in mind the recent decoration for the Royal Visit. However he would look into the possibility of spot lights or overhead lighting for the larger paintings.
f. Vote of thanks. Captain Gould asked if Captain Brehaut might receive a vote of thanks as outgoing Mess Secretary. He also queried the situation regarding Mess Christmas Cards. The PMC told him to speak to him later on this subject.
g. Casual Meal Rates. 2Lt Scragg, the Food Member, said that the casual meal rate was under review. He will speak to the PMC on the subject.
h. Officers Club. The Mess Secretary was asked to look into the cost of a Mess subscription to the Garrison Officers Club.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1700 hrs.

[illegible]
[illegible] BREHAUT
Captain
Mess Secretary

[illegible] Thompson
Major
PMC

11/1

Minutes Of a Mess Meeting held in Messmen Barracks Cordoutes at 1645 hrs 24 Jan 80.

1. The following Offrs were present:-
   The Commanding Offrs
   Major Thompson
   Major Williamson
   Major Steele
   Major Cornin
   Major Turner
   Major Davies
   Captain Gould
   Captain Pares
   Captain Bonhomme
   Captain French
   Captain Duthoit
   Captain Bechette
   Captain Mason
   Captain Ambrose
   Captain Lieutenant Graham
   Lieutenant Brown
   2nd Lieutenant Scragge
   2nd Lieutenant Dean
   2nd Lieutenant Morling

2. The minutes of the last meeting were printed and distributed, and the PMC asked that they be accepted as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.

   Proposed: Captain Bonhomme
   : Major Turner

3. Matters Arising.

a. The Mess Account. The form 1514 had been posted on the Mess notice board for several days for Offrs to see. The PMC highlighted certain features:-

   (1) Messing account : Credit: £93.40
   (2) Silver account : Credit: £885.35
   (3) Discotheque account: Credit: £26.97
   (4) Silver anniversary fund: Credit: £89.75.
   (5) Cash : Credit £1500

The number of breakages was down considerably, although the cost of cleaning materials was still very high, necessitating a close scrutiny by mess members.

b. Silver Anniversary Fund. A vote was taken as to whether this fund should purchase silver for the 300th anniversary of the 16th/44th Foot, or the 25th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment. By 12 votes to 5 it was decided to opt for the 300th anniversary. After much further discussion it was suggested that a horseman statuette with the 2 dates 1988 and 1989 inscribed, one on either side, when the date arrived. The Commanding Offrs suggested that if later mess meetings should decide not to have a statuette, that they should be bound by a clause in the Mess Rules to at least purchase an item of silver with the proceeds of the fund.

c. Damage to Property. The PMC stated that certain items of property had been damaged and requested that they be struck off, before the change over of Property members.

   Proposed: Captain Bonhomme
   : Major Cornin.

d. Refrigerator/Icemaker. Arising from an enquiry a discussion arose about the purchase of a means of making large quatities of ice for functions. The Quartermaster said it was not ponible to obtain one from military sources but afford the services of the Deep freeze in the Butcher Shop to the wines members when the need arose. The Wines members was also requested to investigate the ponibility of obtaining a cooling tray from the brewery. It was also proposed that the property member investigate the ponibility of purchasing a new or second hand refrigerator for the mess.

Proposed: Captain Ambrose
: Major Steele.

e. Marshalling of Palace Barracks: The bill for the Marshalling of Palace Barracks was £15.37p and no damage was caused to Mess property. This was due to the presence of the regimental Office at the time of packing. The Commanding Office suggested that where ponible the same Office should be present for the unpacking as well.

f. Table Mats. The PMC stated that the Mess Secretary had visited the firm which makes place mats and confirmed the order. After discussion it was agreed that the badge should be 1¼" high of an Eagle and garter. The exact colour of Bumpadour was discussed inconclusively, but it was generally felt that the accurate light colour would be out of place next to a dark runner and in the dim of a candlelit room. The PMC agreed to further pursue the matter in conjunction with Major Comish.

g. Garrison Officers Club. The PMC stated that the cost of membership for the whole mess would be £11 per month.

