



# THE CASTLE



VOLUME 1  
NUMBER 1  
APRIL, 1965

REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF  
THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

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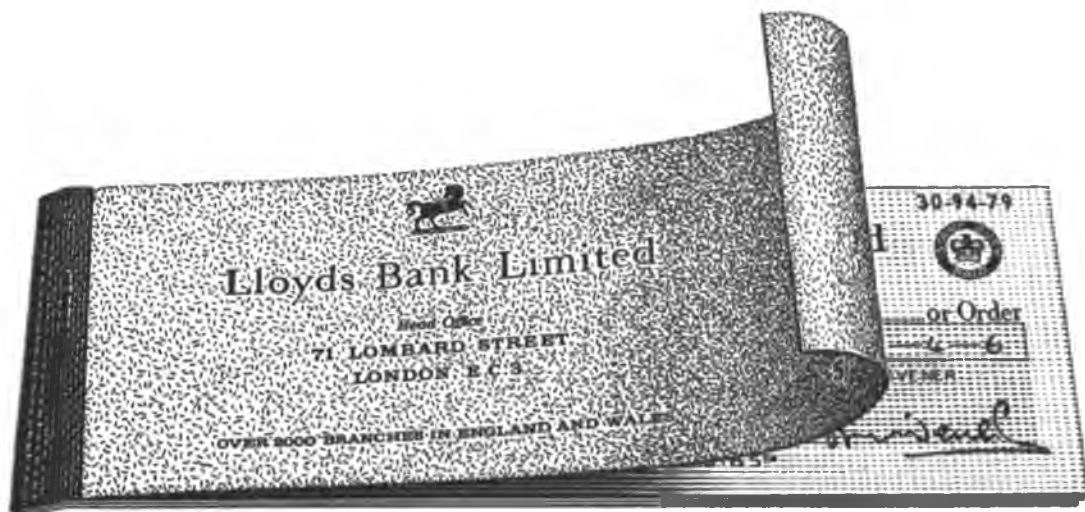
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*in East Anglia*



## CLARENCE HOUSE

S.W.1.

It gives me much pleasure to send a message of congratulations and good wishes on the publication of the first number of the Regimental Journal.

I send to All Ranks my warmest greetings, and I am confident that the newly formed Royal Anglian Regiment will worthily uphold the great tradition of the Regiments from which it has been created.

ELIZABETH R.  
Colonel-in-Chief

April, 1965.



*Photo: Associated Press Ltd*  
**HER MAJESTY, QUEEN ELIZABETH, THE QUEEN MOTHER, OUR COLONEL-IN-CHIEF.**



*Photo: Anthony Buckley*

**HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS MARGARET, COUNTESS OF SNOWDON, OUR  
DEPUTY COLONEL-IN-CHIEF.**



Photo: Cecil Beaton

**HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER, OUR DEPUTY  
COLONEL-IN-CHIEF.**

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VOL. 1. No. 1.

APRIL, 1965

PRICE 2/6d. (postage extra)

*Colonel-in-Chief :*

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*Deputy Colonels-in-Chief :*

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS MARGARET, COUNTESS OF SNOWDON  
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER

*Colonel of The Regiment :*

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR REGINALD F. S. DENNING, *K.B.E., C.B., D.L.*

*Deputy Colonels :*

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR RICHARD GOODWIN, *K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.*  
BRIGADIER R. H. L. OULTON, *C.B.E.*  
BRIGADIER C. M. PATON, *C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L.*  
MAJOR-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS KENDREW, *K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.*

## REGULAR BATTALIONS

- 1ST (NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT
- 2ND (DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER'S OWN LINCOLNSHIRE & NORTHAMPTONSHIRE) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT
- 3RD (16TH/44TH FOOT) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT
- 4TH (LEICESTERSHIRE) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

## TERRITORIAL BATTALIONS

- 4TH BN. THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT (T.A.)  
THE SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 4TH/6TH BN. THE ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 4TH/5TH BN. THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 1ST BN. THE BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 4TH/5TH BN. THE ESSEX REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 4TH/5TH BN. THE ROYAL LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

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The Lake Superior Regiment (Scottish)  
The Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment  
The Sherbrooke Regiment
- ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY  
The Royal Tasmania Regiment
- ALLIED REGIMENT OF NEW ZEALAND ARMY  
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment
- ALLIED BATTALION OF THE PAKISTAN ARMY  
5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment
- ALLIED REGIMENT OF BERMUDEA VOLUNTEER FORCE  
The Bermuda Rifles
- ALLIED BATTALION OF THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA FORCES  
1st Bn. The Royal Malay Regiment
- ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE COLONIAL FORCES  
Barbados Regiment

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS AND DEPOT: Blenheim Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. Tel.: Bury St. Edmunds 2394.

REGIMENTAL COLONEL: Colonel J. C. Denny, *O.B.E., M.C.*

COMMANDING OFFICER, THE DEPOT: Lt.-Col. H. W. Clark

REGIMENTAL SECRETARY: Colonel M. L. REYNOLDS, *O.B.E. (Retd.)*

*Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major M. G. Elliot M.B.E. (Retd.)*

**REGIMENTAL SECRETARIES:**

*Norfolk and Suffolk H.Q.: Colonel W. A. Heal O.B.E. (Retd.)*

*Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire H.Q.: Major D. Baxter (Retd.)*

*16th/44th Foot H.Q.: Major T. R. Stead (Retd.)*

*Leicestershire H.Q.: Lt.-Col. P. G. Upcher D.S.O., D.L. (Retd.)*



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### Message from the Colonel of the Regiment

---

**O**N the occasion of the first issue of the Regimental Magazine, "The Castle," I want to take the opportunity to say that it is my hope that this number, and future ones, will enable all units of the Regiment, and Old Comrades, to be kept informed of Regimental activities.

The Royal Anglian Regiment has started its service in a manner worthy of its former Regiments. We now have Four Regular Battalions, a Regimental Depot and Seven Territorial Battalions, covering eleven counties. All units and all concerned have most loyally accepted the need to re-organise into a Large Regiment and they have set an example to the Infantry of the Line which other Regiments are now starting to follow."

## EDITORIAL

With the formation of the first 'Large Regiment' in the British Army there comes into being a new Regimental Journal—*The Castle*.

It replaces the former Journals of the Battalions which now form part of The Royal Anglian Regiment and we must bid farewell to those admirable efforts of editorial skill which hitherto have produced:

*The Britannia and Castle*

*The Poacher*

*The Wasp and The Eagle*

*The Green Tiger*

In their place we have *The Castle* and we commend to you this first issue. Since it covers the activities of four regular Battalions, seven Territorial Battalions and many Old Comrades' Associations it is bound to be bulky. But do not let this deter you reading it.

We hope it will bring you news of your friends, give you addresses of those colleagues of whom you have lost touch, and go some way towards welding into a whole the concept of the Regiment as envisaged by the Army Board.

Officers will be commissioned into The Royal Anglian Regiment, soldiers will be enlisted into The Royal Anglian Regiment and we have one Regimental Home, Bury St. Edmunds.

The rest of the Army will be watching us carefully to see how far we succeed in achieving the aim. We have been clearly honoured in being granted the 'Royal' title, with Her Majesty The Queen Mother as Colonel-in-Chief, and with H.R.H. Princess Margaret, H.R.H. Duchess of Gloucester as Deputy Colonels-in-Chief, the Regiment has been singled out for Royal favour. Under the guidance of our first Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Reginald Denning, there is no doubt we have started to set an example of the ability of British Army officers and soldiers to adapt themselves to new conditions, to sink differences, should there be any, and to show to the world a pride and affection for both the 'old and the new.'

The Editors would make a special appeal for the support of the retired officer, Warrant Officer, N.C.O. or soldier who has served in any of the Battalions which now form part of the Regiment. Without your help most of the efforts now being made by those responsible for ensuring we evolve as an efficient and happy unit of Her Majesty's Army will be in vain. We rely on your support.

The Editor would like to thank all those who have contributed articles for the Journal. It has proved impractical to publish them all

but they are being held for future issues. If you have contributed and do not see your article published in the first issue please do not think that we are not greatly appreciative of your efforts. It has made our task very much easier and we have tried to pick articles from members of the different Battalions.

We would be grateful for further contributions as we intend to publish three times a year.

We have little news of changes of address, particularly of retired members of the Regiment and anything you can do to let us know of such items would be most acceptable.

### Honours and Awards

#### HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST 1965.

To be Ordinary Officers of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:

Lt.-Col. J. B. Dye, M.C., Royal Anglian Regiment.

Lt.-Col. D. U. Fraser, Royal Anglian Regiment.

To be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:

Major K. Burch, Royal Anglian Regiment.  
Capt. N. R. Pavitt, Royal Anglian Regiment.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Military Division):

Sgt. J. Watson, Royal Anglian Regiment.

### Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

The following is an extract from the *London Gazette*, dated January 22, 1965:

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the names shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for Brave Conduct:

23497664 Cpl. Kenneth Stokes, Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers attached 2nd Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment.

23915171 Pte. Harry West, 2nd Bn. (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) The Royal Anglian Regiment.



23979553 Pte. Allan William Stamps, 2nd Bn. (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) The Royal Anglian Regiment.

For their prompt and courageous action in extinguishing a fire at the mouth of a two thousand gallon underground petrol tank. Their prompt action and devotion to duty in the face of great danger arrested a situation, the consequences of which would have been most serious to both life and property.

## RECEPTION

### THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, Princess Margaret Countess of Snowdon and the Duchess of Gloucester, Deputy Colonels-in-Chief, attended a reception held yesterday at St. James's Palace to mark the occasion of the formation of the Regiment. Lieut.-General Sir Reginald Denning, Colonel of the Regiment, Lieut.-General Sir Richard Goodwin, and Brigadiers Oulton and Paton, Deputy Colonels, were present, with officers and their wives. Lieut.-General Sir Colin Callander deputised for Major-General



*Lt.-Col. J. B. Dye, O.B.E., M.C., late C.O. 1st Battalion, being presented to H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester at the Reception at St. James's Palace on November 25, 1964.*



*Courtesy: Fox Photos*

*At the St. James's Tea Party, November 25, 1964.*

*Lt.-Col. Alan Cowan, commanding the 4th Battalion of the Regiment, and his wife had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty The Queen Mother, in the Council Chamber of the Palace.*

Sir Douglas Kendrew. Also attending were the Lords Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire and Northamptonshire.

\* \* \*

The above notice appeared in both *The Times* and *The Telegraph* of November 26, 1964.

The announcement gave brief information of the large reception, attended by approximately 1,000 officers and their wives who had gathered together to cement the formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

Thanks to the gracious courtesy of our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, we were given the privilege of using St. James's Palace for the reception, and such were the numbers that the Throne Room, Entrée Room, The Queen Anne Room and the Picture Gallery were filled to capacity.

During the reception music was provided by the string orchestra of the Irish Guards under the direction of Major C. H. Jaeger, I.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., Director of Music Irish Guards.

The officers of the Depot at Bury St. Edmunds in ceremonial dress acted as ushers.

An admirable tea was provided by the NAAFI, who are to be congratulated on the excellent lay-out in the four reception rooms and for the really beautiful flowers provided on the tables occupied by the Royal Party.

The Colonel-in-Chief and the Deputy

Colonels-in-Chief were good enough to receive many serving and retired members of the Regiment at their tea tables and subsequently stayed to talk with other guests before they left the reception.

The Royal Party was received by the Colonel of the Regiment and Lady Denning, after which the following officers of the Regiment and their wives had the honour of being presented to the Royal Party in the Council Chamber: Lieut.-General Sir Richard and Lady Goodwin, Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, Lieut.-General Sir Colin and Lady Callander, Brigadier and Mrs. Paton, Colonel and Mrs. Denny, Lieut.-Colonel

and Mrs. Clark, Colonel M. L. Reynolds, General Sir Henry Jackson, Lieut.-General Sir Geoffrey Howard, Colonel and Mrs. Salew, Lt.-Col. J. B. Dye, Lt.-Col. W. R. Chambers, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Norbury, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Leng, and Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Cowan.

We are deeply appreciative of being permitted to have the privilege of making use of the magnificent reception rooms at St. James' Palace. They made a perfect setting for what was an unique occasion, the gathering together of the officers, both serving and retired, with their wives, of the first Large Regiment in the British Army.

## REGIMENTAL RECRUITING

Sixty-three recruits joined the Regiment in September, 1964, the first month in the life of The Royal Anglian Regiment. This was the best monthly figure during the year. It was

surely a good omen, for the future must largely depend upon the quality and quantity of recruits from our eleven counties.

During 1964, 605 men joined the Regiment.



*By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times*

John Whitehead, of Leicester, being enrolled as the 600th recruit in the Royal Anglian Regiment at Bury St. Edmunds on December 15, 1964.

With him in the picture, from left to right, are R.S.M. Jenks, Capt. P. W. Edwards, the Recruiting Officer, and Sgt. E. Davies.

Pte. Whitehead, who passed out from the depot on March 19, 1965, is now serving with 4th Battalion in Aden.

This was an excellent achievement: it was a 50 per cent increase over the 1963 figures.

A target of 800 men has been set by the Regimental Colonel for 1965. This means enlisting four men for every three enlisted in 1964: a hard target, but one which, nevertheless, is within reach. Already the 1965 figures show an increase over 1964—117 enlistments compared to 104, in January and February—but this increase must be improved upon before we can be sure of hitting the target of 800.

The Regiment has 17 Warrant Officers, Staff Sergeants employed as Special Recruiters. They are based on Army Information Offices, and work alongside the Army Recruiting Staff. They have the specific task of recruiting for the Regiment.

In support of this static organisation, which is controlled from R.H.Q. at Bury St. Edmunds, the Battalions send home recruiting teams. Displays of weapons, radio sets, vehicles and combat rations, together with demonstrations of riot drills and platoon attacks, help to keep the Regiment in the public eye. After tours by 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalion teams in 1964, recruiting improved in the areas visited. Further visits by 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalion teams are planned for 1965.

An innovation introduced in January was the use of a small team from the Depot's Recruiting Staff. This Regimental Recruiting Team spent two days in each of a dozen small

villages. The team of four put up at the local inn and made contact both there and in coffee bars with potential recruits. The team used a caravan as a mobile information office. The success of this tour has led to a repeat tour in Norfolk during March. This time, in place of the caravan, a converted 3-ton office vehicle will be used. Further visits to rural areas will be made, in addition to a dozen summer shows, carnivals and tattoos.

For all the efforts of recruiting teams from Battalions and from the Depot, the best recruiter for the Regiment remains the contented soldier. He is the satisfied customer, and he will be given a genuine hearing by his civilian friends. Time after time recruits come back from leave with names and addresses of men they have talked to, and who in many cases are eventually enlisted. One Irish recruit brought in seven of his friends! Another recruit from Gorleston recently brought in four.

At the moment, the most numerous source of contented soldiers—our four Battalions—remains largely untouched, due to service abroad. When Battalions "stage" in England and their soldiers take block leave at home, recruiting goes well. For this reason, 1st and 4th Battalion areas are expected to produce more recruits in the later part of this year.

In the next edition of *The Castle*, the latest progress will be reported of the drive for 800 recruits in 1965. It is stressed that recruiting is the business of all of us, and it is hoped that everyone will do his bit towards the target.

## Our Advertisers

It is worth  
while to  
read the  
advertisements  
in this magazine

Please mention "THE CASTLE" when purchasing from firms who advertise in these pages.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

### The Gill Memorial Scholarships

Details of the above-mentioned scholarships have been promulgated recently in DCI 276 of 1964. The possible advantages in gaining these scholarships have thus been made known to serving officers. It is, however, likely that retired officers, who are certainly eligible, are not aware of the details relating to the Gill Memorial Scholarships of Brighton College.

Entry forms and further details may be obtained from Ministry of Defence (A. Ebn. 3) Stanmore, Middlesex.

+

ALL ARTICLES AND NOTES FOR THE AUGUST NUMBER OF THE JOURNAL SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR BY NOT LATER THAN JUNE 19, 1965.

See page 51 for further details



## Easy for some

Others find it heavy going. It's the same when it comes to managing money.

Some do. Some don't.

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# The Royal Anglian Regiment Weekend 1965

The Regimental Weekend this year will be on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 16, 17 and 18. It is regretted it is impossible to provide overnight accommodation at Blenheim Camp.

This is the largest social event of the year, and depends for its success upon the support of all serving and retired officers of the present and former Regiments.

The detailed programme is below:

## Programme

### FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1965

- (a) Golf Meeting, 9.00 a.m.

The Regimental Golf Meeting will take place at the Flempton Golf Club. Details of the meeting and Entry Forms are enclosed. Lunch and tea will be provided at the Club House.

- (b) Cricket versus Colchester Garrison—11.30 a.m. - 6.30 p.m. This match will be played on the Gibraltar Barracks ground, Bury St. Edmunds.

- (c) Regimental Ball, 8.30 p.m. - 3 a.m.

The Ball this year will take place in the Athenaeum, Bury St. Edmunds. It will consist of a formal champagne dinner followed by dancing.

It is hoped that it will be unnecessary to limit tickets owing to more accommodation being available in our new venue.

### SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1965

- (a) Regimental Golf Match versus The Flempton Golf Club

On July 16 the team will be selected from those who volunteer. Long handicap players should not be discouraged as handicaps are taken into account. The teams will meet at Flempton at 9.30 a.m. and play will start at about 9.45 a.m. Lunch will be served in the Club House.

- (b) Beating of Retreat and Cocktail Party

Subject to the necessary authority being obtained for the move from overseas to U.K., the Bands and Drums of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Bns., The Royal Anglian Regiment and the Junior Soldiers Wing, The Depot, will beat Retreat at the Regiment H.Q. and Depot at 6 p.m. Spectators are asked to be seated by not later than 5.50 p.m. The beating of Retreat will be followed by the Regimental Cocktail Party at 6.40 p.m.

### SUNDAY, JULY 18, 1965

A Cricket Match will take place against Ampton Cricket Club, at Ampton, commencing at 12 midday. The cricket ground is only 4½ miles from Bury, just off the A.134 road to Thetford, and is in a most attractive setting. Spectators are very welcome. Drinks can be purchased on the ground and a tea tent will be available. A Regimental Band will be playing in the afternoon. Players and spectators must bring their own lunch.

### NOTE BY THE EDITOR

We have sent a notice of the Weekend to members of the Regiment living in the U.K., whether serving or retired, and whom we think will be interested in getting details. If you happen to be on leave, on a course, or for some reason you are in the U.K. at the time of the Regimental Weekend and have not received a notice, PLEASE get in touch with the Regimental Secretary (Telephone Bury St. Edmunds 2394, Ext. 104) who will be delighted to send you details.

## *Items of Regimental Interest*

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### H.R.H.

#### The Duchess of Gloucester

On the occasion of the recent unfortunate motor car accident to Her Royal Highness, flowers were sent on behalf of the Regiment conveying our good wishes for a speedy recovery.

The following reply has been received by the Colonel of the Regiment from her Lady-in-Waiting:

York House,  
St. James's Palace.  
February 4, 1965.

"Dear Sir Reginald,

The Duchess of Gloucester has asked me to thank you and the Officers and All Ranks of the Royal Anglian Regiment very much indeed for the beautiful mixed flowers you so kindly sent her yesterday. Her Royal Highness was so touched by your thought of her and is so pleased to have them in her room.

Yours sincerely,

Dorothy Meynell."  
(Miss Dorothy Meynell)  
Extra Lady-in-Waiting.

### Regimental Dinner Club Dates

The following dates have been agreed for Battalion Branch Dinners of The Royal Anglian Regiment in 1965:

1st Battalion	October 15	Army & Navy Club
2nd Battalion	May 21	United Service Club
3rd Battalion	April 30	United Service Club
4th Battalion	April 30	Army & Navy Club

### Cocktail Parties

Regimental H.Q. and The Depot gave cocktail parties on March 2 and 4, 1965.

Three hundred Regimental guests were invited. Owing to bad weather some of those who had originally accepted were unable to attend.

It was a great pleasure to see so many friends of the Regiment together in the Mess.

### Regimental Golf

The Royal Anglian Regiment Golfing Society intend to hold their 6th annual meeting at the Flempton Golf Club, near Bury St. Edmunds, on July 16 and 17, 1965.

The meeting will be divided into two parts. On the Friday morning members will play an 18-hole scratch, bogey and medal contest. These matches will be run concurrently. After lunch, which is provided at the Club, a Stableford Foursome will be held.

On the Saturday, those competitors who volunteer to do so, will play a match against the Flempton Golf Club.

Over the last five years, support for the meeting has almost doubled. It has, on each occasion, been a most pleasant day. The golf has never been taken too seriously and all competitors, whatever their handicaps, have enjoyed themselves.

It is open to all officers, Regular or T.A., serving and retired.

Should you not receive details by early June, 1965, and wish to compete, please contact Major T. E. Robinson (Retd.), R.H.Q., Royal Anglian Regiment, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

Further details regarding the Regimental Week-end will be found elsewhere in this issue.

### Regular Forces Employment Association

During 1964, 81 per cent of those who registered with the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen were placed in employment through their 49 branches covering the whole of the United Kingdom. It is of interest that 107 of this number were from the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The address of your local Area Jobfinder can be obtained through any branch of your Regimental Association or at any big Post Office.

- Have you placed a regular order for a copy of the Journal. Why not do so now?

## Letters to the Editor

The following letter has been received by the Editor from Jeremy Winckley:

"I would be very grateful if you would insert a short note in *The Journal* whereby we can convey our thanks to the officers of the Regiment who subscribed to the beautiful cigarette box we received for our wedding. We are both delighted with it.

"Penny and I are most appreciative of such a lovely gift."

Dear Sir,

Being employed away from the Regiment as we are, presents of course a number of peculiar problems. A great deal depends upon what the duties entail. Finding ourselves at an Army School of Instruction, means that there is plenty of scope for meeting people from all walks of military life as just about every Regiment sends its representatives through the Army M.T. School here at Bordon at some time or other to study the workings of motor transport.

At this School one of the pleasanter aspects of the work is to be suddenly confronted with a student with whom one has served in the past in one of the wonderful galaxy of Regiments which now form the Royal Anglian. One of the writers recently had the pleasure of talking over old times with an R.S.M. of the now long defunct 5th Northamptonshire Regiment who was in his younger days a "Don-R" in Italy in 1943 while the writer was a driver.

One problem, quite naturally encountered, is the maintenance of some form of Regimental pride. This is not as easy as it sounds, as there are but four of us at the school and we are beset on all sides by swarms of R.A.S.C. and Artillery types as well as many others who are often only too eager to look down their noses at the foot soldiers. Needless to say we too have our pride—and are not slow to point out the Regiment's fine past records, and never tire of mentioning our position as the largest regiment of the line.

The difficulties of keeping in touch with the Regiment are very real for chaps like us; especially after years away from our fellows. It is therefore most agreeable to hear how things are going with the Regiment, and in this respect *The Castle* has an invaluable job to do. May it be a great success!

Yours truly

A. F. BEDFORD, Sgt.  
D. GREEN, S/Sgt.

It is of course our earnest desire that *The Castle* will fulfil the hopes expressed and we thank S/Sgt. Green and Sgt. Bedford for their good wishes.—*Editor*.

Dear Sir,

The title "Castle" chosen for the Regimental Journal of the Royal Anglian Regiment is an apt one; it denotes strength, such also is the character of the "Large Regiment," which the Royal Anglian is, and the first of its kind to be formed.

The Royal Anglian has been built on the solid foundations of many old Regiments whose traditions have been embodied into the new Regiment. The four battalions in their new designations will ensure their County links are maintained, which everyone will agree, is most essential. There is considerable civic pride for the County Regiment, the citizens feel it belongs to them, and in many cases have conferred upon their Regiment their highest honour, the "Freedom" privilege. It is with pride and pleasure we record that civic authorities of several cities, county boroughs and boroughs, with which the Regiment is associated, desire that the Freedom privileges conferred upon the former regiments will be deemed as being transferred.

It is also consoling to those who in the past have served in the old regiments to know that the prefix "Royal" has been graciously conferred on their new Regiment, and the Battle Honours which they may have helped to gain will be emblazoned on the Colours carried by the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment means the Regimental "family" has grown larger, as a result more and more friends will be made and it is hoped "family" gatherings will become larger in the years ahead.

The "family links" are established and maintained not only by means of gatherings, but through the medium of its Journal and we trust *The Castle* will do this, by providing news of the Regiment and articles which are interesting, amusing and instructive.

The Editor will have a heavy and responsible burden and his load can be lightened if those who after reading the first number will recommend others who do not possess a copy to buy one of their own without delay. Do not loan your copy or sales of *The Castle* will not be enlarged. There may be some who may feel they could have improved the lay-out, or have contributed an article of interest themselves suitable for publication; who knows, by their effort *The Castle* may become a best seller—let's hope it is.

Yours faithfully,

P. H. SEGON, MAJOR (RET.).



# Personalia

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Major J. L. M. Dymoke, M.B.E., has completed his course at the United States Armed Forces Staff College. He has taken up an appointment at the Ministry of Defence, Army Department, as a GII in the Directorate of Army Training.

\* \* \*

Capt. R. C. Hastie takes up an appointment at the Small Arms Wing of the School of Infantry, Hythe, in October, 1965.

\* \* \*

Colonel G. V. Martin, M.C., now lives at Hillbarn, The Fairway, Devizes, Wilts. (Tel.: Devizes 1475).

\* \* \*

Major A. G. B. Cobbold, while playing at Flempton Golf Club on February 17, 1965, did the 5th hole in one. His feat was witnessed by Lt.-Col. Clark (C.O. The Depot).

\* \* \*

The first officer to join the Royal Anglian Regiment Officers' Club was Major E. H. Morgan, M.B.E., M.C. Major Morgan is now serving with the Malayan Rangers at Ipoh.

\* \* \*

The following piece of gossip may be of interest:—

Lt.-Col. B. J. Palmer and Lt.-Col. E. T. Lummis found themselves living in the same town near Paris within half a mile of each other. This is Mesnil and Leuroi which adjoins Maisons Laffitte, well-known for its racing stables and racecourse and "twinned" with Newmarket.

\* \* \*

Lt.-Col. Tucker, O.B.E., and Capt. Ford of Bermuda Local Forces visited R.H.Q. and Depot, January 4/5, 1965. See photograph on page 35.

\* \* \*

Capt. Pike, ex-Shrivenham, en route Staff College, visited R.H.Q. and Depot, January 5/6, 1965.

\* \* \*

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Anglian Regiment, has received Lt.-Col. J. B. Dye on relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of the 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion.

\* \* \*

Mr. Gordon Fisher has organised each one of the 45 annual dinners of the original "B" Company 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment

which embarked for France in 1914. Exactly fifty years later, on November 5, 1964, nineteen of the members held a celebration dinner in the Red Lion Hotel, St. Albans. Their guests for the evening included the Mayor, Councillor T. A. Bickerton, who had himself joined the Battalion in 1915 when under age, and Lt.-Col. D. W. Brown, M.C., Officer Commanding 1st Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (T.A.).

\* \* \*

Our congratulations to Major Keith Burch on his well merited award of the M.B.E. After a longish period of commuting during his M.o.D. appointment, he will (we hope) now be enjoying the sun in Aden.

\* \* \*

Major R. J. Vosser, M.B.E., has been staying with his children, Dudley, Janet and Trevor in New Zealand. Unfortunately he had to cut his visit short in order to return home for treatment to his eye. We hope that this has now been successfully completed. He writes to say that he was able to go to Palmerston North Island, and spent a very happy day with Capt. and Mrs. W. T. Luff during which they were able to recall their experiences in Iraq and India before the last war.

\* \* \*

Former Essex Regiment readers will be pleased to learn that Lt.-Col. Hugh Webster has now returned to live in Essex after a long sojourn in the Midlands. Colonel and Mrs. Webster have set up a new home at Epping, and we hope to see them at Warley at some of our Services in the Regimental Chapel.

\* \* \*

Although transferred to the Royal Army Pay Corps, Major H. M. Lloyd maintains a keen interest in the Regiment and was amongst the first to join the new Regimental Association. He is Unit Paymaster in Hong Kong and expects to return to the United Kingdom in February next year.

\* \* \*

We extend our congratulations to the Reverend Kenneth Vine on his recent appointment of Honorary Chaplain to H.M. The Queen. The appointment, in recognition of his long period of service to the Territorial Army, will be especially pleasing to the many Essex Regiment readers to whom he is so well known for his support with the Regimental Chapel at Warley

Capt. Colin Scott, who has been living in Leicestershire since his retirement in 1962, has been appointed an Assistant Governor in H.M. Prison Service and is at present on a course at the Prison Service Staff College.

A congratulatory letter from Mr. P. C. Munn (Association of Sergeants, The Essex Regiment) to S.S.I. G. B. A. Chittock on the recent award to him of the British Empire Medal, confirmed the fact that S.S.I. Chittock, now with Highgate School C.C.F., was formerly Dmr. Chittock who served with The Pompadours in India during the 1923-35 period.

S.S.I. Chittock asks to be remembered to all 'old' Pompadours.

During the B.B.C. programme "Scrapbook for 1914," Capt. C. H. Brewer, M.C., described the famous Christmas Truce when he was serving with "D" Company of the 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment and he was able to compare notes with a German officer who had been in the line at the time. Capt. Brewer, who now lives at 15, Furze Hill Drive, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, would welcome help in tracing any surviving relatives of the late Sgt. "Rags" Nicholls whose singing of ragtime songs was such a morale-booster in those memorable days.

We are very glad to hear that Brigadier Tommy Charles is now feeling very much fitter. Our 44th/56th readers may remember that during his illness some twelve months ago, he was flown home for a period of hospital treatment at Colchester.

Major G. C. Lucas, who returned from Cyprus in November, spent leave in Bedford before flying to East Africa in February. He is now serving with 1st Malawi Rifles at Zomba. Mrs. Lucas and their young son accompanied him but their daughter remained in England to attend her school at Seaford.

The Chelmsford branch of The Essex Regiment Association which is now in its second year, will hold its first Dinner in October of this year. The event is certain to be well supported, in view of the great strides made by the Branch since its formation.

Full details concerning the Dinner and other Branch activities can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Gordon Gilder, T.A. Centre, Market Road, Chelmsford.

We read in *The Waggoner* that Colonel G. L. M. Smith-Masters retired on November 1 last after almost 29 years' commissioned service. Colonel Smith-Masters was commissioned into The Essex Regiment in 1936 but transferred to R.A.S.C. in 1938. After many appointments at

home and abroad, he became Commandant of the Army M.T. School.

A very keen motor cyclist who represented the Army on many occasions, he was latterly the Chairman of the Army Motor Cycling Association.

We wish him a happy future.

Mrs. Packer and family would like to convey to all members of the Regimental Association and all the original members of the 8th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment their grateful thanks for the very kind letters of sympathy on their bereavement and for the many lovely floral tributes which were received.

We say 'Au Revoir' to Major Robin Medley and his wife Pat, who have recently arrived in U.S.A. for a tour of duty. Robin is managing a fair share of variety in his military career, as he has just completed a tour as G.S.O.2 with a District Headquarters in South Wales.

We wish him a happy stay in America.

Lt.-Col. Tommy Gagen has now moved from his home on Warley Hill, and has settled in the wilds of Hornchurch. His employment, however, brings him in to Warley each day, and we hope to keep him in the Regimental picture. We wish him and Mrs. Gagen a long and happy stay in their new home.

Lt.-Col. J. B. Dye took over the appointment of G.S.O.1 at H.Q. 3 Division on March 15.

Major G. C. Howgego takes over command of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment from Lt.-Col. C. C. Wells in July, 1965.

Lt.-Col. I. A. Haycraft is to command 2nd Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment in December, 1965.

## Soldiers' Widows' Fund

Two N.C.O.s of the Regiment who recently died had the foresight to insure with the Soldiers' Widows' Fund. One of them was accidentally killed and the other died from natural causes. One of them had only been insured since January, 1965.

In each case their widows received an immediate grant of £400.

The cost is only 24/- a year.

If you are married, we strongly recommend that you should join.

Full details are given in A.C.I. 86 of March 1964, a copy of which is available in your Orderly Room.

# Extracts from the London Gazette

DECEMBER 4, 1964

**TERRITORIAL ARMY**  
*Royal Army Chaplains' Department*  
*General List Section B*

Undermentioned Lieutenant to be Chaplain to the Forces 4th Cl., Nov. 1, 1964:

Rev. A. C. E. Widdicombe, M.C. (Suffolk).

DECEMBER 8, 1964

**TERRITORIAL ARMY**  
*Essex*

Capt. (Actg. Major) B. G. Chaplain to be Major, December 5, 1964, with seniority September 25, 1964.

DECEMBER 15, 1964

**COMMANDS AND STAFF**

Major-General I. H. Freeland, C.B., D.S.O., late Infantry, is appointed Vice-Adjutant-General Ministry of Defence, December 13, 1964.

**REGULAR ARMY**

Lt. A. R. A. Veitch to be Capt., December 19, 1964.

**REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS**

Major J. R. B. Prescott, M.C., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the Res. of Offrs., December 19, 1964.

DECEMBER 25, 1964

**TERRITORIAL ARMY**  
*Bedfs Herts*

Capt. (Actg. Major) A. S. McCraw is placed on the Unattached List November 1, 1964.

DECEMBER 29, 1964

**REGULAR ARMY**

Lt.-Col. D. R. Dalglish (Emp. List (1)) to be Supernumerary to Establishment, January 2, 1965.

JANUARY 1, 1965

**TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS**  
*Northampton*

Major J. D. Dunlop, M.C., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., January 6, 1965, and is granted the hon. rank of Major.

**TERRITORIAL ARMY**

*R Norfolk*

Major P. W. Raywood, T.D., from T.A. Res. of Offrs., to be Major, August 28, 1964, with seniority May 27, 1960.

**TERRITORIAL ARMY**

*Essex*

Lt. R. R. Brown resigns his commn., October 1, 1964.

JANUARY 5, 1965

**TERRITORIAL ARMY**

*SC*

Capt. F. H. N. Robson from R.A., to be Capt., October 26, 1964, with seniority October 11, 1961.

**TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS**

*Northampton*

Lt.-Col. C. E. B. Sutton, T.D., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., January 8, 1965, retaining the rank of Lt.-Col.

JANUARY 8, 1965

**TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS**

*SC*

Capt. R. R. Fewell having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., January 11, 1965, retaining the rank of Capt.

JANUARY 12, 1965

**REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS**

Lt. (Hon. Capt.) S. Mitchell having attained the age limit relinquishes his commn., January 15, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Captain.

*Class III*

Lt. G. H. James from A.E. Res. of Offrs., Nat. Serv. List, to be Lieutenant, January 16, 1965.

**TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS**

*SC*

Lt. M. S. Jukes resigns his commn., October 21, 1964.

**UNDERMENTIONED AWARDED TERRITORIAL EFFICIENCY DECORATION**

*Essex*

Major B. G. Chaplain  
Capt. F. W. Kemp

JANUARY 15, 1965

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Major W. J. T. Pryer (Emp. List 4) relinquishes his commn., January 1, 1965, and is granted the hon. rank of Major.

JANUARY 19, 1965

REGULAR ARMY

Lt.-Col. A. J. Robertson to be Supernumerary to Establishment, January 23, 1965.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

*R Norfolk*

Lt. P. Scott-Jupp from T.A. Res. of Offrs., R. Hamps., to be Lt., December 14, 1964, with seniority February 10, 1959.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*Essex*

Capt. (Hon. Major) C. N. Bolton having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., January 22, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

JANUARY 22, 1965

REGULAR ARMY—SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

Major (Q.M.) H. J. Hardwidge relinquishes his commn., January 25, 1965, and is granted the hon. rank of Major (Q.M.).

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Major N. B. F. Corry having attained the age limit ceases to belong to the Res. of Offrs., January 27, 1965.

Capt. (Hon. Major) J. J. P. Hunt having attained the age limit relinquishes his commn., January 25, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*R Norfolk*

Lt. (Hon. Capt.) E. C. Lilly, T.D., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., January 26, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Capt.

JANUARY 26, 1965

TERRITORIAL ARMY

*R Norfolk*

2/Lt. P. J. Farrington (on probation) is confirmed in his appt. as 2/Lt., January 30, 1963. To be Lt., January 30, 1965, with seniority January 30, 1964.

JANUARY 29, 1965

REGULAR ARMY

The undermentioned 2Lts. to be Lts., February 2, 1965:

R. Howe  
P. R. E. Welby-Everard  
D. W. James  
T. H. English  
G. W. M. Hipkin

TERRITORIAL ARMY

*SC*

Capt. C. J. N. Trollope (Res. of Offrs., The Royal Anglian Regiment) to be Capt., April 2, 1964, with seniority May 17, 1960.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

*Bedfs Herts*

The undermentioned 2/Lts. to be Lts., on probation, December 15, 1964:

Tpr. Malcolm David Pell  
O/Cdt. Brian Phillip Holt  
O/Cdt. Robert Anderson Hall

TERRITORIAL ARMY

*R Leicesters*

Lt. (Actg. Capt.) J. F. Hampson to be Capt., February 1st, 1965, with seniority August 11, 1964.

FEBRUARY 2, 1965

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*Class III*

Lt. P. R. Narbeth from A.E. Res. of Offrs., Nat. Serv. List, to be Lt., February 6, 1965.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

*Bedfs Herts*

Capt. E. J. Lancaster to be Major, December 21, 1964.

Capt. J. D. Blumson is granted the actg. rank of Major, December 21, 1964.

FEBRUARY 5, 1965

REGULAR ARMY

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, February 8, 1965:

P. P. Young  
W. K. Pool  
T. D. Dean  
C. J. Dale  
R. H. H. Dinnin  
J. P. Growse  
S. G. Beck

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*SC*

Lt. J. G. A. Beckett, O.B.E., T.D., from T.A. Gen. List, Sect. B, Cambridge and Isle of Ely, A.C.F., is restored to the rank of Lt.-Col., September 30, 1964, and is granted the hon. rank of Colonel. (Substituted for the notifi. in Gazette. Supplement dated October 1, 1964.)

FEBRUARY 9, 1965

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Major (Hon. Lt.-Col.) P. H. A. L. Franklin having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the Res. of Offrs., February 11, 1965.

Capt. I. R. H. S. Clarke having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the Res. of Offrs., February 12, 1965.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*Bedfs Herts*

Capt. (Hon. Major) R. F. Rothwell having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., February 12, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

FEBRUARY 12, 1965

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Capt. (Hon. Major) L. G. Walker having attained the age limit, relinquishes his commn., February 17, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

*Bedfs Herts*

Lt. S. F. N. Humbert to be Capt., January 5, 1965.

Lt. P. S. Dobson to be Capt., January 5, 1965.

REGULAR ARMY

The undermentioned O/Cdt. from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, to be 2/Lt., December 18, 1964:

Brian William Copping

FEBRUARY 16, 1965

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Capt. (Hon. Major) A. F. Stubbs, M.C., having attained the age limit relinquishes his commn., February 20, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

FEBRUARY 19, 1965

REGULAR ARMY

Major (Q.M.) C. H. Macklam, M.B.E., retires on retired pay February 8, 1965.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

SC

Capt. (Actg. Major) D. J. Baldry to be Major, February 24, 1965, with seniority May 23, 1961.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*R Lincolns*

Capt. J. N. P. Richards having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., February 22, 1965, retaining the rank of Capt.

FEBRUARY 23, 1965

REGULAR ARMY

Lt. (Q.M.) E. P. Kelly, D.C.M., to be Capt. (Q.M.), February 24th, 1965.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*Northampton*

Capt. (Hon. Major) R. C. Cawdell, T.D., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., February 27, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*Bedfs Herts*

Lt.-Col. and Bt. Colonel I. W. S. Grey, T.D., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., February 27, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Lt.-Col. and Bt. Colonel.

Capt. (Hon. Major) R. E. Mitchell, M.B.E., T.D., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., February 26, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

FEBRUARY 26, 1965

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*Bedfs Herts*

Capt. (Hon. Major) J. A. Robinson, T.D., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., February 28, 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

## Engagements

MAJOR W. J. G. HANCOCK AND

MISS J. M. SAVAGE

The engagement is announced between Major W. J. G. Hancock, Royal Anglian Regiment, and Miss Jenifer Mary Savage, daughter of Colonel J. F. D. Savage, 8, Hamilton Gardens, Felixstowe, Suffolk.

CAPT. A. R. A. VEITCH AND

MISS R. P. GLASGOW

The engagement is announced between Alastair Robert Aydon Veitch, The Royal Anglian Regiment, eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Aydon Veitch, of Clavering, Essex, and Rosalind Prior, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. B. Glasgow, of Lisburn Road, Belfast.

MR. K. WOODROW AND MISS S. M. HARRIS

The engagement is announced between Kerry Woodrow, The Royal Anglian Regiment, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Woodrow, of Wollaston, Northamptonshire, and Susan Mary, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Harris, of Church Brampton, Northamptonshire.

## Marriages

**ALBROW—RIBBANS.** — On December 19, 1964, at Norwich, Bdsm. R. Albrow to Miss Gwendoline Althea Ribbans.

**COULSON—KIRBY.** — On September 5, 1964, at Wisbech, Pte. G. Coulson to Miss Maureen Jane Kirby.

**DUNSDON—SIMMONDS.** — On September 12, 1964, at Walsoken, Cambridgeshire, Pte. M. Dunsdon to Miss Pauline Susan Simmonds.

**FIKSK—PERKINS.** — On January 2, 1965, at Ipswich, Pte. R. Fisk to Miss Mary Kathleen Perkins.

**GREAVES—KEBBELL.** — On October 17, 1964, at Romford, L/Cpl. D. Greaves to Miss Hazel Patricia Kebell.

**LIGHT—REFORD.** — On November 28, 1964, at Holy Trinity Church, Lower Beeding, Horsham, Peter Benjamin Light, the Royal Anglian Regiment, younger son of Dr. L. H. B. Light, "Redwings," Burnham-on-Crouch, and of Mrs. Ronald Maule, and Penelope Hope Reford, daughter of Lt.-Col. L. B. H. Reford, M.C., and Mrs. Reford, Forest Cottage, Lower Beeding, Horsham, Sussex.

**LYNCH—KENMAN.** — On October 14, 1964, at Dunstable, Pte. J. Lynch to Miss Rita Mary Kenman.

**MOORE—FRARY.** — On December 24, 1964, at Fakenham, Pte. M. Moore to Miss Sylvia Lesley Frary.

**RAPLEY—SHORT.** — On December 26, 1964, at St. Pancras, London, Pte. B. Rapley to Miss June Adele Short.

**SIMONS—BRADBROOK.** — On November 28, 1964, at Dovercourt, L/Cpl. G. Simons to Miss Carol Ann Bradbrook.

**SERGEANT—FUNG.** — On November 28, 1964, at Lodden, Norfolk, Pte. H. Sergeant to Miss Iris Monica Fung.

**THOMPSON—MONEY.** — On October 19, 1964, at Lothingland, Suffolk, Pte. J. Thompson to Miss Judith Ann Money.

**WINCKLEY—IVOR-JONES.** — On March 6, 1965, at All Saints' Church, Drinkstone, Suffolk, Jeremy Brian Winckley, The Royal Anglian Regiment, only son of Colonel and Mrs. G. C. Winckley, Nilgiri Hill, Chobham Road, Camberley, Surrey, and Penelope Anne, daughter of Mr. M. A. Ivor-Jones, of Burts Farm, Drinkstone, Suffolk.

## GOLDEN WEDDING

**SUTHERLAND—WILKINS.** — On January 12, 1915, at St. Saviour's Church, Herne Hill, Duncan Welsh Sutherland, The Leicestershire Regiment, to Eva Sarah Wilkins. Present address: 16, Wolfreton Garth, Kirkella, Yorks.

Lt. Jeremy Winckley leaving Drinkstone Church, Bury St. Edmunds, with his bride, Penelope, after their wedding on March 6, 1965. The Guard of Honour was formed by twelve officers of the Regiment.



## Births

CONDER.—On December 10, 1964, at Ditchingham to Lt. and Mrs. E. H. Conder, a son, James Edward.

DEAN.—On December 24, 1964, at Colchester, to Capt. and Mrs. T. D. Dean, a son, Patrick Charles Thomas.

GAFFER.—On January 13, 1965, at Steamer Point, Aden, to Cpl. and Mrs. T. Gaffer, a daughter, Elizabeth Louise.

GOOD.—On February 2 at the Middlesex Hospital to Sarah (née Reynolds) and Brian Good, a son, Hamilton Rupert.

GAULT.—On December 3, 1964, at Steamer Point, Aden, to Sgt. and Mrs. H. Gault, a son, Daniel Stephen.