Lengthy discussion took place reaching the conclusion that the matter should be raised again at the next Mess meeting.

h. Paintings. The PMC stated that Richard Stone had varnished the portrait of the Queen Mother within the terms of his contract, but was being recalled to tighten the canvas in one corner. Quotations had been obtained from three sources to clean and where necessary repair the following pictures:-

(1) East of Derby
(2) Walcourt
(3) Sanctenbourg
(4) Guadamuch (Waterloo)

Two of the quotations were well in excess of £800 although the other, with a Mr Wain of Cromer was £420. It was stated that money might be forthcoming from Rule and also the Essex Association to assist in the costs. It was agreed that Walcourt be sent to Mr Wain to clean and repair so that his work could be assessed prior to sending the other three paintings.

i Silver. The PMC stated that the Beacon Cup and the Candle Biscuit box had been sent to 7 Field Force, and that the Cyprus UN painting had been offered to Moncliffe. The subject of valuation of silver was then raised. It transpired that the silver had not been revalued since 1975, although it should have been done in 1977. The 1975 valuation was £76,795.84 £76,000, but at todays prices the melted down value was £688,870! Some discussion ensued as to whether the mess could afford to insure all the silver, and if not, it was suggested that the less useful pieces be returned to Rule. However it was agreed that a revaluation

was essential. The PMC stated that Wilsons had recommended a firm in Bath who would be acceptable in their right, but who would charge £100 per day and expenses. It was then stated by the silver member that he was investigating the possibility of a local silversmith making the armament in order to save money. Many were of the opinion that Wilsons, as agents, should find the cheapest, yet acceptable, assessor for the Battalion, as that was what they were paid for. The PMC agreed to write to them again on this matter. The PMC informed the members that the sale of some of the Royal Leicesters' silver had raised £3,300 which was to be invested to yield around £130 per annum per Battalion to assist in the payments of their insurance costs.

J. Presentations. The PMC informed Mess Member that the card table presented by Major Paul Gray had arrived, and when a suitable plaque had been inscribed would be available for use. A presentation for Cpl Ruffell was mentioned next by the PMC who felt that Officers past and present would like to contribute at least £1 per head towards a suitable present. Past Mess members were to be written to by The Mess Secretary. Discussion then ensued to discuss what should be the present. The whole spectrum of gifts from kitchen knives to a silver tray was considered before the majority agreed on a silver salver, inscribed with an eagle and gates and a suitable expression of appreciation.

K. Keys. The PMC raised the matter of front door keys which Major Downes had agreed to investigate. Major Downes stated that the locks would soon be changed and thirty keys would be available for Officers

The loss of any key by an Officer would result in him paying for the cost of replacing the lock and thirty keys. This did not meet with the approval of members, who decided that they would rather have no key than risk the penalty of losing theirs. The following plan was however adopted; that the duty waiter should lock the door when he goes off duty, a reserve of one key would be kept in the guardroom, and those who wished to have their own keys should submit their names to the Mess Secretary.

L Honorary Mess Membership. The PMC stated that four former members had been invited to join. Discussion ensued regarding that serving Officers were members anyway and would attract mess bills. The final list was as follows:

(1) Lt Col LJM Paul
(2) Maj K Lywood
(3) Col P Franklin Retd
(4) Maj BAR Hannyton Spicer Retd
(5) Maj M Franks
(6) Capt C Haddery
(7) John Hutchins.

The Adjutant suggested that an open invitation be extended to the wives of Officers in 2 Queens, but it was felt that personal invitations were to be preferred.

M. Washing Machine. The PMC expressed surprise that the washing machine still functioned, and that it had been serviced. He asked Officers not to leave their washed clothing in or on the machine.

N. Newspapers and Periodicals. The PMC stated That Now magazine had not yet turned up due to unavailability, but instead Time was supplied by the Messagent.

o. Cocktail Party Kenya. This was scheduled for 16 Feb and was based on a list provided by 1 Scots Guards. It was planned to hold a Beating Retreat followed by Cocktails. In order that the party might stop at a reasonable hour the local social clubs had been asked to hold a disco afterwards. The dress for Officers would be lightweight suits.

p. Canal Meals. The Food Member stated that the canal meal rate had been received but was to remain unchanged.

q. Future Entertainments. The OMC stated that the men could be expected to entertain Officers of the Royal Green Jackets in the mess after the boxing to a pizza or other cheap evening. The frequency of guest nights was suggested by the OMC to be on a three monthly basis. At Captain Saunders suggestion it was agreed that the majority of these should include ladies. The Commanding Officer encouraged Officers to attend functions and not to let the standards of dress drop. It was agreed that the term low cost, no theme party, be dropped, but no suitable substitute was offered. The idea of a summer Ball, either Battalion or combined with 2 Queens, was not agreed.

It was however agreed to hold a Guest Night between 28 April – 3 May subject to Band availability. It was also agreed that a Cocktail Party be held on 17 May using wines, spirits, drinks brought back from Kenya by Officers, followed by a Curry Lunch on 18 May. Major Turner requested that a drinks party be held at Stamford on 11 Apr for the Officers to get to know other Officers participating in the UKLF Cadet Leadership Camp.

r. Mess Committee. The following changes to the Mess Committee were put forward, voted upon and agreed to take place after 2 Feb 80.

PMC Major Williamson
Mess Secretary Captain Dutfoit.
Food Member Lieutenant Kempe
Wines Member Lieutenant Randall
Home Member Lieutenant Graham
Silver Member Lieutenant Dean.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Spot lights and Lampshades. Major Downes replied to an enquiry by Major Cornish about spot lights and lampshades stating that it would be more suitable that they would be changed, but that he would continue to pursue that matter.

b. Gift for the Queen Mothers. With the Queen Mothers Birthday approaching on 3 December, any suggestions as to what the Battalion or Regiment might give her would be gratefully received.

c. The Regimental Tie. The Commanding Officer stated that the Battalion would now adopt the Old 3rd East Anglian tie as their own. The Mess Secretary was instructed to ask Major Riches to produce further stocks. Major Cornish requested four ties, whereas Captain Beckett favoured three terylene ties.

d. Mess Garden. The Commanding Officer offered his garden as a mess garden, but due to the vagaries of civilians employed in Mess and Barrack, the Quartermaster stated that the gardener was specially unable to work outside the barracks and his contract.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1850hrs

RC Gould
Captain
Mess Secretary.

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT MEERANEE BARRACKS, COLCHESTER, ON THURSDAY 24 APRIL 80

1. The following officers were present:
   Lt Col Drummond
   Maj Child
   Maj Williamson
   Maj Taylor
   Maj Browne
   Maj Steele
   Capt Ambrose
   Capt Bacon
   Capt Brehaut
   Capt Page
   Capt Brown
   Capt Mason
   Capt French
   Capt Keal
   Lt Dean
   Lt Graham
   2Lt Kemp
   2Lt Scragg
   2Lt Morling
   2Lt Harlow
   2Lt Shorrocks

2. In the absence of the Mess Secretary the PMC read the minutes of the previous meeting which were unanimously approved having been:
   Proposed by Capt Brehaut
   Seconded by Capt Mason

3. Mess Functions. After much discussion it was decided that the following functions would be held in the forthcoming months:
   1 May Ladies' Guest Night, already arranged, but to include roulette and blackjack.
   17 May Informal Party, with theme.
   18 May Curry Lunch after sponsored churchservice.
   9 July Barbecue (visit of General Sir Timothy and Lady Creasey)

13 August Blenheim Day Curry Lunch (inviting members of the 3rd Battalion Officers Dinner Club)
28 August Guest Night (male, inviting all those units with whom we would be working on Exercise CRUSADER 80 to send appropriate representatives)

In addition it was noted that the Regimental Weekend would be held on 7/8 June; that there would be a formal lunch for the Divisional Brigadier on 1 July, and that there would be another formal lunch for the Commander 7 Field Force on 11 July.

4. Garrison Officers' Club. After some discussion it was agreed that the question of membership of the Garrison Officers' Club be further investigated.

5. Presentation to Cpl Ruffell. It was agreed that there would be a Mess presentation to Cpl Ruffell on retirement, probably a silver salver, and that suitable members of the 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club be invited to contribute.

6. Bequests. The PMC announced that the business with Mr John Cooney, who had painted one picture for the Mess, had been concluded. The painting now required framing in a suitable manner. There was a further bequest of some £350.00 which had not yet been expended, and it was the Commanding Officer's view that the original plan, to commission a second water colour from John Cooney, should NOT be pursued in view of the difficulties encountered with him.

After discussion it was agreed that the Mess would attempt to find suitable older prints or

paintings, from the Parker Gallery and other sources, for purchase from this bequest.