HENDERSON.—On January 30, 1965, at Colchester, to Major and Mrs. M. L. Henderson, a son, Hugo William.

JONES.—On November 22, 1964, at the B.S.P. Hospital, Kuala Belait, Brunei, to Catherine, wife of Capt. Michael Jones, a daughter, Veryan Catharine.

LENG.—On October 7, 1964, at Mount Alvernia Nursing Home, Guildford, to Virginia, wife of Lt.-Col. Peter Leng, a son.

POLLARD.—On December 8, 1964, at St. Francis Nursing Home, Leicester, to Marieluise, wife of Capt. A. J. G. Pollard, 4/5th Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regiment (T.A.), a son, Tobias James Giles Griffian.

SPIDY.—On September 13, 1964, at Newmarket, to Cpl. and Mrs. B. Spidy, a son, Alan John.

STARLING.—On September 10, 1964, at Felixstowe, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. H. Starling, a daughter, Suzanne Paula.

STENNING.—On November 24, 1964, at Cheltenham Maternity Hospital, to Major and Mrs. Harry Stenning, a son, Robert Anthony.

SQUIRES.—On July 14, 1964, at Norwich, to Pte. and Mrs. A. Squires, a son, Paul Anthony.

WILKINS.—On August 19, 1964, at Melton, Suffolk, to Pte. and Mrs. R. Wilkins, a daughter, Deborah Caroline.

WILLOX.—On August 19, 1964, at March, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. D. Willox, a son, Adrian Craig.

## Deaths

BARFORD.—On February 9 at Brentwood, ex-Sgt. George Barford, late Essex Regiment, aged 67 years.

BEESON.—On December 4, 1964, in hospital, Joseph Beeson, late Essex Regiment.

CARROLL.—On January 12, 1965, at his home, 30, Olive Road, Southtown, Great Yarmouth, No. 8686 ex-L/Cpl. J. W. Carroll, D.C.M.

CAVE.—On December 25, 1964, in the Leicester Royal Infirmary, No. 27220 ex-Pte. J. J. Cave.

COX.—On November 21, 1964, in the Leicester Royal Infirmary, No. 4849198 ex-Pte. F. J. Cox.

CREASEY.—On January 23, 1965, in hospital, Michael Julian, youngest child of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. T. M. Creasey.

FRAZER.—On December 31, 1964, in the Radfan Area, South Arabia Federation, Pte. W. Frazer.

GOODE.—On November 19, 1964, in Victoria British Columbia, Lt.-Col. Stuart Goode, late Bedfordshire Regiment, aged 95 years.

GOODRICH.—On January —, 1965, in hospital at Ipswich, John Daniel Goodrich, late The Suffolk Regiment, aged 88 years.

JOSELYN.—On January 24, 1965, at the West Suffolk Hospital, Lt.-Col. John Willoughby Josselyn, late the Suffolk Regiment, aged 63 years.

KNIGHT.—On December 4, 1964, at Bristol, Douglas (Steve) Knight, late Essex Regiment.

LEMON.—On December 2, 1964, at Bedford, Major A. B. Lemon, late Bedfordshire Regiment, in his 90th year.

LITT.—On December 29, 1964, at Ilford, Capt. (Q.M.) Gordon Litt, late Essex Regiment, aged 61 years.

McMILLAN.—On February 11 at Brentwood Hospital, ex-L/Cpl. William McMillan (5998085), late Essex Regiment, aged 70 years.



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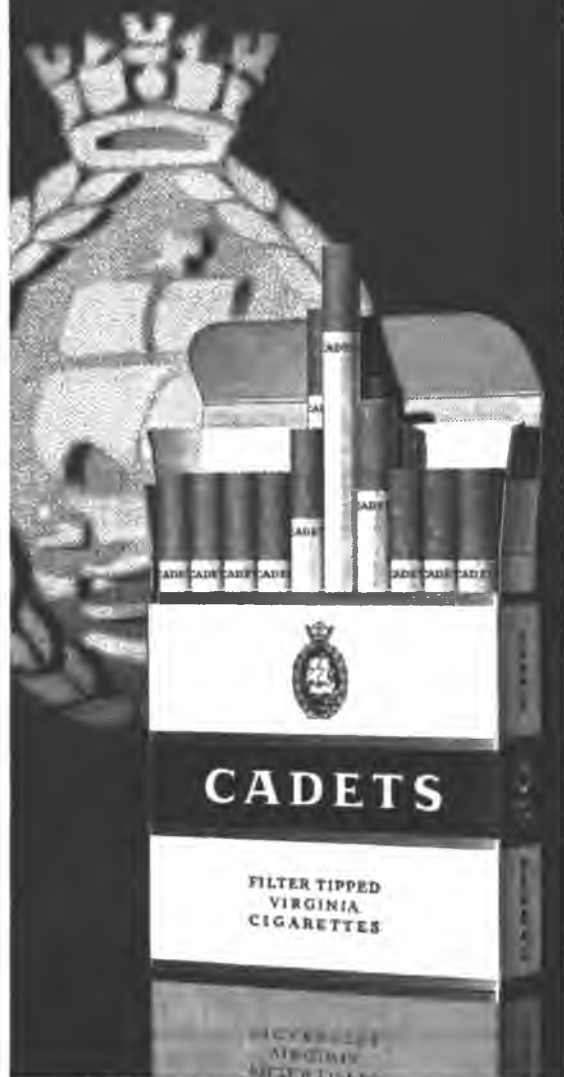
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**MONIER-WILLIAMS.**—On February 7, 1965, at Southwold, Kathleen, wife of Lt.-Col. H. B. Monier-Williams, O.B.E., M.C., late the Suffolk Regiment.

**PACKER.**—On January 28, 1965, in Watford Hospital, Walter Charles Packer, late Bedfordshire Regiment, aged 68 years.

**PLUMMER.**—On October 16, 1964, at Clacton, 6805402 Frank Plummer, late Essex Regiment, aged 57 years.

**QUARTERMAIN.**—On February 10, 1965, at Northampton, George Quartermain, D.C.M., M.M., late 6th (S) Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment.

**SCARLOTT.**—On November 17, 1964, in the Towers Hospital, Leicester, No. 4849045 ex-Pte. F. S. Scarlott.

**SKELTON.**—On January 11, 1965, at Luton, late Bedfordshire Regiment.

**SMITH.**—On January 17, 1965, at Biggleswade, C.Q.M.S. E. T. Smith, late Bedfordshire Regiment (T.A.).

**SPARKS.**—On February 11, 1965, Major-General Harry Pratt Sparks, C.B.E., M.C., late the Suffolk Regiment, aged 68 years.

**TUCK.**—On November 5, 1964, at his home in London, Capt. Noel Johnson Tuck, late The Norfolk Regiment, aged 72 years.

**WHITE.**—On January 17, 1965, at his home, 8, Rhodes Walk, Mansfield, Notts, No. 4855540 ex-Sgt. L. White.

**WHITING.**—On December 16, 1964, in St. Luke's Hospital, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, No. 242572 ex-Pte. H. Whiting.

**WOOD.**—On February 3, 1965, at King's College Hospital, E. S. Wood, late Essex Regiment. Mr. Wood was awarded the Military Medal whilst serving with the 10th Battalion during the 1914-1918 War.

**FERGUSON.**—On February 25, 1965, suddenly at home, Major-General A. K. Ferguson, C.M.G., C.B.E., The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

## Obituaries

### MRS. E. J. DARLOW

We regret to report the death on February 12, 1965, of Mrs. E. J. Darlow, of 39, Spring Road, Kempston, Bedford, at the age of 91. She was the widow of C/Sgt. G. H. Darlow, who served in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Bns. The Bedfordshire Regiment from 1886 to 1912. Her connection with The Regiment began with her marriage in December 1897 and she maintained a keen interest in its activities until her death. We extend our sympathy to her daughters and to her son, Major G. H. Darlow, r.d.

### MR. J. D. GOODRICH

One of the Old Contemptibles in Ipswich, Mr. John Daniel Goodrich, of 37, Kelly Road, has died in hospital, aged 88.

He enlisted in the 1st Bn. Suffolk Regiment at the age of 13 as a bugle boy. He subsequently served with the Royal Norfolk Regiment, the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment and the Royal Field Artillery. In World War I he was in the retreat from Mons, and was wounded in the eye and gassed.

Mr. Goodrich was also a member of the British Legion.

### REVEREND H. JOHN, M.B.E.

It was with great sorrow that we learned of the death on November 27, 1964, of the Reverend H. John, M.B.E., only a few weeks after taking the last Regimental Remembrance Service at Bedford and being inducted to the living of Tollerton, near Nottingham. As Vicar of Kempston and Honorary Chaplain of the Depot 16th Foot from 1950, his forceful personality will long be remembered by many a young recruit and old comrade alike. The Memorial Service held at Kempston Parish Church on January 23, 1965, was attended by Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., and Mr. C. C. Wells.

### LT.-COL. J. W. JOSSELYN

The death of Johnny Josselyn as a result of a hunting accident on January 24 came as a great shock to us all.

Educated at Bradfield and the R.M.C. Sandhurst, he was commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment in 1921. He first saw active service in India during the Moplah Rebellion. He served with the 1st and 2nd Battalions and the

Depot before the last war. In 1940, during the Dunkirk campaign, he was wounded while commanding "A" Company of the 1st Battalion.

He later commanded the 70th (Young Soldiers) Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment and a battalion of the Iraq Levies based in the R.A.F. Station at Habaniyah.

After a period in command of the Regimental Depot he retired with the honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in 1951.

He was, at the time of his death, Chairman of the Bury St. Edmunds Branches of both the British Legion and the Dunkirk Veterans' Association.

His two great interests in life were the Suffolk Regiment and hunting. He had an immense knowledge of many old soldiers of the Regiment and was always delighted to have a "mardle" with them.

He hunted with the Suffolk Hunt all his life and, while abroad, he was Secretary of the Madras Hunt Club and Master of the Royal Exodus Hunt in Iraq.

He had been Secretary and Field Master of the Suffolk Hunt and he was Chairman when he was killed.

His funeral took place at Rougham Church and he was buried in the family grave there.

The very large attendance at his funeral was evidence of his popularity. All walks of life were represented—regimental, hunting, Old Comrades, British Legion, Dunkirk Veterans to name a few.

Bury St. Edmunds will not seem the same place without his cheerful presence, and all of us feel that we have lost a friend.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his sister, Miss Helen Josselyn.

### CAPTAIN DOUGLAS KNIGHT

Douglas Knight, or Steve as he was affectionately known in the Regiment, was a Regular Officer in The Essex Regiment, being commissioned in 1917. He served in France in World War I and after the war he was with The Pompadors at Colchester and Malta.

An all-round sportsman, being especially good at cricket, hockey and sailing, he won the reputation of having the best turned out and best drilled Platoon in The Pompadors. He resigned in 1921, but still maintained his keenness for games, playing hockey for Richmond. In World War II he was not passed fit for overseas service, but served as a Staff Captain at Western Command. Of those who served with him, Steve Knight will be remembered with affection. He had a great sense of humour, was a very efficient officer and the most loyal of friends. He died at Bristol on December 4, 1964, and we extend our sympathy to his widow

### C.Q.M.S. W. C. PACKER

It is with very deep regret that we report the death on January 28, 1965, of Mr. Walter Charles Packer. He died in a Watford hospital after a short illness, aged 68. Mr. Packer served with the 8th Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment from its formation in September 1914 until it was disbanded in France in January 1918; he then finished his service with the British West Indian Regiment as a C.Q.M.S.



The late  
"Wally" Packer

He was a prominent member of the 8th Battalion O.C.A. when it was formed directly after the First World War, being its Honorary Treasurer and later the Honorary Secretary. He was also one of the earliest members of Watford Branch and in 1938 he became Branch Treasurer, an office he was still holding at the time of his death.

"Wally" Packer's devotion to his Regiment covered many years of active work to serve its best interests. He will be sadly missed by us all.

The funeral service was held at Watford Crematorium on Thursday, February 4, and included in the large congregation were many representatives from the 16th Foot Association, Watford Branch and his old Battalion.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Packer and her daughters.

### R.S.M. GEORGE QUARTERMAIN, D.C.M., M.M.

George Quartermain enlisted into the 6th (S) Bn The Northamptonshire Regiment at the beginning of the 1914-1918 War as a member of Kitchener's Army. He eventually became a Regimental Sergeant Major.

He was a brave man and won the Military Medal as a Lance-Corporal and the Distinguished Conduct Medal as a Sergeant in Flanders.

After the war he worked as an engine driver with British Railways. In 1935 when Locomotive No. 6147 of the L.M.S. Royal Scot

class was named The Northamptonshire Regiment by Lady Knox he was its driver. At the end of the Second World War when the Cadre of the 1st Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment returned to the U.K. from Burma he was again the driver of the same engine that pulled them into Castle Station, Northampton.

George was a great character and a very loyal and enthusiastic supporter of the Regiment. He will be missed by many as was shown by the great number who attended his funeral.

Our sympathy is extended to his widow in her loss.

MAJOR-GENERAL H. P. SPARKS,  
C.B.E., M.C.

Major-General Sparks was commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment in August 1914 at the age of 18½.

He was posted to the 2nd Battalion and was awarded the Military Cross early in 1915 while serving with them. At the end of World War I, he joined the 1st Battalion and commanded

"D" Company during the operation against the Moplahs in India.

He later became Adjutant of the same battalion before going to the Staff College at Camberley.

In December, 1939, he took over command of 1st Bn. The Cambridgeshire Regiment, an appointment which he held until September 1940, when he was posted to command the 4th Infantry Brigade of the 2nd Division. He later commanded the administrative base of S.E.A.C. as a Major-General. While in this appointment, he used to the full his opportunities of helping with the repatriation of the personnel of 18th Division who had been prisoners-of-war in Japanese hands. There are many members of the Suffolk and the Cambridgeshire Regiments who have cause to be grateful to him for his help at that time.

He was awarded the C.B.E. for his war services and he retired in 1949.

His sudden death on February 11 was a great shock to his many friends. With his cheerful personality and infectious laugh he was popular with all ranks and we shall miss him a lot.

He leaves a widow and a son and a daughter.

## For Humanitarian Reasons

IN TENEBRIS, THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

A good deal of money was available in Germany last year for Adventure Training. One of the Brigades, on whose staff I was serving, decided to run centres for this training, and established sailing at Kiel; mountaineering in Bavaria; canoeing in Holland; and underwater swimming in the Adriatic at Sistiana, near Trieste. Each centre ran six or seven two-week courses for twenty to twenty-four soldiers.

Naturally, it was necessary for the Brigade staff to visit the centres from time to time, and equally naturally, there was some competition for the chore of visiting Trieste. I was lucky, and this article describes my visit, on which most of the travelling was by Auster aircraft.

The direct distance from Brigade H.Q. to Trieste is a mere 650 miles, but this means overflying Austria, which, of course, is non-NATO. Trying to get permission to do so, I saw some of the quickest signals traffic ever. We signalled the Air Attaché in Austria at 2 p.m. At 2.30 came the reply: "Is the flight for humanitarian reasons." After deep examina-

tion of conscience we replied "No" at 2.40 p.m. At 2.55 "regret not possible" came back over the teleprinter. The same would have gone for Switzerland, and we therefore had to plan our flight for 1,200 miles via the Rhone Valley, South of France and across Northern Italy. So disappointing!

At six o'clock on a wet and foggy Wednesday morning in August, Mike, the pilot, Brian the Field Squadron Commander, and I loaded ourselves and our cases into the little three-seater aeroplane. Although the weather looked frightful, we took off with the first destination Strasbourg. Because of the very low clouds we could not fly due south, and we had first to go sixty miles east and then follow the valley of the River Weser at 200ft. and sometimes less. It was during one of the "less" times that Mike asked me to look out for some power lines which he thought crossed the river before long. I am glad he did not rely on my vision; I was just gasping "look out" as the power lines flashed past about 10ft. underneath me. After ten minutes discussing this incident, we discovered that we could not land at Kassel

to refuel, as we had hoped, and also that we were not entirely sure where we were.

This was the point of no return. The duration of this Auster was two hours forty-five minutes. We had been flying one hour twenty, and it would take one hour fifteen to reach Frankfurt, the nearest field giving clear weather. The lure of the Mediterranean and the Adriatic was too strong and we pressed on, looking anxiously through the murk for landmarks. Eventually the weather cleared and we landed at Frankfurt with ten minutes fuel left and way behind schedule.

Frankfurt is the busiest airport on the Continent of Europe, and Brian and I were fascinated during the one-hour stop to watch the international traffic landing and taking off every minute and, of course, passing through the airport lounge. We soon learned to recognise the various airlines by the uniforms of the hostesses.

The next stop was Strasbourg, where we were refuelled by the French Air Force. While approaching the airfield our radio crystal selectors jammed and we orbited the strip waiting for a visual signal to land. After two red flares, one green, and one white, Mike decided to land, regardless. Just as we taxied off the runway we were overhauled by three Mystere jets, which explained the red flares.

With radio repaired and in ever-improving weather, we flew to Lyon, where we had a sandwich lunch which cost the earth.

The next leg was to Nice. Oh yes, we had chosen the route with some care. In the Mark IX Auster, one passenger sits beside the pilot, and the other sits behind them, facing the tail. Brian and I took it in turns to face forwards, and it was my turn to face backwards. I loosened my straps after take-off and settled down to read a book. Suddenly my head struck the perspex roof with a hell of a bang. This was the only bad bump on the whole flight, but I never loosened my straps again.

We flew down the Rhone Valley to Carpentras and then turned east and climbed to 6,000 feet across the hinterland of the Cote d'Azur. I had never realised before how rugged and grand the scenery in Provence could be. By now we were in bright sunshine and flying in and out of bare, rocky mountains, with little or no sign of water or civilisation. Mike took a lot of photographs, but Brian and I agreed later that we were both very, very conscious of having only one engine.

Eventually we caught sight of the blue Mediterranean and were given landing instructions by a very feminine and very French voice. Nice airport is on a promontory jutting out on the west edge of the Baie des Anges, and both ends of the runway are at the water's edge. It was now late afternoon. We hoped to make

Italy that evening, so we had little time to admire the palm trees, sports shirts and bikinis of Nice. After 45 minutes we took off with the aim of flying to Genoa, along the coast, and then turning north through the Ligurian Alps to Piacenza. After ten minutes, Mike, who had been looking at all sorts of tables, charts and ready-reckoners, suddenly said: "We're not going to make it." Quelling our panic, we asked why, and were told that if you fly east you lose daylight. Ten minutes later, as we landed back at Nice, we began to understand that if we had flown on we should have landed after dark, and the rudimentary instruments of the Auster would have made this very difficult indeed.

Trying to find a hotel in Nice in the season is like looking for an igloo in the Sahara. The B.O.A.C. receptionist made countless telephone calls for us and only achieved two blankets, borrowed from Air France. We went out to look for a likely patch of sand and found the hulk of a Viking aircraft which still had a few tarpaulins and seat cushions inside. This was duly christened Hotel Viking, and we prepared our beds before going out for food. Guess who didn't get a blanket!

By the time we had taken a look around Nice, we discovered, to our astonishment, that every restaurant in this exotic resort, which we could even afford to enter, had closed. It was only 9.30 p.m., but eventually we ate pizza in what must be one of the scruffiest auberges in France. However, with the prospect of Hotel Viking before us, we took the precaution of drinking large quantities of delicious vin ordinaire, and the evening was voted a success. One did, I must confess, feel pangs of guilt when claiming £5/10/- overnight travelling allowance on one's return!

Next morning at dawn we flew along the coast past Monte Carlo, Savona and Albenga (memories of Napoleon, 1796!) to Genoa. The weather was good and the scenery glorious. An American carrier was anchored outside Genoa. Brian told us they always anchor outside the port nowadays because of the lesson learned at Pearl Harbour.

Now we climbed to 7,000 feet to clear the Giovi Pass, and landed for fuel at Piacenza. This took four hours because, for some unaccountable reason, the fuel is kept one hour's drive away from the airfield. We waited in the Italian Air Force canteen and were amused by the fattest Catholic Padre I have ever seen, who, apparently, was alone in being allowed to drink vino at this time of day. We had the impression that the airmen in "his flock" were terrified of him, but we found him most jovial.

On then to Ronchi, we thought—but no. We were told that Ronchi was derelict and un-

usable and we must land at Rivolto, near Udine, and go on by train. This meant forty extra miles and a long wait for a train, but could not be helped. A few choice Italian expletives plucked from the memory seemed appropriate when the train passed an obviously busy and very usable Ronchi airfield!

We reached Trieste at 7 p.m. and quickly found a hotel with the aid of the tourist office. That it turned out to be one room for all three of us was compensated for by the fact that it did have three beds and anyway, by then we were past caring.

"This," I told the others as we changed, "is where I come into my own." Useful Italian expressions such as "dove gabinetto" and "quanta costa" were dropped, like pearls, to impress them with my fluency. "I know exactly where to go to eat," I said, as I led them to the Viole Restaurant. It was a ladies' hat shop! Eventually we found another restaurant and, nothing daunted, I ordered scampi for all and said this was *the* place for scampi. We paid the earth for a few shrimps in batter and the others then ordered for themselves. I don't think it could have been the season.

After dinner we walked for miles. Trieste was little changed in twelve years, except that there were far more cars and people, and the old "out of bounds" area is now deserted (another blow for the self-appointed guide). Those who know it will be interested to learn that the Mexico night club is still going strong, as are the Castello, Rouge et Noir and the Kit Kat. The Notturmo is closed and I looked for the grating outside it where I once lost a car key in the Trieste drains. Not only was it not there but it looked as if it never had been. This was the point where I gave up all attempts at guiding.

In the morning we went out by bus to the Underwater Swimming Centre at Sistanca and, naturally, swam. Water and sun were warm and no wonder, in that beautiful little bay below Duino Castle, that the course was going well. Not that it was easy. They started each day at 6 a.m. and at the end of two weeks were expected to pass really difficult tests of swimming and the use of aqualung equipment. We were told that they seldom went out in the evenings because they were so tired. Each course ended with very interesting dives to old wrecks in the area and one course took a break at half time successfully to salvage a car that its careless and almost certainly inebriated Italian owner had driven off the quay into the harbour. Unfortunately they lacked business acumen. They only charged for materials and heard later that a salvage firm had quoted £80 for the job.

In the afternoon the course was diving at

Grado and we went with them for a splendid afternoon's swimming.