7. Garages. The PMC said that Garage No 9 was vacant and that anyone wishing to occupy it should see him separately. Charges for garages were entirely in the hands of the QM and would be implemented from 1 May.

8. Warning In and Out. The PMC asked officers to be punctilious in using the book, not merely informing members of the Mess staff that they would be out. Telephoned instructions to the staff from living-out officers wishing to warn in were, however, acceptable.

9. Table Mats. A sample of the proposed new table mat was shown. By 13 votes to 8 it was decided not to proceed with obtaining these mats because the general design, colour and impression of the finished product was not liked. The present mats would continue in use, being replaced where damaged.

10. Collar Badges. The PMC said that he had 10 pairs of 'Eagle and Garter' collar badges, supplied by Jolliffe's, for sale at £10.00 per pair. Officers requiring them should see him afterwards.

11. Silver ~~Presentation~~ anniversary Fund. A suggestion was made that contributions to the Silver anniversary fund be covenanted. It was agreed that the Paymaster would investigate the question in detail, but the scheme should include:

a. Payment by deed of covenant so that tax paid could be claimed back by the Mess, which is part of a charity.
b. Payment by annual bankers order, for convenience and continuity when officers are not serving with the Battalion.
c. Inviting the 3rd Battalion Officers Dinner Club to subscribe.
d. Investing subscriptions in a separate account to earn interest.

12. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1830 hrs.

P H Williamson

P H WILLIAMSON
Maj
PMC

MINUTES OF A MESS MEETING HELD AT MEEANEE BARRACKS, COLCHESTER ON THURSDAY 18 JUNE 1981

1. The following officers were present;

Lt Col Drummond
Maj Williamson — Lt Harlow
Maj Taylor — Lt Kemp
Maj Downes — Lt Brancato
Maj French — Lt Miles
Maj Duff — Lt Taylor
Maj Browne — Lt Graham
Maj Steele — Lt Parker
Capt Dutheil — 2Lt Kendall
Capt Bullock — Lt Rendall.
Capt Brown
Capt Clements
Capt Page
Capt Godkin
Capt Blyth
Capt Bowden

2. The aim of the meeting was to consider in principle a Salamanca Day Ball. No minutes of a previous meeting were therefore presented.

3. After some discussion the Commanding Officer proposed that a Summer Ball be held on Salamanca Day, 22nd July 1981. This would be for the "A Battalion ~~function~~ function with those guests that we decide to ask" The proposal was seconded by Maj Browne and passed nem con.

4 Cost. A figure of £20 for a double ticket was discussed at some length. Capt Page then proposed that a sum of £25 for a double ticket was not unreasonable, and that this would allow for a little extra on the night. The proposal was seconded by Capt Brown and carried without opposition. Maj Veach then proposed that this sum should be split over the next two mess bills. This was quickly accepted by the meeting.

5. Attendance. Maj Taylor said that the maximum numbers that could attend the ball would be 200 persons. However all serving officers (whether with or away from the Battalion at present) should be encouraged to attend with as many civilian and private guests as possible. A return to estimate numbers would be issued shortly. The number of official guests would be kept to an absolute minimum, and would be agreed upon after separate discussion with the Commanding Officer.

6. Format of Ball. The Commanding Officer expressed his desire to maintain the unity of the Ball, and asked that as many activities as possible should take place in the main marquee. This point will be considered by the ball committee.

7. Ball Committee Maj Taylor then asked for volunteers for the Ball Committee and the following were appointed

Decorations — Capts Goatkin and Blyth
Music — Capt Page
Wines — 2Lt Clements (to understudy Lt Randall)
Food — Lt Miles (to understudy Lt Kemp).

the understudies will take over fully in due course (1 Sep 81).

8 other Events

a. It was agreed that Lt Col Drummond should be dined out on Thursday 6 August.

b. Lt Col Drummond announced that he would hold a farewell party on Thursday 30 July.

9. Next Meeting Maj Taylor, on behalf of the Ball committee agreed to report on their progress and seek approval for their arrangements at the next meeting to be held on a date to be arranged.

10. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1306 hours.

DJ CLEMENTS
Captain
A/Mess Secretary.

PMC.

CO

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DJ CLEMENTS
Captain
A/Mess Secretary.

RHC.

CO