It was now already time to leave. With millboards loaded with points to sort out on return we were driven in the course minibus back to Rivolto where we intended to stay the night with the Italian Air Force before taking off at first light. Once again we were foiled—no beds! However, this time we found a clean and friendly trattoria for the night.

It was now Saturday and under lowering clouds we flew to Piacenza where not only did we have another infuriating wait for fuel but this time were told that we could not take off because of the weather. Admittedly it was now raining and there were heavy clouds over the mountains but Mike was confident and after quoting countless, and for all I know, apocryphal, international regulations he was allowed to take off "on your own responsibility." The discussion was held on the radio with the controller and we heard the hum as he switched on his tape recorder to record Mike's acceptance. Brian and I, of course, were not worried—oh, no.

In the gathering gloom we flew along the bottom of the Alps to Voghera, spiralled up to 9,000 feet and flew by compass bearing and time to a point a few miles out to sea beyond Genoa. It was with some relief that when we let down through the cotton wool we found ourselves over, and not in the sea and could see Genoa in the distance. Well done the pilot.

Here we had more trouble. It turned out, so the Italian Air Force told us, that General de Gaulle was visiting the South of France and no unscheduled flying was allowed. We could not land at Nice. Worrying about whether our wives would accept this excuse for coming back a day late we caused signals to be sent to every French air authority we could think of. After four hours delay we got the necessary permission and took off. Even after fifteen minutes' flying we were told by the Italian controller to return but we switched quickly to the Nice frequency and got permission to continue. We had not got on very well with the Italians but our wait in Genoa was alleviated by a very good lunch and looking at the contents of a Swedish air liner which were quite fabulous.

We radioed Nice that we wanted a quick refuelling. The French were most efficient and in half an hour we were in the air again and reached Lyon just at dusk. We stayed at a splendid little hotel in Le Bron called Hotel des Industries and took a bus after dinner to explore Lyon. As we walked along a street filled with very dubious men and even more dubious women there was suddenly a great wail of sirens and flashing of blue lights. It was a police raid and the street was empty in seconds. We saw

many of the fugitives dive into a pub and followed to see what went on. We sat in a corner and listened with great amusement to graphic and bibulous accounts, complete with actions and very French gestures of the opinions of and experiences with "les gendarmes." A knowledge of French was quite unnecessary.

At last, on Sunday afternoon, after lunch at Saarbrücken, we landed back in barracks. The

2,400 miles and twenty-six flying hours in five days had been hard on the seat but none of us would have missed it for anything.

I called in at the office for mail and was shown a signal which read "On no account may proposed flight to Italy take place until full details including exact times have been signalled to and cleared by MA in Rome." Ah, well.

## Muscat and the Oman

BY CAPT. T. B. HINEY, ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

On the eastern side of Arabia is a country which provides one of the most fascinating secondments in which a British officer or N.C.O. can serve. It affords good soldiering and, at the same time, provides an insight into a way of life so ageless and serene that it must be one of the few places remaining on earth almost completely undisturbed by the advances of science. This scene, however, is about to be transformed.

Muscat and the Oman comprises mostly desert, with a large mountain range, called the Jebel Achdar, forming the backbone, and running close to the oceans of the Persian Gulf. There are no roads at all outside the coastal town of Muscat, and the only forms of land transport are camels, donkeys and the military and oil company vehicles. It is extremely hot in the summer but delightful in the winter.

Two simple factors explain the presence of British officers in the Oman—oil and disputed sovereignty. The country is in no sense a British dependency, nor has it ever been. Britain's oil interests in the Persian Gulf and the Sultan of Muscat's desire for internal security have created the treaty by which the local forces are led by British officers. So little is known about this part of Arabia that in the recent United Nations review of the country, the Sultanate had to be located before it was discussed.

The Sultan's Force consists of a headquarters, two infantry battalions, artillery and signal elements and a small air force, in which Beavers and Provosts are piloted by seconded R.A.F. Officers. Approximately half of the soldiers are Arab and half Baluch. Seconded N.C.O.s from the Pakistan Army work in the orderly rooms. The chief task of the infantry battalions is to dominate the area by patrolling and "military presence," so that the inhabitants of the interior are encouraged to remain loyal to the Sultan, and that no rebels are allowed to infiltrate. This prevents a recurrence of the 1959 uprising, in which some mountain tribes under the leader-

ship of an exiled Sheikh, named Talib, tried to claim independence for the interior. The S.A.S., a British infantry company and armoured cars had to be called in to quell the uprising. Talib's cause is still championed by nameless Arab countries where the training of rebels continues in preparation for the heralded "day of liberation."

To gain the information upon which the force bases its patrolling activity, British desert intelligence officers are employed; they lead independent semi-nomadic lives, relying on their local employed followers and the confidence they enjoy with the tribal sheikhs to keep in touch with any likely rebel movement.

The best command to have is that of an independent company, preferably out on the edge of the desert. The soldiers are splendid; the Arabs have great charm and a natural direction-keeping ability; the Baluch have less natural aptitude but keep the rest up to scratch by their smartness and military bearing. Language is at first a problem. Seconded officers learn Arabic at Aden before joining the force; Baluch must be learnt in one's own time after joining.

The desert tribes are usually Bedouin nomads. Basically xenophobic as the great traveller Theisinger discovered only sixteen years ago, they are tremendously hospitable when their confidence has been gained. Easier contact has been made recently as these tribes now send some of their sons into the Army; this includes the once formidable Bedouin tribe of the Duru. This great nomadic tribe, into whose territory Theisinger entered in fear of his life, roam round a vast area of the Oman, stretching at one point from the foothills of the Jebel Achdar to the still undefined border with Saudi Arabia. It is strangely in this area that the recent vast oil discoveries have been made which will shortly transform Omani life. Within a few years Cadillacs will have replaced camels, Daimlers will be seen where once only donkeys trod, the vast expanse of desert and the un-

hindered view of the horizon will be disturbed by derricks, pylons and other macabre symbols of oil discovery. This will of course bring much benefit to a country which barely scrapes an existence from the barren soil, but it may have less fortunate by-products. At present the nomadic tribes live simply and well by the laws of the Islam. It is unlikely that the purity of this Islamic observance will survive the incursions of western civilisation. Other areas of Asia and Arabia abound with examples of this tendency. It must be hoped that the Omanis

will adapt themselves to the change, that they will be able to retain their Faith even if they cannot retain their simplicity.

As the stakes in Muscat and the Oman become higher the role of the Sultan's Army will become more crucial. Stability in this part of the Middle East is vitally necessary; this makes soldiering there challenging and imparts a cause worthy of the profession of arms. This effect is made more stimulating by the charm of the inhabitants and by the magic setting of the Arabian sands.

## THE UNION JACK STILL FLIES

### Mauritius, 1964

BY CAPTAIN M. ADKIN, ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

How many people could say within 300 miles where Mauritius is located, without first consulting an atlas? I suspect not a very high proportion, although stamp collectors will be familiar with the name. I first realised it was possible to be posted here in 1962 when I was catching up on my reading of the Officers' Guard File at my Depot. There it was in black and white—Captain required in March 1964 for post of Deputy Commandant of the Mauritius Special Mobile Force! I applied. I strongly suspect I may have been the only applicant as within a few months it was confirmed that I had got the job. I rather think the General who interviewed me knew about as much about Mauritius and the job as I did! My C.O. at the time was somewhat dubious about the whole thing.

However, the Colonial Office, not the War Office, had now got its grip on me, and together with my family I was flown out by B.O.A.C. Comet in March 1964. It was an interesting flight stopping at Rome, Khartoum and Nairobi. The heat on arrival at the airport enveloped and consumed us! We arrived in the evening when it was dark and were greeted by a tumultuous welcome of cheering, flag waving crowds. We were soon disillusioned about our popularity however, as we were informed that a local political "hero" had returned from London on the same aircraft!

Mauritius is a beautiful and rather typical tropical island. It is about 40 miles long and 30 wide at the widest part, almost completely surrounded by a coral reef, and situated 500 miles east of Madagascar. A dot in the Indian Ocean! The countryside is either flat and covered in sugar cane plantations, or volcanic rock mountains, many of which are extremely

steep, and rise straight up out of an otherwise flat plain. The highest is called Pieter Both and is over 3,000 feet high. On the very top rests a huge rock which appears from ground level to be extremely precarious. The story goes that when the rock falls British rule will end. The temperature and rainfall are tropical and high, but there is a cool season when jackets and blankets, indeed electric fires, are required. This is especially true inland up in the hills. The population is of the usual Eastern mixture. It is divided into two main groups, firstly the Indians, secondly the Creoles, descendants of African slaves brought over to work on the sugar estates. The groups have, of course, inter-married considerably. There are also a few thousand Chinese who like all their kind are mainly concerned with making money. French is the main language but English is understood by most.

The Special Mobile Force (SMF) is a branch of the Police Force specially trained in military duties and internal security. There are only two Army officers on the island—the Commandant a Major and his Deputy a Captain. The men are officered by Police Officers, for example a Platoon is commanded by an Inspector and sections by Police Sergeants. All forms of infantry training are taught up to PL attacks, with a special emphasis on IS duties. The men spend two years in the Force and usually react to it enthusiastically and well. They are very smart and of above average intelligence. By the time they have completed their two years they are pretty fit, as a lot of hill climbing, marches round the island, etc., are carried out. We are administered by the Police and of course the Commissioner of Police is the overall commander. Incidentally, it seems rather strange to have one's annual Confidential Report



written by a C.P. and one's superior Reporting Officer to be H.E. The Governor!

Socially, Mauritius offers an ideal life. Not only does one belong to the Police Officers' Mess but also one is a full member of the Ward-room of H.M.S. *Mauritius*, a Royal Naval communications centre based on the island. Almost any sport can be done for the asking,

but the emphasis is on water sports as the sea and beaches are superb for swimming, "goggling" or fishing.

It's a posting to be thoroughly recommended to anyone keen to see something unusual, such as the Indian fire walking festival, or merely to do an interesting job abroad—where the Union Jack still flies!

## ROCK CLIMBING IN THE KYRENIA MOUNTAINS

BY CAPTAIN R. C. HASTIE, THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

The virtues of Cyprus as a field for outdoor pursuits are widely advertised. Seldom mentioned on any list is the splendid rock climbing.

As far as the Army is concerned, rock climbing has two big drawbacks. It is not a sport that provides, like water ski-ing, much entertainment for complete beginners. Secondly, it requires experienced instructors and a lot of supervision to prevent it from becoming dangerous. On the other hand, the equipment is a rare bonus. At present the Battalion has a small body of climbers of experience, and during the last four months a start, at least, has been made towards the formation of a proper climbing club.

Mountaineering and rock climbing are almost two separate sports. The difference between the two is simple. The aim of the rock climber is to scale a rock face, probably by a route chosen from the ground, or by following a route pioneered previously. On the other hand, the aim of the mountaineer is to get to the top of a mountain, probably by the quickest route. He may, on his way, have to cope with rock, ice and snow and therefore needs a wider range of skills than the rock climber.

Rock faces occur as sea cliffs, as gritstone and sandstone outcrops, and on the sides of mountains. The presence of mountains is therefore incidental; it just happens that most cliffs are in mountainous areas, and climbing in a mountain atmosphere contributes towards the enjoyment of the climber. Rock climbing is sub-divided into "free" and "artificial" climbing. The "free" climber progresses solely by the use of hands and feet, whereas the "artificial" climber uses mechanical aids in the form of pitons (steel pegs) etriers (three-rung alloy rope ladders), and even occasionally golos (rawl plugs). If a route can possibly be climbed "free," then it is unsporting to use artificial aids. It is not widely known that the greatest exponents in the art of free climbing are British, and that the world's hardest "free" routes are probably in the British Isles.



*The author starts the Black Wall.*

Cyprus offers no mountaineering. Of the two ranges, Troodos is too rounded and the Kyrenias (2,500ft.) not high enough. However, the Kyrenia Mountains provide good rock climbing. The range is long and narrow, running east-west along the north side of the island. It is a fold range, composed of Hilarion limestone, which appears throughout its length in the form of irregular outcrops. These vary in height from 100 to 700 feet. The biggest and best appears to be the Penta-dactylos, some 12 miles south-east of the town of Kyrenia. This is a long and steep ridge with several summits, rising about 700 feet above



*Pts. Wall and Morris on the ridge.*



*Eight miles from 'civilisation'; the Minibus was not popular! Behind is part of the Pentadactyls.*

the ranges at that point. It is an impressive rock formation and can be seen from a great distance. From the top the view is fabulous. The whole of the central plain to the south coast can be seen, and on a clear day Turkey is visible to the north. The Kyrenias are a wild and rugged range and this point is worth a visit by anyone. A study of the eagles alone would be interesting; sweeping low over the climbers, they are an additional hazard!

The steep south side of the ridge varies in colour from white to orange, red and black. The rock is mostly sharp edged and pocketed, providing excellent surfaces for the climber. Loose rock, one of the worst climbing hazards, must be expected on this type of mountain limestone, but fortunately it appears to exist in distinct patches, which are easily recognisable. Even so, it is unwise to stand anywhere below a climbing party, and crash-hats would be a sensible addition to the equipment.

There are few obvious routes on the rock, such as long cracks and chimneys, and one can climb almost anywhere. There is ample scope for the beginner, and one or two excellent easy routes have been found which give continuous climbing from bottom to top. There is little evidence of previous climbers. One piton has been found in place, one sling, and, marking the start of a route, 'II Para' has been scratched on the rock. Towards the western end there is

one particularly striking face of red rock. It is some 350 feet from top to bottom, the lower 100 feet being a slight overhang. It is smooth and featureless and provides a combination of free and artificial climbing. So far, after about six hours' work, the first 100 feet has been studded with a dozen pitons as climbing aids. It is a slow and strenuous business, but if completed will provide a sensational route up the centre of the steepest part of the cliff. The main difficulty is hammering in the pitons as the cracks are shallow and often end after half an inch.

As no camping is allowed outside the Bases, climbing parties have so far been able to go only on Sundays. The minibus provides transport for a group of ten, the journey taking under two hours. The last eight miles are rough track, which combined with mountain hairpins makes an interesting drive! The Nuffield Trust provided the kit, less the ropes which are Army issue (probably the best bit of kit the Army provides). After about eight outings there are now several keen and proficient soldiers and the party is able to split up into pairs and climb simultaneously on different routes. Although so far only a small number have been able to attend at any one time, it is hoped that the number of leaders will increase. There is no reason why climbing cannot become a permanent addition to the Battalion pursuits.

## OPERATION TEST MATCH, 23/24 AUGUST 1964, RADFAN

### 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment

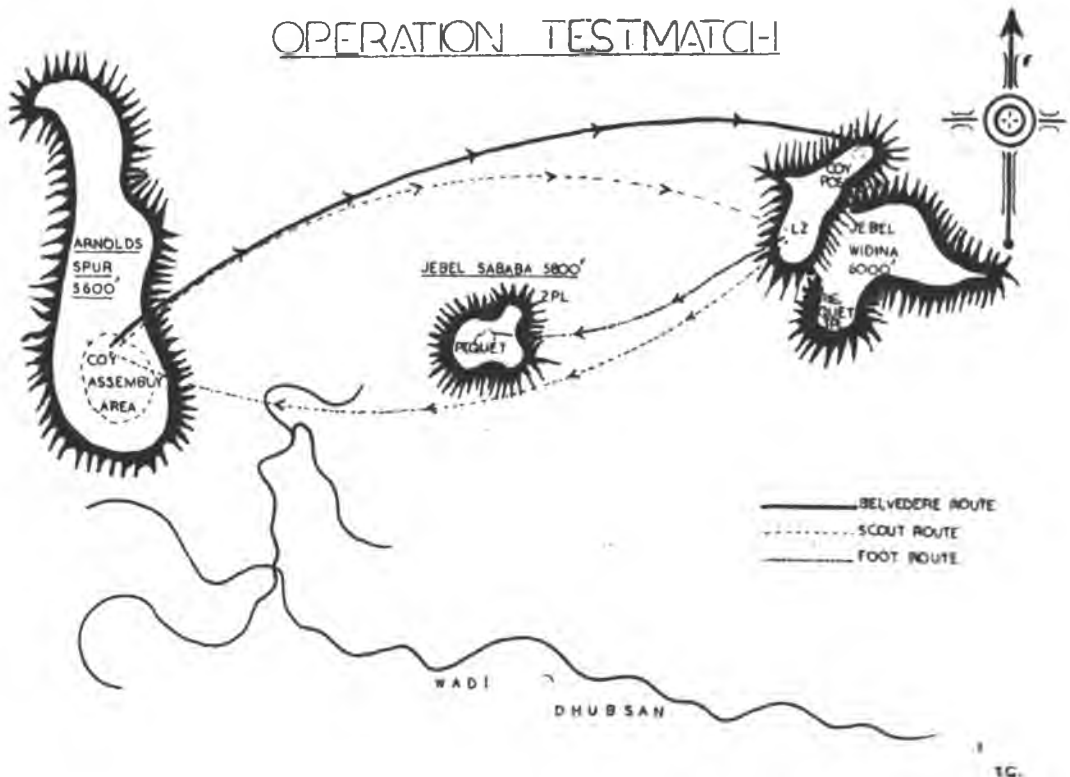
A Company Group, commanded by Capt. R. J. Abbott, consisting of three rifle platoons and their 81mm. mortar section, moved to Thumier from the Wadi Taym on August 21. They were to prepare for a night helicopter assault on the 6,000ft. Jebel Widina, a flat-topped feature situated in the Ibdali tribal area of the Radfan Mountains.

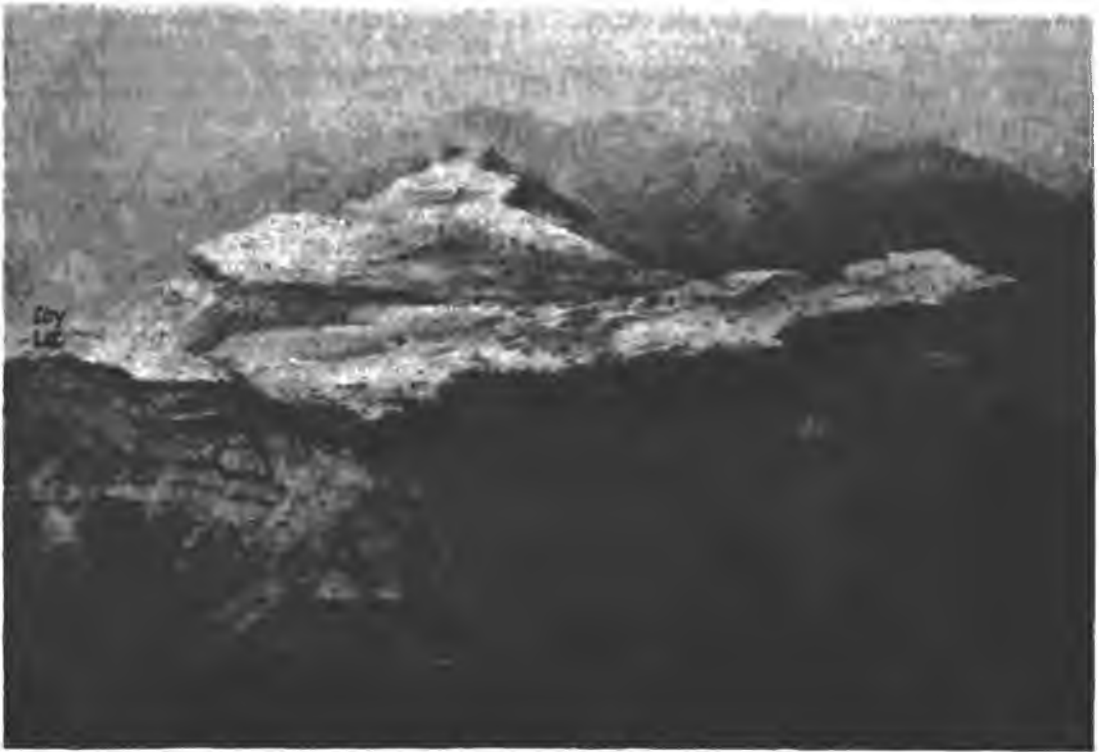
The purpose of this operation was to re-impose military control of the Widina and Jebel Sababa, a 5,800 ft. high conical feature due west of the Widina. Both features provided excellent observation into the surrounding wadis, where many of the dissident tribesmen were known to be living.

Arnold's Spur, at the eastern end of the Bakri Ridge, which was occupied by the 2nd Bn. Federal Regular Army, was chosen as the launching area for the operation. Standing at 5,600ft., it provided good facilities for the assembly of the Company Group, and from it the two objectives were visible.

Having assembled the Company Group on Arnold's Spur, the plan was to secure the landing zone on Widina, then clear it and secure the Sababa on foot. A total of 36 men were to be carried in the assault, comprising Company H.Q. with an MFC and FAC, 1 Platoon, commanded by Sgt. King, and a section of 2 Platoon, commanded by 2/Lt. D. Voy, who were to secure the landing zone and then move to the Sababa. The remainder of the Company Group were to be lifted in at first light, together with maintenance requirements for 48 hours. The 81mm. mortars, commanded by Capt. P. Stone, were to fire a pre-H-hour fire plan and then move on to the Widina with the remainder of the Company at first light.

Rehearsals for the operation consisted of entry and exit drills for the Scout helicopters by day and night, and practising the tactical plan for seizing and clearing the objective. All doors of the helicopters were removed, and a ground crew for each passenger was necessary





to position safety straps and take passengers' weapons and loads.

"A" Company moved to Arnold's Spur on the morning of August 23 by Belvedere, and were joined by a section of mortars from Blair's Field and TAC H.Q. from Paddy's Field. The day was spent in routine assembly procedures, including the registration of 81mm. targets. Recce flights were made over the Widina, and Hunters from 43 Squadron, R.A.F., strafed the area. Alternative plans had been for a ground assault, and everyone was praying for fine weather, as it would have meant a six-hour climb to reach the objective if the helicopters were unable to fly.

During the afternoon the weather started to close, the objectives became invisible, and the two Scout helicopters had difficulty in landing on Arnold's Spur. On arrival, it was found that one of the two helicopters, piloted by Capt. Wright had a technical fault; it was decided to use only one Scout and carry four men on each sortie. This meant readjustments in the sticks and fuel loads.

At 20.00 hours the full moon had risen and the objective was clearly visible. H-hour was set at 23.00 hours. Sleep was impossible, as it was very cold, and the mortars, controlled by

Capt. Stone and Cpl. Townsend started their harrassing fire.

The first four men, 2/Lt. Voy, Ptes. Griggs, Day and Vincent, of 1 Platoon, took off at 23.00 hours, complete with wireless, GPMG, and ground navigation lights.

The Scout was soon back for another load, after 2/Lt. Voy had reported the landing zone on the Windina to be clear. The helicopter turn-round time was approximately eight minutes; ground to air communications were good, with the pilot S/Sgt. Scott, reporting his progress to the Platoon and Company Commanders. Nine sorties were made, carrying 1 Platoon Picquet, commanded by Cpl. Coe; 2 Platoon, commanded by Sgt. King; the Company Commander, FAC and MFC. The lift was completed by 00.15 hours without incident.

Once on the Jebel Widina, 2/Lt. Voy led his section on foot towards the Jebel Sababa. The remainder of the Company advanced across the flat top of the Widina, clearing houses as they went, and finally establishing a base by 05.00 hours on the east ridge. The Jebel Sababa was secured at first light, just before the first Belvedere, carrying 3 Platoon, commanded by 2/Lt. Hawkins, and the mortars, left Arnold's Spur. Flights continued, supplying water,

rations and ammunition, until the air lift was complete, at 11.00 hours. Cpl. Doherty from 3 Platoon set out to establish a picquet at the southern end of the Widina and 2/Lt. Voy returned from the Sababa. Both picquets were re-supplied by a Scout.

On the night August 24/25, patrolling began off the Widina. Routes off were few and the going very rugged and slow. Patrols experienced sheer faces and jagged rocks. A great deal of activity was reported in the Wadi Dhubsan, and at night moving lights were engaged with mortars and GPMGs if they were in the restricted areas. The Widina was just out of range of the R.H.A.'s 105mm. guns, but D.F.s were registered to the east and north. A pair of Hunters from 8 Squadron, R.A.F., carried out an air strike during the morning of August 26, followed by a very thrilling display of aerobatics, which impressed everyone, including the pilots. One Hunter flew so low over Cpl. Demosey's sangar that his camouflage net was blown away.

At 16.00 hours on the afternoon of August

26, just as an "O" Group was under way, we were shot at from the east by two snipers. Cpl. Rasbeary vouched for this when he had finished counting the holes around his sangar. Our mortars and artillery soon returned the fire and the "O" Group was allowed to continue.

Because of this incident, our departure off the Widina was delayed by the Brigade Commander. The Company was finally lifted off by Belvedere on Friday, August 28, without further set-back, and we returned to Aden to join the remainder of the Battalion.

This small operation was interesting to plan and execute. It is believed that this was the first operational night helicopter assault carried out by the Army. New drills were evolved, and all ranks enjoyed having a new medium for night operations. We were impressed by the saving in time and particularly in effort. By its success, it showed that the close co-operation between Infantry and Army Air Corps allows for greater flexibility in deployment, particularly in mountainous and difficult country.

## ADEN

**The 17th Foot, now 4th (Leicestershire) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment, was there in 1841**

BY LT.-COL. S. A. SMITH, O.B.E.

Troops flown out from U.K. at short notice to execute operations to keep open the Dhala road will be interested to see that the Dhala road is an old story and that similar moves were made by British troops over 120 years ago. Though today enormous strides have been made in the speed at which troops can be transported around the world there is food for thought over the speed at which British infantry could, and did, deploy if required in years gone by.

The following extract from the history of 17th (The Leicestershire) Regiment shows that despite sickness, prior to embarkation, followed by eleven cramped days at sea, a regiment could disembark its troops and baggage, make a rapid plan, issue orders and be on the move within seventy-two hours; furthermore execute an operational night move followed by an attack, and be back in its barracks having covered some forty miles on foot, all within four days of dropping anchor in Aden.

The history states:

"On May 23, 1841, the 17th of Foot, 821 strong, was inspected at camp, near Poona, and was reported on as 'in perfect order, and well instructed in light infantry and outpost duties.' Orders were received warning the Regiment to be prepared to move, and on June 12, the Regiment marched to Bombay, where it arrived in ten days.

In Bombay, awaiting embarkation, sickness

prevailed to a very great extent, and the casualties, in consequence, were numerous. On September 22, the headquarters and four companies embarked at Bombay for Aden, where they arrived on October 2.

On the evening of October 5, 1841, a detachment amounting to about 600 men, selected from the troops at Aden, proceeded, under the command of Lt.-Col. Pennycuick, to attack an Arab force which had caused much inconvenience by preventing supplies being received in Aden from the hinterland. After a severe skirmish of two hours' duration, in the hottest part of the following day, the troops destroyed the Arab post of Sheik Othman and returned to Aden on the evening of the 6th, having traversed upwards of 40 miles of ground in about 22 hours. On this occasion an Artillery officer and four privates were wounded, and one died from sunstroke. The Arabs were reported to have lost 17 killed, and the number of their wounded was not ascertained."

An extract from a letter to the Political Agent at Aden, from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, states:

"The expedition seems to have been well conducted, and Lt.-Col. Pennycuick and the officers and men under his command are entitled to the approbation of the Government for their zealous exertions."

## GO EAST, YOUNG MAN

BY LIEUTENANT M. J. LEWIS, ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

"Singapore is a first-class place for second-class people." So cracked Capt. John Hutchings at my wedding just before my wife and I embarked on our Far East tour; but we were soon to discover that it's a first-class place for everything, from entomology to Confrontation.

I quickly reported to my new Unit, The Singapore Guard Regiment, a British administered Malay Regiment, where I soon discovered the intricacies of the Muslim world. "Always use the right hand when passing or accepting something from a Malay otherwise it is considered rude. Fair enough, I thought, although being left-handed I mastered this only with difficulty and when it came to Pay Parade I practically had to strap my left hand underneath the table. "Never beckon a Malay with your index finger—it is considered impolite. How else can one beckon? I asked. "The gesture must be made with the right hand with the palm downwards." In fact one resembles one of those clever men who make animal heads on shadowy walls by skilful finger manipulations. Finally, I was told, a Malay is extremely self-conscious, and will never bathe or wash in the nude. I immediately pictured myself bathing in a jungle stream with all my clothes on, complete with jungle hat, and inwardly groaned.

Having practised these arts, and eventually mastered them, I became ready for my next hurdle, the Malay course.

Malay must be one of the easiest languages in the world, so that after a four-week course I qualified and duly received a generous financial award. Bloating with pride I arrived back in my unit to find that nobody could understand a word I said, and whenever I tried to speak Malay everyone started to speak English. This gave me a slight inferiority complex, but I struggled on, and formed a splinter group of

my own, whose members could all understand my curious form of Malay. Luckily, the Company Sergeant-Major was one of them.

Gradually I grew to like the Malay soldier. He differs greatly from the British soldier in that he never swears, and is always smart. He doesn't wear winkle-pickers for "putting the boot in"; he doesn't drink either, and he hardly ever goes absent. I have never seen a man in the guardroom in a year and a half. In fact when I charged an arms storeman for leaving the armoury door open there was nearly a national day of mourning. In short, Malays are simple, but very loyal people.

When Indonesian Confrontation flared up we were sent to Borneo to defend the important R.A.F. airfield at Kuching. It was amazing how quickly the R.A.F. warmed towards the Malays; very soon the airmen were clamouring to learn Malay, so that they could talk to the girls in the long-houses. We had a very talented Beat Group who could plonk away all night long, and they were in constant demand. We played sport so fanatically that a defeat was often followed by lengthy and amusing post-mortems. Sometimes in the R.A.F. Mess I would be asked, "they're good chaps, but what would they be like in war?" I would reply wryly "Well, it depends on the leadership," and this would be stalemate, and they would give a knowing nod, and talk about Ground Controlled Approach.

There is no doubt at all in my mind, however, that Malaysia has much to offer, the land of perhaps the most charming people in the world, and without wishing to disrupt the new Regiment before it has formed, I would say that there definitely is some truth in the sadly misquoted phrase "Go East, Young Man."

## Bedford to Northampton—The Hard Way

BY LT. K. WOODROW, ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

There is no doubt about it, this boating business is like creeping allucetia, once you have got it, it is impossible to get rid of. It is eighteen miles from Bedford to Northampton by the A 428 but during the summer term here (Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion) I got the weird notion to do the journey by recce boat by way of the Ouse, the Fens and the Nene, total distance of about 150 miles. Lt. Cliff Brock,

my partner in crime for a similar trip down the Seine the previous holidays, had arranged to inspect the Brecknockshire Black Mountains with a walking holiday and as nobody else here fancied seeing East Anglia by water it meant a solo trip.

Preparation was no problem, a recce boat and outboard motor were easy to come by, and the camping kit we use all the time on the Adven-



*The Author.*

ture Training Wing. All I needed were keys for the locks on the rivers. I tried the Ouse first—go to Headquarters I thought, chat up the man at the top and he will lend you some keys. Off I went to Cambridge full of hope and returned home with a set of brand new keys after failing gloriously and having to pay a large deposit and a subscription to the great god GORB (Great Ouse River Board to those in the know). Determined not to be caught twice I decided I would play the Nene locks off the cuff as I got to them. Nobody told me there were thirty-six between Peterborough and Northampton!

I set myself a target of eight days and set out from Kelpies yard at Tempsford, downstream from Bedford. I could not do the stretch between there and Bedford by myself and anyway I had done it the summer before with Capt. Mike Green during the Bedford/Kings Lynn races. The first day was uneventful but the language colourful when I kept getting stuck in the weeds near Huntingdon. That night I made the Pike and Eel near Earith where I discovered a houseboat thing that was going the same way as far as Peterborough. Over several ales we decided to keep vaguely in touch. The next day was the hottest of the year and I had a good run. Down the Ouse to Earith and then into the Old West River where I gave four sappers who were dredging the river the fright of their lives. They thought I was coming to inspect them as one woke up the other three and they immediately stood by their machines, two to a crane and two to a bulldozer. Lunch at the Royal Oak at Strettham and then on past the Fish and Duck, closed, where the Cam joins the Old Ouse to Ely, which I made about tea time. After an hour's shopping I pushed on to The Anchor, a pub at Brandon Creek where the little Ouse joins the main river. Had to have a tow the last two miles as it was getting dark

and my motor was playing up and being very temperamental. Emerging from my tent for breakfast the next morning I discovered that after the hot night my egg was bad, my milk sour and the butter rancid! Then the motor would not start and I had to get to Denver Sluice by midday to catch the tide, otherwise the lock keeper would not let me through. After trying everything I knew—not very much as I'm no mechanic—I decided that perhaps the gap on the plug was too wide. A hefty clout from a spanner and it went like a bomb. I just made Denver in time to get through, turn right towards Kings Lynn for a few hundred yards and then left to Salters Lode, the lock into the fens. I went through in company with the houseboat thing. At Salters Lode there was a new electric lock and once through I roared away for a hundred yards and then stopped, the waterway, Well Creek, disappeared in a jungle of weeds, the oars were no good as the weeds were too thick so I was forced to abandon ship and push. Warm water, lovely day, very nice for two hundred yards, then I found myself out of my depth. For the rest of the day I rowed, pushed or pulled with a rope from the bank. Far too much like hard work for a holiday! It is perhaps worth explaining that the dykes and canals one has to use to get in and out of the fens were some of the first ones dug when the fens were originally drained. Consequently with the sinking of the land they are no longer used for draining, hence the reason they are abandoned. That night I made Outwell and the only place I could find to pitch my tent was between two sets of railway lines—first I made sure there were no trains until mid-morning. That night the landlord of the Kings Head insisted I had a bath after hearing what I had been paddling in; “like an open sewer,” he said. The next day I had a late start, partly due to meeting an ex-National Serviceman, George Tash, who had been in the Signals platoon with us in Malaya. The Houseboat caught up with me and when the weeds became really thick the only way we could progress was to tie mine on to the back of his and both pull on a rope at the front. Eventually even this failed and we had to use a van and hitch the rope on. In places the water under the weeds was so foul even the fish had given up and were floating on top. After several hours we had made a mile and came to a lock where Well Creek joined the Old Nene—no more weeds.

This lock was slightly unnerving as we went down, we had gone in at Salters Lode at sea level. Two hours later, I made March and slept the night in the garden of the British Legion. Nobody told me there was a dairy next door which started banging and clattering at five in the morning. I must have looked sorry for myself when I got up, because a fellow living

opposite in a caravan gave me a magnificent breakfast! That day was another mammoth flog to Peterborough by way of the Old Nene, Whittlesey Dyke and Conuts Cut. The going got worse and worse as the weeds got thicker again. I rowed the last ten miles. I reached the outskirts of Peterborough as it was getting dark and spent the night at Stanground Staunch where one once again went up and into the River Nene. The lock keeper had a message for me, would I please contact the local BBC man. He descended on me the next morning with cameras and tape recorders and I spent two hours rowing through the thickest weeds they could find while they filmed and interviewed. I borrowed some lock keys and that afternoon, a Sunday, I woke up several boatloads of people who were lazing in the sun when the exhaust pipe fell off! I fixed it and went all of two hundred yards before it fell off again.

Fortunately a passing boat came to my rescue as I only had an adjustable spanner and a pair of pliers. If those or a boot cannot cure it it is a workshop job! The motor kept going until dusk before it broke again and as the Queen's Head at Nassington was handy I popped in for a quicky. However, the landlord was incredibly generous and insisted I stayed the night which was gratefully accepted. The next day the motor refused to work at all so I had once again to take to the paddles. I made Oundle by tea-time where I was rescued by my father who had

managed to borrow another motor. Determined to complete the trip in eight days I decided to go all night, but about one the next morning it got very foggy somewhere near Thrapston and I found it difficult to see where I was going. Eventually the inevitable happened and I rammed the bank flat out. All sorts of handy bits fell over the side and are now waiting to be written off—I hope. I slept on the bank until it got light and then off again. Later I had breakfast with a gang of weedcutters who had seen me on the telly the night before—fame at last! Three hours later I was hailed by a man on the bank who wanted to know 'was I the ole boy wot wer on the wireless this mornin'?' I now take a beret two sizes larger! Another long day and I eventually reached Northampton at eleven that night, one hour before my eight days were up.

Most of the people I met were very helpful, especially when they discovered I was from the local regiment but I met a few 'prophets of doom' who when asked how far it was to the next lock, would rattle off an old-sit-up-and-beg-bone-shaking bicycle saying "not far, but you won't get that far boy, it's all bunged up with weeds." I enjoyed proving them wrong. Seeing East Anglia by water is an ideal way of spending a holiday, but on reflection should not be attempted after June because of the weeds.

FOOTNOTE.—I have since bought a genuine coracle and the motor is still in workshops.

## TRIP TO BELGIUM IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1964

Related by Mr. J. Bainton, who was accompanied by Mr. F. Featherstone, M.M.,  
both ex-10th Foot

We arrived in Mons on the early morning of August 22, after travelling all night. We were told all the hotels were full, but we managed to get a bed after going to the tourist office and then went to bed until lunch time.

After lunch we went to find other Lincolns who, we were sure, would be there, but could not find a single one. We met some Royal Fusiliers, who stopped when they saw my old Lincolns' cap badge. They said, "Were you with the Lincolns at Vailly—were you with them when they captured the guns?" I was able to say yes to both these questions.

Frank and I then took a trip to St. Symphorien to look at the very beautiful cemetery, where our old comrades are buried alongside the German dead. Here we met

Major Richardson, late of the 11th Hussars. He told us he was going to do the Retreat from Mons again, he carried the History of his Regiment about with him, which gave minute details of what the Hussars did right through the war.

We returned to Mons and went to the War Museum. A large map is on show and gives the position of the 1st Lincolns in 1914, and three of the Regiment's side drums are on show. I could not see my pack which I and all "A" Company got rid of in order to get away!

We then went to the top of the belfry, part way by lift, then walked up about 200 steps and found a large map with explanations about the 1914-18 battlefields.



Not far from the belfry tower stands a monument which marks the place where the war started in 1914 and finished at the same spot in 1918.

We returned to our hotel to get ready to attend a reception and dance given by the people of Mons at the Vaux Hall to the Old Contemptibles. Many of the old soldiers went on the stage and sang some of the old songs. The Chairman shouted, "Are there any yellow bellies here?" Three stood up and we were given a cheer, the other Lincoln turned out to be George Day, of Stamford. He went on the stage and sang "Roses of Picardy."

The next day we were talking to some old members of the Cheshire Regiment; they told us 200 of their men were in Mons at the present time and invited us to go with them out to their old battle ground, which was at Audregnies.

The present serving Cheshire Regiment is stationed in Munster and they had sent four 'buses and a number of young soldiers to Mons to look after the old men.

We arrived in Audregnies and went to a reception in the schoolroom, wine was served, cigarettes handed round. Every time I emptied my glass a young girl stood at my elbow ready to fill it, then we all paraded in the market place, formed up, and with the children of the town leading, the old soldiers next, followed by all the grown-up people of the town, we marched with a band and flags flying round the town to the church. After church we again formed up and marched to the cemetery, laid wreaths on the memorial and a Belgian lady made a speech in English. She was thanked by the Colonel of the Cheshire's, who was a Second-Lieutenant when the war started. The band then played the English and Belgian National Anthems. Next we went to the battle ground of the Cheshires and everything was just as it was in 1914. The Colonel explained the different positions of his battalion, and we found out that nearly all the old men who were on parade that day were taken prisoner on August 23, 1914, and spent the remainder of the war in a prison camp.

Returning to the cemetery, Frank and I met Capt. Smith, of the Public Relations Office. He asked if we were the only Lincolns there. After being told we were, he said, "Just stand there, I will take your photograph." He sent one to our local paper, which was printed.

The next day the Cheshires were being taken to Munster to spend a holiday with their Regiment.

After the parade each householder of the town took one or two old soldiers home to lunch.

We left Audregnies about 8 p.m.; next day we moved to Arras, and on the next day to

Vimy to see the Canadian memorial. Transport is very poor here; we managed to get to Vimy village by 'bus, then had about seven miles to walk to the memorial, but the memorial was well worth the walk. What a beautiful statue and what a beautiful view of the country.

Our problem was to get back to Arras. Frank waved his thumb to every passing car and we had walked about five miles before a kind French lady and gentleman picked us up and took us to our hotel.

The next day we went to Foncquevillers, but we missed the only 'bus out, so we hired a taxi and that cost £4. Frank was very keen to see the church, so our first call was there, but we found it was a different church to the one we knew. We had a look round and found the verger. He told us the church was rebuilt after 1918. It turned out that Frank had been employed during the war storing ammunition in the cellars of the church. The verger told us that the ammunition was still there and the cellars had been filled in.

We went round the cemetery and then had lunch, after which we waited for the only 'bus back. While at lunch the church verger found us again and asked if we would like to see the observation tower which was used during the war. We looked round this place, then caught the 'bus for Arras.

The next day we went to Ypres. We tried to get a room at a couple of places, but they were full up. Then an old Australian soldier took us to a place and we managed to get a bed, and staying at this hotel was an ex-officer of the Lincolns, Mr. Barr. That afternoon Frank and I walked to Hell Fire Corner and then to Hill 60. They have a very good Museum, which is run by a Belgian lady, widow of an English soldier. We then went to the railway crossing, where in 1914 Colonel Smith spoke to two Belgian cavalry men and asked, "Where are the Germans?" He was told just on the other side of Ypres. I shall always remember, Colonel Smith turned to us and said, "Take off all your billy-cans and leave them here, fix your bayonets, follow me and don't make any noise." Walking very softly through the Square, the people of Ypres could be seen opening their doors just a crack to see who we were. We went up the Menin Road and on to the White Chateau.

My Company, which was "A," was told we should be in reserve and we laid down on the left side of the road; the other three Companies then began to file through a kissing gate on the right of the road. After they had passed through, "A" Company followed and laid down amongst the trees.

The Germans were busy firing pom-pom shells just over the top of the trees, then a cheer was heard and I thought the chaps had



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found the Germans. Shortly after "A" Company moved up and started to dig in; our only means of getting drinking water was from the pump in the grounds of the White Chateau. The Germans had a rifle lined on the pump, every minute a bullet would come and pass the pump one side or the other. We waited until a bullet came, then dashed forward and filled our bottles, then jumped back and waited for the next bullet. To make matters worse one of our dead chaps was laid under the pump and the spare water used to run into his open mouth and eyes.

Sir John French came and talked to us in these trenches. He told us the Germans were getting ready to attack with their crack soldiers, known as the Death Head Hussars and the Uhlans. He said he was thankful that the Lincolns held this important position and he was sure the Germans would not get through. Then Colonel Smith sent word down that should any of us retire we should go with the knowledge that we had left our Colonel in the trenches, but no-one retired.

That night at nine o'clock we stood to attention at Menin Gate while the "Last Post" was sounded. One minute to nine all traffic is stopped and a deep silence descends on Ypres. Many Canadians, Australians and British old soldiers were there. I told some of the Canadians my Regiment was in Dickebusch when they received the first lot of gas, and we were also gassed. One Australian was walking round with a tape recorder. He was asking his countrymen where they had been on their holiday and where they had fought in the war; this was to be sent back to their country for broadcasting. I had a word with a Dutch lady, who said she was always afraid her sons would have to go to war.

One of our men told me he had an old German soldier staying at his hotel; they had a talk and found out they were facing each other at Langemark.

On the Roll of Honour on the Menin Gate the first name I noticed was Lieut.-Col. Boxer. When he first came out to Belgium as a Major I was his servant for a time.

We went to the Ramparts and found it was very much as it was in 1914-18, and then to St. George's Memorial Church and saw the tablet in memory of the Lincolns who died.

Mr. Barr gave us a lift to Kemmel and I was able to tell them about the Lincolns and marching into the Germans in the railway cuttings on our way to Wytshaete. It was about 2 a.m. when we saw the troops, who we thought were our Indian troops, but many of them started to fire at us. After a time Colonel Smith told us to fall back about 15 yards and wait for daybreak; we retired and were told to make some head cover, which we did, but the men

were too tired to bother very much, so we left the Germans in the sunken road, and we were laid there with just a little head cover. The Germans only had to fire at our head cover and the man behind was either wounded or killed.

Mr. Barlow, our Second-in-Command, who had spent many years in India, asked the C.O. if he could go and have a walk with the Indians, who we thought they were. Mr. Smith let him go and Mr. Barlow was never seen again.

Daylight came and we did not stand a chance. To make matters worse our artillery started to shell us; the C.O. passed down for the man on the left to try and get back to the guns to tell them to fire 15 yards forward. The left-hand man started to creep away and got a bullet through the back of his head, which sent his hat about 15 feet into the air. The next man was told to try and received the same treatment; and now it was my turn to have a try. I had made up my mind not to creep but to jump up and run when I heard the word coming down, "Next man try," and I jumped up and ran. I had not gone far when other chaps of the Regiment started to pass me; they had been told to retire.

On my right was a farmhouse. I dashed inside, up the stairs, into the loft, opened a door in the gable and could see the Germans. I started to fire and after a bit I saw one of our men staggering away wounded down the stairs. I got the wounded man and helped him on his way; he knew the bullet had gone into his back and was anxious to know if it had come out. I had a look and found where the bullet had come out. I got him back to a place where some other regiment were digging trenches and a young Staff Officer came up to us and told me I should not have bothered about the wounded man, all they wanted was fit men. I told him what I thought.

Mr. Barr asked me if I had the book "The History of the Lincolnshire Regiment." I told him that for over 30 years I had tried to get it and had not been able. He said that he had one at home and would let me have it, and I have now received it.

The next day we came home and now we are saving up to go again next year. But before leaving we collected our memorial card from the Mayor of Ypres. I thought it was a poor way to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first battle of Ypres. If I had my way we should have had Lincoln Cathedral choir at St. George's Church, with a parade from Hell Fire Corner, led by the Duke of Windsor and all the old men left who could get there, who took part in any of the many battles of Ypres, including the Germans.

J. BAINTON.



# REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

and

## THE DEPOT

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### DEPOT REVIEW

For this first issue of *The Castle*, it is appropriate that we should record for posterity that our days in Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds, are numbered. Our readers may have heard that last summer the Army Department announced that they had acquired an ex-R.A.F. camp at Barnham, two miles south of Thetford, as our future permanent home.

Existing accommodation and facilities at Barnham are of a high order, and would make many envious. There is a large building programme to complete before any move can be contemplated, and any move is unlikely before 1967/68.

The year 1965 opened on a high note for the Depot in that we had achieved, in 1964, our target of over 600 recruits (see photograph on page 5). Unfortunately, about twenty per cent of these were lost before training was completed, and this year we are redoubling our efforts to reduce this loss without any deterioration in calibre and training standards.

Mention must be made of the departure of Lt.-Col. B. J. Palmer, M.B.E., who after two-and-a-half years at the Depot, handed over to Lt.-Col. H. W. Clark and went to SHAPE on the staff. During January, R.S.M. Jenks left very hurriedly for the 4th Battalion in order to accompany them to Aden. Mr. and Mrs. Jenks will be very greatly missed at the Depot and we wish them luck. Mr. Cotter has been nominated as the next Depot R.S.M. and will arrive in February.

### OFFICERS' MESS

The formation of the new Regiment has greatly quickened the tempo of Mess life.

Living-in members no longer collapse in slumber after lunch, as Recruiting Teams, Regimental Secretaries, Mayors and Dress Committees all vie with each other for visits to the Depot, and we are delighted to be able to entertain them all to lunch.

On October 26, the Mess gave a cocktail party for the Commanding Officer and three other officers of the Lincoln and Welland Regiment of Canada. Their Regiment was affiliated to the 2nd East Anglian Regiment. Colonel Tyrell very generously presented a beautiful

silver cigarette box to the Depot from himself and the officers of his Regiment.

Shortly after this, on November 7, the subalterns held a party of their own, to which they invited many local friends.

On December 10, the Mess invited Major-General P. Gleadell, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., to a guest night. The Band of the 1st Bn. The Sherwood Foresters played and the evening was a great success. The next day the Director of Infantry came to lunch, having taken the passing-out parade of Normandy Platoon, commanded by John Varley.

Wednesday, December 16, saw the Christmas festivities off to a good start, when members of the Mess invited their friends to the pantomime and afterwards to a "fork" supper. The supper and subsequent drinks were much enjoyed, and afterwards most subalterns and their friends danced in the ladies' room.

The ladies' guest night was held on December 19. The Mess positively sparkled with talent, as did the dinner table! After a delicious dinner, we joined the 3rd Green Jackets Band in singing carols, and we are indeed grateful to them for coming to help make the evening such a success. After carols, all the ladies were given a small gift from the Christmas tree. Monty Howard's present had apparently escaped from his used surplus clothing store!

On December 31, Colonel Denny, Colonel Clark and Major Young very kindly invited officers, their wives and friends to their respective houses to fortify them for the All Ranks' New Year's-Eve dance. The New Year was seen in with great gusto, and happily, without injury.

We now look forward to another year of increasing activity in the Mess, and trust it will be as happy a one as 1964. During last year we said goodbye to Lt.-Col. Palmer who has taken up an appointment at SHAPE and has handed over his putter—and the Depot—to Lt.-Col. Clark. We wish them good luck in their new appointments. John Bowers departed for Berlin on December 16 and handed over his "car" to Cpl. Smith of the M.I. Room. We wish them both every success. Jeremy Winckley was married in March, and "Nick" Rothenbaugh (the Depot playwright) in April. We wish them both every happiness. We hope

When Lt.-Col. J. B. Tucker, C.O. of the local forces in Bermuda (right) and his adjutant, Capt. K. G. Ford (centre) paid a visit to the Royal Anglian Regiment Depot at Bury St. Edmunds on January 5, 1965, Colonel J. C. Denny presented them with a large Royal Anglian Regiment badge in blue, gold and silver for their Mess in Bermuda. The Bermuda Rifles are affiliated to the Royal Anglian Regiment.

By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times



to have photographs of both these happy occasions in our next issue.

We also said goodbye in January to Alastair Malpas, who has spent two years with the Junior Soldiers' Wing and now goes to Hythe as an Instructor. We wish both he and Fiona the best of luck.

Tony Moore left in late January on attachment to R.A.P.C. with a view to transfer. He has been here a year, firstly with the Junior Privates and latterly as Second-in-Command H.Q. Company. All good wishes for his success.

John Bowers left to rejoin the 3rd Battalion in December after a two-year tour and we wish him luck. We welcome to the Depot Lt. Peter Light, who we also congratulate on his recent marriage. Capt. John Parker, who has taken over command of the Junior Soldiers' Wing, and we welcome him and his family.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

There has been very little movement to or from the Mess in the past few months. Sgt. Jackson arrived from the 4th Battalion and Sgt. Gooch has moved to Cyprus.

It was decided, by R.S.M. Jenks, M.M., in mid-November, that the Mess members should redecorate the Mess for Christmas on a self-help basis. C.S.M. O'Sullivan was put in charge, and work began. In less than a month the place was transformed; no one could imagine that the old "wooden hut" could now look so nice inside.

Midway through the decorating a "Tramps' Ball" was held (organised by Q.M.S.I. Wright), and it went very well; some of the "tramps" being almost too good to be true.

The Christmas Draw was the occasion to which everyone looked forward, and no one

could possibly have been disappointed when it came. The guests included the Regimental Colonel and the Commanding Officer. The drinks were "free" and the 125 prizes were shared around fairly well.

With the cold weather upon us now, we all look forward to the summer and the Regimental Week-end. We were sorry to say goodbye to Mr. and Mrs. Jenks in late January. Mr. Jenks has left behind his monument in our sparkling, newly-designed and decorated Mess. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jenks will be greatly missed by the Mess and all members, and we wish them God speed and good luck.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

Company Commander:

Major A. G. B. Cobbold

Much water has passed under the bridge since the last issue of the Regimental Magazines! The main events have been a successful Brigade Week-end (which proved to the horror of C/Sgt. Child that the Company lines could accommodate 300 men). The Bury Tattoo, the annual range classification, the annual physical efficiency tests and the annual interior economy inspection. During the year about 600 men have been drafted through for various points of the globe.

The result of both the classification and the P.E. tests were encouraging. There were some fifteen L.M.G. marksmen, and twenty attained that standard with the S.L.R. Perhaps the most surprising result was that only two failed their P.E. tests! "Office bound" and "vehicle borne" are we?

To mention all who have departed or arrived would be quite impossible, but we

must take this opportunity of mentioning Major Styles, who has handed over the "ruins" to Major Cobbold; "Q" Fell, who has handed over to Staff Wood in the pay office; Sgt. Hetherington, who handed over his arduous duties to Sgt. Everitt; Sgt. Ferrier, who handed over to Sgt. Atkins; and, finally, W.O.I Eyeions, who handed over as Depot Chief Clerk to Sgt. Jackson, on his appointment as Superintending Clerk in Regimental H.Q. To them and all others not mentioned we send our best wishes for the future.

### TRAINING COMPANY

*Company Commander :*

Major P. P. Young

The recruiting rate has continued to be high during the past three months, and all Permanent Staff of the Company have been working at very high pressure. For the training teams, this has meant only a two-day break between the passing-out of one platoon and the start of another. Only for the last couple of intakes has the pace slackened off. However, we are looking forward to an even busier year in 1965.

We are all now settling back into harness after the very enjoyable Christmas and New Year celebrations.

As always, faces have been changing. Lt. Bowers and Sgt. Noble are now with the 3rd Battalion; Cpl. Warren has gone to the 1st, and Cpl. Graham to the 2nd Battalion; Ptes. Greenwood and Denham have both gone on discharge. Without the latter's sparkling wit, the Company Office seems a much quieter place.

### JUNIOR SOLDIERS WING

OIC CAPT. J. K. PARKER

#### GENERAL

The J.S.W. is divided into three groups. The Junior Bandmen, Junior Drummers and Junior Privates. At full strength there are some 120 Juniors between 15 and 17½ years of age. As the three departments carry out such very different training, they each have their own separate notes.

#### JUNIOR BAND

We would like to wish good luck to Junior Bandmen Ziska, Skubala, Stanley and Rogers, who have departed to Kneller Hall. Cpl. O'Donnell, 4th Battalion, has arrived and we hope he remains sane and sober longer than we did. We say farewell to L./Cpl. Hammond, who returns to the 2nd Battalion.

There have been a number of engagements for the Band in the last quarter. A number of passing-out parades; an Officers' Mess dinner, and the carol service. We also play at the Depot Church once a month.

The Band has been badly hit by the loss of the most experienced juniors to man's service. However, a new Band has been successfully built up and we hope this will grow to bigger and better things.

The Band strength is 21 Juniors at the moment. This is quite small, but we like to keep the standard of entry as high as possible.

#### JUNIOR CORPS OF DRUMS

The strength of the Corps of Drums at the moment is five Permanent Staff and 46 Juniors.

We remain in great demand for passing-out parades, which take place at fortnightly intervals. As well as the music, we provide a splash of colour in scarlet tunics and white equipment.

The first of our outside engagements last term was on October 25 when we marched at the head of a parade of several youth organisations. The occasion was the opening of a modern youth centre in Dereham. On November 7 our second engagement took us to Welwyn Garden City. We marched in front of the Santa Claus "coach-and-four" on a lengthy tour of the suburbs and town centre. Everyone survived the march, including the rear rank of the flute players, who were at time the unwilling objects of curiosity for the leading pair of horses. On Remembrance Sunday we had the privilege of leading the parade of Service and ex-Service organisations.

Our good wishes go to the Officer-in-Charge of the Wing, Capt. E. A. Malpas, who is leaving us shortly. We wish him and his family every happiness in the future.

#### JUNIOR PRIVATES PLATOON

This quarter has been a busy one. Sgt. Tucker arrived to take over as Platoon Sergeant from Sgt. Mixer. We wish Sgt. Mixer all the best for the future. Capt. A. S. Moore handed over to Lt. H. T. Hutley as Platoon Commander.

The Platoon has spent a good deal of time out of camp, mainly at week-ends. The farthest exercise was Exercise "Wash I," devoted to adventure training on the Norfolk Broads.

The Inter-Hut Competitions are being much more closely contested than in the past, but Junior Privates are well up in the running. Our senior boys, J/Cpls. Whitfield and Hudson and J/L/Cpl. Simon are very confident that a "Private" hut will win.

The strength of the Privates is four staff and 30 Juniors. This, for us, is rather low; we are usually about the fifty mark.

#### FOOTBALL

1964 has been a good year for football in the Depot. January to May saw us only losing one match in the Ipswich and District Wednes-

day League, to finish the season third on goal average.

The 1963-64 season also saw the Junior Soldiers' Wing reaching the semi-final of their Army Cup, losing to the Yorkshire Brigade after a very good run, which included a win over the Junior Guards Company, the previous season's winners of the cup.

The current season, so far, has been very good for the Depot in the Wednesday League, their record to date being: Played 7, won 7, goals for 79, against 14, points 14. In the Army Cup we lost 5-4 to the Grenadier Guards at Windsor. In the Minor Unit Cup we lost 7-4 to 209 Signal Squadron after extra time. Both matches were closely fought, with the result being in doubt until the very end.

So far, the Depot, in fourteen matches, have scored 124 goals. The leading goal-scorers being: S.I. Stoves (43), Pte. Hargreaves (14), L/Cpl. Hindmarsh (8) and Pte. Farr (18), and almost every other member of the team scoring at least one goal.

#### HOCKEY

The Depot team has come up against some stiff opposition this season. The team consists of very enthusiastic young players blended with older, experienced players. The inspiration of the team remains Major Arnott at full-back, where his voice can be heard by all the players. Brian Harrington-Spier has organised the team for two seasons.

Unfortunately, we have won very few games. We do, however, always play units much larger than ourselves—mainly R.A.F. stations. When we meet smaller units in the Army Minor Units Cup, we hope to do much better.

The team has been formed from the following players: Goalkeepers, Capt. Robinette, Cpl. Tidman, Major Gunton; full-backs, Major Arnott, Capt. Malpas, Cpl. Groom; half-backs, Lt. Hutley, Lt. Harrington-Spier, Cpl. Grayham, Cpl. O'Hara; forwards, Cpl. Thompson, Lt. Varley, Lt. Elder, Lt. Winckley, Cpl. French, L/Cpl. Harrison, Cpl. Thorne, Cpl. Bromfield. Umpire, B.S.M. George.

#### BASKETBALL

The season started off none too well, as many stars of last year's team have departed.

In the Colchester Garrison League we have played 8, won 4, lost 4, scored 266, against 244. Not impressive, but better than expected.

Players included Capt. Moore, Lt. Hutley, W.O.I Jenks, M.M., Sgt. Stoves (A.P.T.C.), Sgt. Hazlewood, Cpl. Graham, Cpl. Maskell, L/Cpl. Stocker, Pte. Boughton. We look forward to the Army Championships with enthusiasm, if not with confidence.

## The Depot Pantomime

### Aladdin

The Depot's third pantomime proved to be the most successful so far. Written and produced by that able team, 'Arnott, Rogers and Roethenbaugh' (Education Staff), it had a two-night run just before the Christmas break, and played to full houses. For the first time, a party of old age pensioners were invited from Bury St. Edmunds, and they afterwards expressed their appreciation for a very enjoyable night out.

The success of the show was attributed to a strict adherence to the traditional story and the smooth production, which maintained a brisk pace. All the usual pantomime ingredients were employed—songs, slapstick in the laundry, good versus evil, a transformation scene, and the Geni's appearance marked by flashes, bangs and smoke. The script was written effectively in rhyming couplets, and care was taken to see that most of the Depot personalities, from the Regimental Colonel to the Quartermaster and Colour Sergeants, received a "mention." This was accomplished by writing new verses to the tune Widdicombe Fair, and it was a pity that some of the lines were lost in roars of laughter.

The music, arranged by Bandmaster E. S. Smythe, A.R.C.M., was played by a group of the Junior Soldiers' Wing permanent staff. The words were original and were set to melodies ranging from old English folk tunes to Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado." The singing was enthusiastic—if not very tuneful.

The cast of twenty came equally from the Depot Permanent Staff and Juniors, and the feminine touch was supplied by Sgt. Everitt's two daughters, Sheila presenting an attractive Princess Ti-Foo, and Janet, her slave. The outstanding performance was that of Pte. Meyer-Jones as Aladdin, and he received strong support from Lt. N. C. Roethenbaugh as the "baddy," Abanazar. These two appeared in almost every scene, and their previous experience in drama added considerable polish to the production. Comic relief was provided by Lt. M. S. Wright, as a voluptuous Widow Twanky, and by Lt. G. A. Barratt, who evoked frequent laughter through his use of a Peter Sellers inspired Indian accent. The three Peking spivs, Cpls. Groom, Booth and Stocker were happily cast, and they made the most of their two songs, "Three Little Peking Spivs" (to the tune "Three Little Maids") and "Uncle Tom Cobbold" (to the music of "Widdicombe Fair"). Sgt. Leatherhead was a very impressive Geni. The guards and laundry coolies were effectively played by Juniors.

Tribute must be paid to those who worked

*Continued on page 58*





## 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

Since the formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment, on September 1, 1964, the Battalion has been employed on internal security duties in Aden or in the Radfan.

During September and October, the Battalion operated in support of the civil police in Aden, providing V.P. guards, patrols and road block parties. "C" Company was on detachment at Mukieras from September 7, where they did some useful training. A party of 15 T.A.E.R. soldiers were attached to them for a fortnight during this tour.

The Battalion returned to the Radfan on October 21, and occupied familiar positions at Table Top, Blair's Field, Paddy's and Monk's Fields, and provided the defence company at Thumier. Blair's Field was shot at frequently, but for the most part we were occupied with anti-mine-laying patrols, ambushes, and medical assistance patrols to the returning tribes.

On November 9, the Battalion left the Radfan. "A" Company immediately went to Dhala to support a Federal Battalion there. The remainder of the Battalion returned to Aden, where it remained until December 29.

Although committed to guard duties, a full programme of sporting and social activities was carried out. A Drum-Head Service of Remem-

brance was held on November 11. The Battalion Cross-Country Championship and Weapons Meeting were held on November 12 and 13. The Band gave an excellent concert in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund on the 16th. The Inter-Company and Individual Novices Boxing Championships were held in the gymnasium on November 20.

Support Company moved to Mukieras on November 23.

On December 3, a M.E.L.F. Team shot against a team from the Ethiopian Military Academy. Four officers of the Battalion were in the team.

"A" Company returned from Dhala on December 18 and the Battalion started to concentrate for the Christmas period. The Band presented an excellent pantomime, "Aladdin in Aden," that night.

The Battalion Athletics Meeting was held on 19th and 20th, less Support Company, who returned from Mukieras on December 22.

The Annual Inspection was carried out by Brigadier Bremner, Commander of 24 Infantry Brigade, on Christmas Eve. He gave us a grading of Very Good.

The Battalion went back to the Radfan on December 29 having been together for the first



G.M.P.G. Sanga  
(Left) Pte. Thorpe  
and Pte. Smithurst  
(right)

time in many months; for seven days. During this tour the position at Blair's Field was given up as more tribes returned to the area. On December 31, Pte. Frazer was killed in a mine incident, and Cpl. Andrews and Pte. Barrell wounded.

On January 20, we concentrated in Aden once more. The Colonel of the Regiment accompanied by the Regimental Colonel visited the Battalion from January 22 to 26.

On February 1, "B" Company started its second tour at Mukieras and the remainder of the Battalion took over the I.S. tasks in Aden.

On February 17, Lt.-Col. Dye, O.B.E., M.C., handed over command of the Battalion to Lt.-Col. Creasey.

### OFFICERS' MESS

In common with the rest of the Battalion, the social side has flourished spasmodically dependant on movement up and down country.

We have held three Buffet Suppers and Band Concerts. At the first in October, 1964, the officers of Aden Garrison were the guests and the occasion marked our departure from their command to 24 Infantry Brigade Group. This was very successful and as a result we held another in December. The principle guests were the G.O.C., General Cubbon, and Mrs. Cubbon.

We also managed to hold two guest nights, the first in November for the officers of Headquarters 24 Brigade and the second in early December for Lieut.-General Sir John Hackett, the D.C.G.S., during his visit to Aden.

The annual Ladies' Night was held on December 22. It was a most enjoyable evening thanks to the hard work of the Committee headed by Stuart Rowsell, Chris Mather and C/Sgt. Place and his Mess staff. All officers of the Regiment in Aden attended with their wives and we sat down to dinner 68 strong.

On Christmas Day, led by the R.S.M., the Sergeants visited the Mess before going to the Dining Hall for the men's lunch. It was a lively and noisy gathering enjoyed by all.

During the Colonel of the Regiment's visit he lunched in the Mess with the officers, and with Lady Denning attended at a Buffet Supper and Band Concert.

On February 13, the Officers dined out Lt.-Col. Dye. This was a nostalgic evening and the Band and Mess Staff pulled out all stops for the occasion. A curry lunch was held the next day and attended by all officers and their wives to say farewell to the Colonel and Mrs. Dye.

On November 22, Cyril Coates left the Battalion due to ill health. We would like to thank him for all the hard work he did for the Battalion and in particular for the Mess. Nigel

and Enora Lewis finally left for 4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment T.A. after many alarms and excursions on December 29, 1964, followed by John and Valerie Churchill bound for The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (T.A.) on December 31, 1964.

Richard and Rachel Wilson left for the delights of Tripoli, and even if the Mess is now considerably quieter, they are missed by all. To all these, we offer our best wishes for the future and for enjoyable tours in their new appointments.

The arrivals have outnumbered the departures; Dick and Rosalie Holman from darkest Africa, Stuart Rowsell and Charles and Myrtle Barnes also from West Africa.

Our new Chancellor is Bert Ambler, who appears to have settled in completely and to be resigned to his fate. Rupert Gowing has returned from the delights of Kenya, his arrival coinciding with that of Ted Gonder from Shrivvenham and Netheravon. From the R.M.A., Simon Steward and Brian Copping constitute the new entry.

Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Creasey arrived on February 15, to them in particular and to all arrivals go our hopes for an enjoyable and fruitful tour with the Battalion.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

A very full period. A combination of work and play. Mess activities have been very much restricted due to 'up country' commitments. But when there were enough members in Mess we made the most of it.

Over Christmas between Annual Administrative Inspections and Radfan we fitted in our annual Christmas Draw. A great success, although people like Sgt. Jones and Sgt. Melvin escaped the embarrassment of winning so many prizes by going home to England on leave. Congratulations to C.S.M. Garman and S/Sgt. Ridout for the excellent organisation and wide selection of draw prizes. Let's hope all the winners will still think so when Mr. Customs ask them, "Anything to Declare?"

Any further entertainment was postponed until we had completed another three weeks in the Radfan. Most of the Battalion saw in the New Year on Patrol or Ambush.

On January 23 we held our New Year's Ball. C.S.M. Downes, P.M.C., organised the night. The date coincided with the visit to the Battalion of the Colonel of the Regiment, Lieut.-General Sir Reginald F. C. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., D.L., and Lady Denning. The Regimental Colonel, Colonel J. C. Denny, O.B.E., M.C., accompanied the Colonel of the Regiment. Everything went extremely well, to the credit of C.S.M. Downes and his committee, also to W.O.II Regan, A.C.C., and his cooks for the



*C/Sgt. Kelly and Sgt. Hughes.*

first class buffet. As this is the rainy season, if any rain is coming, we were a trifle apprehensive, seeing that half our Mess is outdoors; but luckily no rain came.

We have recently been in the throes of a Board of Officers checking Accounts, Stores and Property, prior to the change over of the Commanding Officers. We seem to have survived.

On February 12 we dined out the Commanding Officer. Again C.S.M. Downes, together with W.O.II Regan, A.C.C., excelled themselves.

On behalf of the Mess, I would like to repeat, both to him and to Mrs. Dye, our best wishes for the future and to thank them for all that they have done for the Battalion.

These notes go to Press the day before Colonel Dye leaves Aden, but the intention is to pull him out of camp. "Drummy" Moyes, whose Mace has been chained to his hand for two years, intends to toss it all the way; "Bandmaster" Melvin and his jolly 16 (the remainder are on leave) will play 'Officers' Call, Regimental March and at the gates, Auld Lang Syne.' There is also talk of an ambush party on his way to the 'plane.

Internal upheavals, etc., are always happening within the Mess. This time we are delighted to start off our congratulations with an award. To Sgt. "Johnny" Watson for his New Year's Honours List of a B.E.M.; to Sgt.

and Mrs. Gault the addition of a son to their family; on their promotion, to C/Sgts. Sharpe, Cross, Laver, Lawson and Ansell; to Sgt. Biggs, Phillips, Baxter, Kirby and Slocombe (R.E.M.E.). It's always sad to see people leave, and those who have left are: C.S.M. Bullock, C/Sgt. Fox, Sgts. Bullock and Huxtable. We are always delighted to see members return. Some have been promoted since: C/Sgt. Taylor, Sgts. Laver, Cross and Watson.

The dart season is now halfway, and we are still doing very well under the captaincy of S/Sgt. Ridout. Most of the season we have been lying first but are at present second to the 45 Royal Marine Commando.

### THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT VISITS THE 1st BATTALION

On January 22, Lieut.-General Sir Reginald and Lady Denning arrived in Aden on SS. *Circassia*. They were met by the Commanding Officer and taken ashore by launch and then to Command House where they stayed during their visit to the Battalion.

On 23rd, there was a Battalion Parade for the Colonel of the Regiment. The Battalion paraded in No. 3 Dress, four guards, the Colour Party and the Band, at a strength of approximately 300 all ranks. The Colonel of the Regiment, accompanied by the Regimental Colonel, arrived at 11 o'clock. He was greeted by a General Salute followed immediately by the Band Trooping in slow and quick time. The Colonel of the Regiment then inspected the Parade. The inspection over, L.S. and G.C. Medals were presented to Sgt. Baxter, Cpl. McHale, of the Band, and to Sgt. Butler, R.E.M.E., attached to the Battalion M.T. The Colonel of the Regiment then addressed the Parade, in which he stated that he was well satisfied with what he had seen so far, in that he was impressed with the Battalion arms drill and steadiness on parade. The Battalion then marched past in quick time in column of companies. An advance in Review Order ended the Parade.

After the Parade group photographs were taken of the Colonel of the Regiment with the Officers and the Sergeants.

The Colonel of the Regiment then lunched with the Officers. Lady Denning lunched with Mrs. Dye and the Majors' wives.

That evening the Warrant Officers and Sergeants gave a Ball which was attended by the General and Lady Denning.

On January 24 a Buffet Supper and Band Concert was given in the Officers' Mess. All officers of the Regiment in Aden attended with their wives and every battalion was represented.

## Visit of the Colonel of the Regiment



### THE OFFICERS

(Back row): Lt. Ambler (R.A.P.C.), 1/Lt. Pearce, Lt. Buldry, Lt. Barham, 1/Lt. Vay, Lt. R. Conder, 2/Lt. Hughes, Lt. E. Conder.  
 (Middle row): Capt. Rowell, Capt. Stans, Capt. Mather, Capt. Jefferson, Lt. Keop, 2/Lt. Steward, Capt. Ross, Lt. ChM, Capt. Hurron, Capt. Capping (R.A.M.C.).  
 (Front row): Major Mahman, Major Fleming, Capt. Barrow, Lieut.-General Denning, Lt.-Col. Dye, Major Hughes, Colonel Denny, Major Duffin, Capt. Norman.



### THE WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS

(Back row): Sgt. Cockburn, Sgt. Baxter, Sgt. Peacock, Sgt. Noble, Sgt. Reed, Sgt. Bryson, Sgt. Taylor, Sgt. Fletcher, Sgt. Backman, Sgt. Watson, Sgt. James, Sgt. Smith.  
 (Third row): Sgt. Hinchey, Sgt. Walker, Sgt. King, Sgt. Harris, Sgt. Hughes, Sgt. Kirby, Sgt. Jennings, Sgt. Watson J., Sgt. Lines, Sgt. Banks, Sgt. Jones, Sgt. Mohan, Sgt. Miaz, Sgt. Bailor, Sgt. Phillips.  
 (Second row): S/Sgt. Peppin, C/Sgt. Ansell, C/Sgt. Blythe, C/Sgt. Bennett, C/Sgt. Lawson, Sgt. Finn, C/Sgt. Taylor, C/Sgt. Kelly, C/Sgt. Laver, S/Sgt. Hildout, C/Sgt. Griffin, C/Sgt. Cross, Sgt. Gault, C/Sgt. Jeffrey.  
 (Front row): C.S.M. Holland, C.S.M. Downes, C.S.M. Halden, R.Q.M.S. Drew, Colonel Denny, Lt.-Col. Dye, R.S.M. Harwood, Lieut.-General Denning, Bandmaster Holman, Capt. Barrow, O.R.Q.M.S. Kinson, Drum-Major Mann, C.A.M. Currie, C.S.M. Doughty, W.O.H. Goodfellow.

The Colonel of the Regiment and Lady Denning were very appreciative and complimentary of the evening's entertainment.

On 25th, the Commanding Officer took the Colonel of the Regiment and the Regimental Colonel on a tour of the Radfan in a Scout Helicopter. Thumier, Cap Badge and the Jebel Hurriyah were among the places visited.

Whilst this tour was in progress Lady Denning, accompanied, by Mrs. Dye, attended a meeting of the Wives' Club and talked to a number of wives.

Both parties then met for lunch at the Tarshyne Officers' Club where they met Brigadier Hargroves, Commander Aden Brigade, and Mrs. Hargroves, Miss H. Dartford, D.D. S.S.A.F.A. Aden, Lt.-Col. J. A. C. Cowan, M.B.E., and Major T. Holloway of the 4th Battalion.

That night the Commanding Officer gave a private dinner party which was the last event in the visit to the Battalion.

We were extremely pleased to have had the Colonel of the Regiment and Lady Denning with us in Aden, our only regret being that they were not able to spend longer with us.

#### CHANGE OF COMMAND

On February 17, Lt.-Col. J. B. Dye, O.B.E., M.C., handed over command of the Battalion to Lt.-Col. T. M. Creasey.

\* \* \*

Lt.-Col. Dye took command of the 1st Bn. 1st East Anglian Regiment at Felixstowe in October, 1962, on the Battalion's return from British Guiana. He was faced with two main tasks, firstly re-training the Battalion for European type operations and secondly preparation of the Colours in May, 1963, and the parades for the granting of the Freedoms by the county towns in September and October. Needless to say a high standard was achieved and the Battalion was congratulated on its performance in all these things.

In January, 1964, the Battalion moved to Aden and under his direction soon mastered its Internal Security role. In April, 1964, the Battalion was committed on operations in the Radfan and in the border areas of Dhala and Mukeiras.

The success of the Battalion in these operations in a difficult country and in adverse climate was the direct result of his training and leadership. This is borne out in the account of the capture of the Jebel Hurriyah in the official report on the Radfan operations.

The success of his tenure of command was marked by the award of the O.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List.

Lt.-Col. Dye has left to be G.S.O.1 of the 3rd Division, with him go the best wishes for the future of all ranks of the Battalion.



*By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times*

*Lt.-Col. T. M. Creasey, who is now commanding the 1st Battalion of the Regiment in Aden, was first commissioned into the Royal Norfolk Regiment. Previously to taking up command he was Chief Instructor at Victory College, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.*

Lt.-Col. T. M. Creasey returns to the command of the Battalion, having been away since 1962.

Since the end of the war, Lt.-Col. Creasey served with the 1st Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment in B.A.O.R. until being posted to the Signal Wing School of Infantry as Chief Instructor. He attended the Staff College, Camberley, in 1954 and on completion of the course was appointed Brigade Major 39 Independent Brigade in Kenya.

On completion of this staff tour he was posted as an instructor to the Staff College where he remained until 1961. He then served as Second-in-Command of the 1st Bn. The East Anglian Regiment and went with the Battalion to British Guiana.

On return from British Guiana in 1962 he was posted to the R.M.A. Sandhurst where he was Chief Instructor of Victory College until assuming command of the 1st Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment.

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## 4th BATTALION

# THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT (TA)

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### BATTALION REVIEW

Paint and polish have brought new life to Britannia Barracks' ageing features. The Junior Ranks' Club now vies with the smartest gastronomic establishment in Norfolk and, in addition to the delicious chickens which the cooks produce during weekend training, the cheapest most thirst-quenching beer can be purchased and consumed in congenial surroundings. The newly decorated club was opened amidst great festivity in January when old members of the 4th Battalion, led by Colonel Jewson, were invited to a party given by serving members. All joined in the singing, eating and drinking.

This is a Unit training year and the accent has been on individual training. Companies have been preparing themselves for the annual winter exercise which was held on the weekend of January 16/17. Each Company provided two patrols that moved through the night on foot from starting points all over Norfolk to objectives fifteen miles away in Stanford Battle Area. Many felt that they had walked twenty-five miles! During their approach march the patrols were harassed and ambushed by parties provided by Norfolk A.C.F. and Gresham School C.C.F. After reaching their objectives the patrols moved to West Tofts Camp where they were able to have a quick wash, rest and breakfast before returning to the ranges to fire a competition shoot. An "A" Company team led by Capt. Warrington won the competition.

After many years of fruitless efforts recruiting in Yarmouth has suddenly met with success and "A" Company has doubled its strength in the last year. The Company is thriving and a turnout of twenty-five to thirty men at a weekend is not unusual.

C/Sgt. Watson has left "B" Company in King's Lynn and been replaced by C/Sgt. Bullock. All members of the Battalion are delighted that C/Sgt. Watson's efforts in King's Lynn were recognised by his award of the B.E.M. in the New Year's Honours.

A support weapons cadre is under way and a TAER cadre is due to start at the end of February. There are now forty Ever Readies in the Battalion, most of whom will be going to Aden in April or B.A.O.R. in May. Officer Cadets are being worked hard and took part in the N.C.O.'s Cadre held at the end of last year. Another Officer Cadet has just joined.

At the end of March the Battalion will take part in a Brigade Signal Exercise in Colchester,

and in April will be due for a sousing during an amphibious exercise on the East Coast. Close liaison with the A.C.F. has been established and Cadets now train once a month on drill nights with Companies. In May all the Cadets in Norfolk will have the opportunity of seeing the Battalion at work when special demonstrations have been arranged for them by all T.A. Units in Norfolk.

Preparations for camp have already begun, and amongst the less military activities planned is a trip to France on the middle weekend. It is hoped that the attractions across the Channel will not be so great as to compel anyone to attend camp for only eight days!

### H.Q. COMPANY

The year has started on an energetic note for the Company with two weekend exercises on the S.P.T.A. in January. In the first instance we had the unlikely combination of R.E.M.E. Fitters, M.T. Drivers and Signallers forming an Infantry fighting Patrol with the mission of attacking, capturing and destroying the Bailey Bridge at Buckenham Tofts. The bridge had previously been wired and charges laid by L/Cpls. Fisher and Hewitt. As it was the first electrical ring main they had laid its efficiency was doubted. However, after the attacking force had successfully accomplished its task the charges blew at the first press of the button. Success of the attack was largely due to diversionary action by Cpl. Dawson, Cfn. Hudson and Cfn. Butler. The steady downpour of rain added to the mood of festivity. The battle fought and won, friend and foe together marched back to the rendezvous from which the transport took us to the T.A.C. at Dereham. Here we were dehydrated by their central heating system and fed by W.O.II Groom and his minions. We tend to overlook the efforts of the cooks when we are in the field and are wrongly apt to take their work very much for granted. We wish to acknowledge the good job they do.

The following weekend saw us once more on the S.P.T.A. doing our more familiar tasks of driving, signalling and cooking. Some members of the Company were "shanghied" by the Q.M. into various 'Q' jobs! The only Company men who saw any action were the Reconnaissance Platoon who were kept busy charging around the countryside in the vehicles acting as a mobile enemy force. Though this weekend may not have been as entertaining as the pre-



vious one it did give us the opportunity of doing our correct jobs in the Battalion.

On the social side we recently held a social evening in the canteen at Britannia Barracks at which "H.Q." and "C" Companies were joined by the Old Comrades' Association. At this most enjoyable encounter one old gentleman was heard to ask for 'Young Pearce'! The forty-four year olds amongst us felt rejuvenated at this.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome back to the Company W.O.II Mann as a T.A. volunteer. W.O.II Mann was with us a few years back as R.S.M. He has since retired from the Regular Army and is now working as our M.T. foreman. We also welcome to the Company Sgt. H. Smith who joined us from "D" Company; he has recently moved into Norwich and is now an active member of H.Q. Company.

#### "A" COMPANY

The last six months have seen considerable changes in the Company order of battle; our Company Commander has changed and our numbers have greatly swelled. Last summer Major R. Boulton, r.d., retired and was succeeded by Capt. J. M. Shearman. Training efforts continued to be concentrated chiefly on Sgt. Barnes' Recruits Platoon who enjoyed their own weekends on nearby Fritton Heath. The results of their training have been well demonstrated by the Company's recent successes in the field. Our greatest success was victory in the Battalion winter patrol competition "Snow-Goose" when the two Company teams finished first and third. Both eluded ambushes by skilful use of the ground and Capt. Warrington's patrol launched an attack on their objective which completely deceived the enemy. Their skill in the shooting section later was less marked; they left most of their targets untouched, but they had already done well enough to win the competition.

Despite this we have one good shot in the Company and our P.S.I., Sgt. D. Spalding, is to be congratulated on winning the Brigade Permanent Staff Cup. Apart from the frenzied annual rush to qualify for Bounty, the Company's main shooting activity has been at the Christmas Shoot when Pte. Underwood won the chicken. There was a grand turnout for the ensuing social evening.

The sudden death of C/Sgt. Harry Amis brought much sadness to the Company. A pre-war T.A. man, Harry had served with the Royal Norfolk Regiment as a regular and T.A. soldier for some seventeen years and was a main-stay of many Company activities. His widow and children have our sincere sympathy.

In January the annual children's party was again well attended and an innovation was a

conjuring turn. Soon after, the Company Dinner was held at the Sandringham Hotel and over 100 members and guests were present for a hectic evening. Presentations were made to Major and Mrs. Boulton and the whole affair was a triumph for C.S.M. Pillar's organisation.

For the first time for many years four members of the successful Battalion football team—Sgt. Spalding, L/Cpl. Varney, Ptes. Ward and Munford—have been from "A" Company. We hope recent successes will mean an increased interest in Battalion sporting activities.

Recently we acted as enemy to a Dorset T.A. Battalion on Stanford P.T.A. on a very dark night. We learned that the Dorsets, though keen on sleep, have most sensitive ear-drums. Reports of an escaped puma in the district some days later may mean that they planned to get their own back somehow.

#### "B" COMPANY

In the somewhat sanitary odour of a T.A.C. prepared for a Generals Inspection, inspiration of the type required to bring tone to the squalid activities of "B" Company should not be long in coming. At least I hope not; these notes should have been written yesterday. The writer has just looked through past issues of *The Britannia and Castle*; there is no inspiration there. If only another Company would call us rude names, heaven knows there must be a few which apply to us, we could dip our Biro in vitriol and answer with the sort of stuff that would ensure front page treatment on one of the more popular (sordid) Sunday newspapers. Alas, their comments are all as mild as mother's milk—no inspiration here.

A paragraph wishing *The Castle* well might not be amiss. In our experience time spent buttering up Editors is never wasted. We look forward to reading a new big journal worthy of a new big regiment. We expect that our old wine will be well contained in this new wine skin.

Confession, they say, is good for the soul—we will begin with that. Our performance in the Battalion winter exercise left much to be desired. Both patrols got to their objectives in time and succeeded in their tasks, but at the expense of some members with tender feet (and tender hearts?), who fell by the wayside. A lot of marching will now be fitted in if the Company is to be fit for the very full programme arranged for camp.

On a more happy note a very good Children's Christmas Party was held early in the New Year. The speed with which the money was raised for this, and the great deal of hard work which men and their wives put into buying presents, the preparation of the bunfight, and the organisation of the party deserves every praise. It was

pleasant to see children from a local home enjoying themselves.

C/Sgt. Bullock is now well established at King's Lynn. Sgt. Chilvers, though he remains in the T.A., has left his job as Company clerk and now sells calculating machines with calculating thoroughness to an unwary public. His place has been taken by Mr. Ollett, an ex-regular of the Royal Army Dental Corps. It will be news to the boys in Aden that C/Sgt. Watson has left us. We wish him all the very best of luck in his new job. He is to be congratulated on his medal. We hope he will be able to live it down with the regulars and that the news did not strike him too hard a financial blow in the Sergeants' Mess. C/Sgt. Watson (T.A.) is to be congratulated on the completion of service for the T.A. medal, and we hope that he will continue to soldier with us.

Sgt. Chilvers continues to lead a very enthusiastic football team. An analysis of the scores might make the casual observer imagine that it is a Rugby club, but it says much for the team that they do not become discouraged; in fact they seem to enjoy their games. A headmaster we know used to say that the winning team should thank the loser for taking part. Without a loser there can be no winner. A very comforting philosophy. We are sure the other teams in the Sunday League are thankful for the participation of the "Holy Boys" in the League.

### "C" COMPANY

O.C. ... MAJOR J. B. SALTER, T.D.  
 P.S.I. ... W.O.II PARKER AND C/Sgt. BATES, R.E.M.  
 C.S.M. ... W.O.II HEWITT  
 C/Sgt. ... C/Sgt. HUTTON

The Company has been kept busy. Some of the Junior N.C.O.s have had a chance to improve their knowledge on a series of Cadres run by "D" Company and "C" Company is now running Cadres on the 3-inch Mortar for the other Companies. The instructors are C/Sgt. Bates, C.S.M. Hewitt and Sgt. Howes.

In November the Company assembled on S.P.T.A. for Night Compass Training, Field Firing and Grenade Throwing. Parties of four were dropped at various points and issued with a compass and given a magnetic bearing to follow. Except for one party everyone completed the five-leg course of six miles which was devised by P.S.I.s.

The Christmas Draw was held at Wymondham in December and our thanks are due to our hard-worked ticket sellers W.O.II Parker, the C.S.M., and Sgt. Howes. The Company were forced or persuaded to buy 800 tickets so that 80 prizes could be given away on the night. Mrs. Roberts again prepared all the refreshments, which were greatly appreciated, while Mr. Roberts was kept busy exchanging money

for a certain machine. Cpl. Bean and L/Cpl. Roberts ran the bar.

Exercise "Snow-geese" proved to be what its aim suggested—an endurance test. Those who completed the exercise certainly felt they had had a long walk. Next time will the route be more than 20 miles? It was realised that the following weekend would be one of rest so Lt. Misselbrook and C.S.M. Hewitt booked a Cabaret and Dance Band and the Company Dinner was held at the Lamb Inn, Norwich, and was greatly enjoyed by all who attended it.

By the time these notes are printed W.O.II and Mrs. Parker will have been posted to Aden and W.O.II Hiscock will have taken over. Perhaps Thetford will have a T.A.C. and some recruits, and possibly C/Sgt. Bates also will have been posted—he assures us that he will not be here for camp in June. We wish W.O.II and Mrs. Parker the best of luck.

### "D" COMPANY

Plus ça change, plus c'est le meme chose—which, rapidly translated, means "it is just as difficult providing the notes on time for the first issue of *The Castle* as it was for its predecessor, *The Britannia and the Castle*."

This rash rush into foreign tongue is stimulated by the current rumour that camp at Shorncliffe is to include a day trip to France and speculation is rife that training will come to an abrupt halt thereafter, due to a mysterious lack of bodies on the return trip.

In the November issue of these notes the Anti-Tank Detachment were lying second in

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the Brigade Competition, with the siting and concealment test about to take place in Colchester. In this we were triumphant and as a result took equal first place with the Suffolk and Cambridgeshires in the competition as a whole. Sgt. Thompson is to be particularly congratulated on instilling into his team the finer points on the concealment of a gun pit, which are not always appreciated when the ground is hard!

The period since November has largely been taken up with Company training on the Bull Ring system, by visiting teams of P.S.I.s and also with the running of a most successful Lance-Corporal to Corporal Cadre, organised by Major Smith.

The social side of our activities has included several Company dances which, unfortunately, have not exactly filled the Company's coffers and without the assistance of our latest recruit (who resides permanently in the canteen and only sports one arm) the Bailiff would be taking an unhealthy interest in our new Drill Hall and its contents.

However, we are learning by experience and cutting expenditure on future functions.

The Company Dinner was well attended and our guests included Colonel and Mrs. Turnbull, Majors Grant and Joanny and Major and Mrs. Jones. This event was followed by the Children's Party, organised by the wives, led most ably by Mrs. Thompson, and the photograph shows part of Santa's appreciative audience.

Exercise "Snowgoose" will be a long-remembered event by the Company as being the most arduous "tough training" exercise we have had for many years—the writer still has the remnants of two blisters some weeks after the event! However, as our two patrols came second and fifth out of eight teams, we can feel that the effort was well worth it.

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## THE SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT (TA)

### BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

The Battalion obtained substantial results during the Brigade inter-Unit competition held at Colchester in the latter part of September, 1964.

First placing were obtained in the following: Anti-Tank, Mortars, Assault Pioneers, Recce Platoon, and Medical. Second in M.T. and third places in both Fighting Patrol and Signals.

The Battalion football team continues to play with success having won both the Brigade and Command competitions. The team has now reached the quarter-finals of the all-England T.A. Challenge Cup and have been drawn to play against 64 Signal Regiment (T.A.) at Sheffield.

The strength of the T.A. volunteers continues to rise and has now reached a total of 15. It had been hoped to send a proportion of these to Aden in February, 1965, but unfortunately the requirement for Infantry was cancelled. However, another opportunity for service in B.A.O.R. is offered later in the year.

The Battalion gained first prize for the best individual performance in a recent M.T. Competition Exercise, "Rally Round, 1965," organised by 927 Company R.A.S.C. (T.A.), the winning vehicle was navigated by Capt. B. P. James and driven by Pte. Burrows, both of Headquarter Company.

Annual Camp for 1965 is being held at the Army School of Home Defence, Devizes, from May 22-June 5. Strenuous efforts by P.S.I. and civilian instructors to prepare the Unit for camp are drawing to a close. Results obtained in First Aid examinations already show that their efforts have not been in vain.

### OFFICERS' MESS

As these notes go to print we are welcoming John Churchill and saying au revoir to Robin Mason. We wish them every satisfaction in their new appointments. We also say goodbye to Hugh Jessop at the end of his stay in this area. Our good wishes are extended to Colin Walker, our doctor. His marriage at Christmas and that of Ian Patterson in the Autumn bring reinforcements to the ranks of T.A. 'widows.' In an effort to mark our appreciation of these long suffering ladies and to increase our corporate activity out of camp we held an Officers Ladies' Dinner Night in October. Not everyone was able to be present but for those who did it proved an enjoyable but all too short evening.

The wide dispersal of membership makes it difficult to operate as a traditional Mess outside camp. We also lack a static Mess of suitable size and location partially to offset this. In Ipswich

we now have some compensation through regular monthly lunches. These have usually been attended by almost a dozen officers and two or three guests. We were also pleased to entertain the permanent staff to a buffet lunch before Christmas.

We had hoped to mention something of the Regimental Ball in these notes. It was scheduled for January 29 and bookings were substantially greater than in recent years. In the light of Sir Winston Churchill's death it was decided to postpone the Ball until April 30 and news concerning this must now wait until the next issue.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Within a month of publication of *The Castle* we shall be attending Annual Camp at Devizes, an event we look forward to each year. This year most of our training will be of a Civil Defence nature. Of course there will be the various Mess functions, which are always a very popular form of training!

Even the backbone of H.Q. Company, C.S.M. "Don" Mowle (formerly a civilian employee of the Ipswich T.A. Centre), found the noise and bustle of Battalion H.Q. was too much, and has retired to the Town Hall in the capacity of Town Sergeant. His smiling face (and the occasional muttering) will be missed by all of the staff, but since he is still C.S.M. of H.Q. Company no doubt he will make up for lost time on the drill nights. In reply to the 1st Battalion Notes of November last I am assured by Don that he has never been to Minden!

The half-yearly Mess Meeting was held at Wisbech in November last, the lunch being attended by the C.O., Training Officer, Adjutant and the Q.M. Although fog rather curtailed the social side of the day, with everyone wondering if they would be able to get home, an enjoyable day was had by all. At least one Sergeant has no recollection of any events after the lunch! By 3 o'clock in the afternoon things were beginning to liven up, when fog spread its way into the Drill Hall yard, and a general exit of all members took place. The next meeting will take place at Lowestoft in April. Perhaps one day we may be the proud owners of a central Sergeants' Mess, which would put an end to our rather roving commission. However, we do at least see our well spread out T.A. Centres.

Since the last notes we have said farewell to Bandmaster R. G. Walker, who has left us for a more quiet life in the R.A.P.C. (T.A.). No doubt the noise of adding machines is more soothing to the ear than the Regimental Band tuning up. We extend a welcome to Band-

master J. D. Cowen, recently transferred from R.A./T.A., and hope his stay with us will be a happy one. The rumour that the Bandmaster's sword has been sharpened is quite without foundation. Our best wishes to Sgt. Gillett who has decided to retire from the T.A. after completing just over twelve years' service.

C.S.M. Smith has reverted to the rank of Colour Sergeant at his own request; we believe it was chiefly due to the fact of being born too soon. No! it was not to escape trial by Court Martial.

At the time of writing, C.S.M. Townley and Sgt. Pope are busily employed packing their boxes in readiness for their coming move to the 1st Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment. We all wish them the very best of luck in Aden. To Sgt. and Mrs. Pope we offer our congratulations on the birth of a son last December. A future recruit for the 1st Battalion? C/Sgts. Fox and Sennett are about to join us from the 1st Battalion and will be posted to Ipswich and Cambridge T.A. Centres respectively. We wish them a happy tour, although they will find life very different to soldiering in Aden. At any rate practising rescue from ruined buildings at our forthcoming Annual Camp will at least be a change for both of them.

#### HEADQUARTER COMPANY IPSWICH (WITH BATTALION H.Q.)

At the time of writing we are as busily engaged—as other Companies and Detachments with the same end in view—getting prepared for our contribution to Home Defence at our Annual Camp.

Since the last report our Battalion soccer team has gone from strength to strength. We play (or rather re-play) the Command final in the coming weekend, and go to the T.A. Challenge Cup quarter-finals at Sheffield in two weeks' time. Those who parade north of the border had better watch out!

We are pleased to report the enlistment of several recruits in the area. They are Ptes. Bewley, Barker and Hurst. There are others whose names are unspellable. Also the Drummers have been fortified by the arrival of Ptes. Foskew and Bugg. The former is ex-R.A.F., as he has been heard to mention once or twice.

Battalion Headquarters has received a different kind of reinforcement. This takes the form of a young lady in the Orderly Room—the first time in living memory that this has been known to happen. Not only has her presence been the cause of speculation on the part of the male staff, but it has modified the language to such an extent that the staff (male) now have to curse in Urdu, Arabic and Hausa!

The Company is starting the season's shooting

at the time of writing and when the Battalion sends its contributory members to Bisley as part of the Brigade team in the Summer, it is hoped that Ipswich, Bury and Stowmarket will furnish at least half of it.

All Companies provided Monitoring teams recently for an exercise in the detection and measurement of radiation. This took place at Bury St. Edmunds and the Intelligence Section received and plotted the reports. This is a tricky subject when tackled for the first time and those twenty-five or so men who took part are to be congratulated on coping with decimals and averages very creditably.

Though we are not quite certain as to whether Capt. C. J. N. Trollope belongs to "H.Q." Company or to Battalion H.Q., we nevertheless offer him a hearty welcome. A former regular officer, he will be a great asset and is a splendid Bren shot.

#### BURY ST. EDMUNDS & STOWMARKET DETACHMENTS

##### (ASSAULT PIONEERS)

Apart from the Christmas period, the detachment has been keeping up a good standard of attendance. Training has consisted mainly of subjects allied to Civil Defence, as our camp this year is in aid of Home Defence—its new title. Therefore, Assault Pioneering has dropped somewhat into the background.

In the past few weeks we have been fortunate in having the expert services of the R.A.M.C., who have given both lectures and practice on water-purification. This culminated in a week-end at Newmarket where, joined by the R.E., we carried out practice on the Patterson Water Trailer, gaining valuable experience.

George Machen has changed his job, causing his attendance to drop off, but we hope to see something of him when he is in the Bury area.

L/Cpl. Edwards will shortly be leaving us for his T.A.E.R. training. If it is in Aden again this year, we hope the press photographer is around to snap young Hayden Edwards in action.

At the time of writing, we are about to embark on an annual weapon training week-end and are hoping to find some budding Battalion shots among the new lads.

We welcome former Young Soldier Brian Beeton to our midst as a full-blown Private; his former rank did not last long. He will soon begin to look his age!

We congratulate our C.S.M. on his new civilian employment, and we hear he is a real dab-hand at getting all the town councillors on parade on time. In his frock coat and topper, he looks just like "Champagne Charlie"!



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## BAND

For the past few months The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Band has been going through an uneasy period, mainly caused by the loss of personnel.

Last year we learned of the sudden death of our solo cornetist, Sgt. Fred Howard, after a short illness, which had prevented him from attending annual camp the previous week. Sgt. Howard had been with the Band almost since it re-formed in 1950. Then, in October, our Bandmaster, Mr. R. Walker, unfortunately had to leave us, and shortly afterwards Band-Sgt. George Lewis retired through ill health. A presentation was made to both these old friends, who had contributed much to the running of the Band in the past.

At this stage we were down to a fairly low ebb, but under the directorship of our new Bandmaster, W.O.I John Cowen, we are making a big effort to put the Band back on its feet.

We were unable to return the good wishes sent to us by our friends in the 1st East Anglian Band at Christmas time, but we take this opportunity of wishing them the best of good fortune for 1965, and at the same time extend an invitation to any ex-Bandsmen, or prospective ex-Bandsmen of the Regular Battalion to join us at Ipswich—it's a good life in the T.A. (Incidentally, we would even consider teaching *any* interested would-be musician).

All initial enquiries should be made to the Bandmaster, Great Gipping Street, Ipswich.

## CORPS OF DRUMS

Although this has been a period of apparently outward inactivity, of no engagements, the practice rooms have been echoing to the drumming. The chipped and scratched top of the old oak table is ample evidence of the constant hard practice. The buglers also are making a very fine effort.

Due to the recent changes in the Band, we have not had the desired number of rehearsals with them as previously. However, now the new Bandmaster has taken over, we hope to remedy this and work in close co-operation.

At the moment, our music is of the "canned" variety. Record player and records provided respectively by Drummer P. Reeves and Cpl. Snell. This undoubtedly assists greatly in the teaching and training.

We welcome Drummer Forskew to our midst and congratulate Cpl. Warne on his promotion, which was well and truly earned; his capacity for work and willingness to serve is well nigh unequalled.

C.S.M. Townley still maintains an eagle eye on our activities in offering his knowledge to assist us. He is a hard man to please; that, we suppose, is the reason for our high standard.

Thanks to the Corps for an almost 100 per cent attendance throughout the long winter months; even with the long distances involved for some members.

With this spirit so predominant, we aim at being the pride of the Regiment, making it evident whenever we are on parade this coming summer.

## "B" COMPANY

Since the last report there have been quite a number of changes amongst the Company's officers. After about seven years as our Company Commander, Major J. R. L. Bradshaw has been appointed Second-in-Command of the Battalion. Whilst we shall miss his able and cheerful leadership, we wish him every success in his new position. Capt. W. H. Keatley has taken over as Company Commander, and he will, during the week, be directing us from the shadow of the Stock Exchange. Our new Second-in-Command is Capt. J. Baggaley, who has transferred from a similar position held in "A" Company. He is well-known in the Company, especially at Newmarket, and we welcome him back. We have lost Capt. M. D. R. Knight to "A" Company. The final move to report is our acquisition, from the Gunners at Sunderland, of Capt. F. H. M. Robson, who has recently moved to Newmarket, and we welcome him. He has already proved invaluable in his organisation of Exercise "Winter Sport," about which you will read later.

The wife of our P.S.I., Sgt. Pope, has recently given birth to a son, Richard junior, and we wish him, his sister and parents good luck when they rejoin the 1st Battalion in Aden in the near future.

One or two familiar faces have left us. Cpl. Holden has exchanged his 62 set for bell-bottoms, and Pte. Wiseman has joined the Royal Engineers. Pte. Gambrell is still enjoying the sunshine of California, where he is acting as butler for an American, but he is due to return to us shortly. Recruiting is foremost in our minds currently, and by the look of things at the moment, there will be a lot of new faces at camp.

The training during the period has been mainly in Civil Defence and First Aid in preparation for camp, and we must thank the various instructors who have been putting us through our paces.

Inevitably, the usual Christmas functions have taken a leading place in our programme for the period, and the amount of time and effort taken in organising them proved well worthwhile. The Christmas shoot was its usual success, and our thanks are due to the organisers and to the Cambridge firms who gave the prizes. The Haverhill and Newmarket

Platoons held dinner dances, and both evenings proved highly successful. At the latter function, we were very pleased to present to Major C. H. Walker (R.A.M.C.) a silver salver as a gift from the Company on the occasion of his marriage.

A buffet and social evening, held jointly with the W.R.A.C. Platoon was the Cambridge Platoon's contribution to the festivities, and this proved to be a successful innovation.

Exercise "Winter Sport" was in the form of an inter-platoon competition, in which the platoons were judged on turnout and correctness of kit, map-reading and driving, marching and shooting. Capt. Robson planned the exercise, and it all went very well. The driving and map-reading was over a 36-mile course, and included some narrow and very muddy fen droves. Various secret check points were set up and the progress of the vehicles was carefully timed. The march section was four miles, again timed, and this was immediately followed by the shooting, which took the form of a fire and movement event, from 600 yards, under the control of the Section Commander. It was quite a testing exercise, and a lot of lessons were learned, both by organisers and competitors. Newmarket won the competition, closely followed by Cambridge, with Haverhill third. From the comments heard afterwards, this event is with us to stay, and could well prove to be one of the major Company functions each year.

#### "D" COMPANY

Much has happened since we last submitted notes for any magazine. Not because so much has gone into a short time, but because it has been a long time.

C.S.M. Downes has left us and gone back to the 1st Battalion. We wish him and Mrs. Downes all the best for the future. We welcome C.S.M. Conboy as our P.S.I., and hope that he has an enjoyable stay with us.

**RIFLE PLATOONS:** Both platoons are doing well, especially the platoon at Beccles, which has recruited more members over the last few months. Ptes. J. Payne, B. Bartram and Cpl. Lloyd are to be congratulated on playing for the so far victorious Battalion football team. In November both platoons went to R.A.F., Cottis-hall, to see how the other half live; they were lucky enough to have a flight in an R.A.F. Air Sea Rescue helicopter. We understand that several of our more athletic members are canoeing on the Broads in preparation for a cross-Channel attempt in 1966. The combined Rifle Platoon (10/11) team won Exercise "Hell-bent," 1964. This was organised by 3 Companies and involved a forced march of two miles

with an assault course, then by assault boat on the Broads for 20 miles.

The T.A.E.R. members, we understand, were rather under the weather when they went on the "slush" immediately after having their "jabs" before going to Aden.

**MORTAR PLATOON:** The Mortar Platoon, under the able leadership of Sgt. Reynolds, won the Brigade Competition for the second year running. Since then they have had about 100 per cent attendance on Tuesday nights.—Well done!

**RECCE PLATOON:** The Recce Platoon also won their competition in fine style, thus upholding the tradition of the old M.M.G. Platoon. They are now training hard and preparing for what promises to be an interesting camp in Skye. We understand the attendance is likely to be 100 per cent for the fortnight, and that this platoon is nearly up to full strength.

**ANTI-TANK PLATOON:** Finally, the Anti-Tank Platoon blasted their way to a 30-point lead over all other detachments in the live firing at Lydd, but, by some incomprehensible arithmetic, were joint first with 4th Royal Norfolk, after the "digging-in phase." Congratulations all round to the teams who worked so hard to produce these excellent results.

Congratulations to the following on their promotions, Sgt. Burgess, Cpl. Webster, L/Cpls. Gurney and Noble. Also to Sgt. Reynolds, Cpls. Adams, Baxter and Bunting, on being awarded their Long Service and Good Conduct Medals.

We cannot finish these notes without saying cheerio to Brian Coates, who has commanded the Beccles Detachment for some time, and to whom, in no small way, the success of the Anti-Tank Platoon must be attributed. We are sorry to see you go Brian, and wish you all the best for the future.

On going to press, we understand the Second-in-Command and the Recce Platoon Commander have challenged Sgt. Burgess and Cpl. Rix to a canoe race, in March, from Oulton Broad to Norwich and back.—May the best men win!

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## Acknowledgement

The Editor thanks all those who have submitted articles for inclusion in *The Castle*.

It has proved impossible to include them all but it is hoped to publish more of them in subsequent issues.

Further contributions will be gratefully received.

Two typed double spaced copies should be submitted.

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## Dates for your Diary

### 1st (NORFOLK & SUFFOLK BATTALION

- JULY 8-11: Cricket Week.  
 JULY 16-17: Royal Anglian Regimental Week-end.  
 OCTOBER 15: Officers' Dinner Club Buffet Luncheon at the Naval and Military Club.  
 Officer's Dinner Club Dinner at the Army and Navy Club.

### THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

- APRIL 25: Gaza Day Commemoration Service in the Regimental Chapel.  
 MAY 30: London Branch will place a wreath on the Cenotaph in Whitehall. R.V. at Horse Guards, 11.30 a.m.  
 JUNE 11: Royal Norfolk Regiment Officers' Tea Party and Dinner at the Naval and Military Club, Pall Mall.  
 SEPTEMBER 25: Reunion Dinner at Britannia Barracks.  
 SEPTEMBER 26: Service in the Regimental Chapel, 10 a.m.  
 OCTOBER 12: Nurse Cavell Memorial Service, Life's Green, Norwich Cathedral, 10.45 a.m.  
 OCTOBER 30: King's Lynn Branch Dinner.  
 NOVEMBER 11: Remembrance Service at the Memorial Cottages, Norwich, 10.45 a.m.  
 NOVEMBER 13: London Branch Dinner (provisional date).

### THE SUFFOLK REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

- JULY 18: Annual Reunion at Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds. Full details will be announced later.

## Subscribers' Notes

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

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## Our Advertisers

The Regiment very much appreciates the support given by the many advertisers, and would like to thank the firms whose names appear in this issue of *The Castle*.

Would our readers very kindly mention this Journal when writing to or purchasing from those advertisers whose advertisements appear in this issue of the Journal.

Keep in touch with the  
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 Associations keep you in  
 contact with old friends and  
 old times

## Note to Contributors

*If you have done something interesting why not write about it for THE CASTLE. Please submit any photographs to the Editor for the next edition.*



## 2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) Battalion

# THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

### BATTALION REVIEW

Formation Day, September 1, found nearly all the Battalion dispersed on embarkation leave, so it was not possible to hold any ceremony to mark the event. The few remaining in barracks changed their badges and we changed our name, but we had to wait until a few days after our return, on September 22, for our formal parade, which was inspected by Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., Deputy Colonel.

The advance party had already left for Cyprus by this time and the main body came out by air in early October, followed by the families. On arrival we found the situation very different from the holiday atmosphere of Felixstowe. Having become accustomed during our three months in England to leave, long week-ends and the life of a holiday resort, we found at first that the operational bustle of this island was a little strange. For the first few weeks we barely had time to think. Drawing up our new equipment, overhauling our organisation, learning about internal security duties in general

and our own tasks in particular, getting to know our areas and our opposite numbers, and shaking down on exercises took every available hour. Everyone worked with a will and we were fairly soon able to settle down to a fairly firm routine.

We live in the Eastern Sovereign Base Area and are not part of the United Nations Force. Basically our task is to ensure the integrity of the Base. At normal times this consists of guarding and patrolling vital installations, notably the water supply and the Ammunition Depot. Soldiers spend long hours in 40 foot high watchtowers or sandbagged emplacements on roofs in all weathers. Their cheerfulness and alertness is a constant source of amazement.

Rifle Companies normally each do a week of these duties followed by one week's training. There are good ranges and training areas nearby and we have been able to organise some interesting training. We hope in future to be able to get further afield, to the other end of the island and to North Africa for greater variety.



"C" Company, transported by R.A.F. helicopters, moves to cut off a fleeing enemy in a Cyprus exercise.

Following the training week, a Company normally has a standby week, which is combined with Duty Company. One Platoon is always at 30 minutes' notice for operations and the remainder at somewhat more, depending upon the situation; it has been called out several times. Since we have been here there has been a gradual improvement in the situation on the island, but we have to keep alert.

Headquarter Company has been kept equally busy. The Orderly Room has been inundated with typing — operation orders, administrative orders, standing orders, S.O.P.s and all the other masses of paper which seems to be required when one moves into a new theatre.

The Q.M.'s Department, too, has had its full share of work, not least due to the fact that we are considerably stronger than our predecessors and therefore need more of all types of equipment and stores.

The Band, the only one in eastern Cyprus, has a pretty full list of engagements, for parades, dinners, dances and other functions. During the first week after the instruments arrived there were six engagements, including Beating Retreat by floodlight prior to the annual Dhakelia firework display held in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund.

Before leaving England we bade farewell to Major R. W. Whitney, who has retired from the Army and joined the Foreign Office, Capt. A. F. Rogers, formerly 3rd East Anglian, who had been with us for three years and has now gone to Malaysia, Capt. J. K. Parker, who has joined the Depot, and Lt. J. S. Houchin, who has gone to the Junior Leaders' Battalion at Tonfanau. Also since arriving here we have lost Capt. R. F. Kitchin and Capt. C. W. T. Lumby, both to H.Q. Cyprus District. We thank them for all that they have done on our behalf and wish them the best of luck.

We welcome Major A. D. Francis, Capt. D. A. Smith, who is taking over our Air Platoon, and 2/Lt.s Brett, Boardman and Waller, from R.M.A. Sandhurst. To them we extend our best wishes for an enjoyable stay.

### A SPECIAL REPORT FROM THE M.T. SECTION

For prompt and courageous action in extinguishing a fire at the mouth of an underground petrol tank, three men of the M.T. Section, 2nd Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment, have been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct. They are Cpl. Kenneth Stokes (39), of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers attached to 2nd Battalion, and Ptes. Allan William Stamps (21) and Harry West (24).

The awards were notified in the Army Supplement of the *London Gazette* published on Friday last, January 22.



Official Army Public Relations Photograph No. CYP/65/016/1  
By Cpl. W. Shea, R.A.O.C.

*For prompt and courageous action in extinguishing a fire at the mouth of underground petrol tanks these three Cyprus-based soldiers were awarded The Queen's Commendation for brave conduct. They are (left to right): Pte. Harry West, Pte. Alan Stamps, both of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and Cpl. Kenneth Stokes, of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers attached to 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment.*

The incident which led to the awards being made occurred on December 1 last year at Alexander Barracks, following the refuelling of 2,000 gallon petrol tanks from a bowser.

Petrol spilling into the well surrounding the filler caps during the operation was ignited by a spark and in a short time there was grave danger of the tanks themselves catching fire.

Cpl. Stokes and Ptes. Stamps and West, who were nearby at the time, acted with great promptness and brought into action a large foam fire extinguisher. It must have been quite obvious to all three that there was every chance of a large explosion from combustion of the petrol in the underground tanks, for by this time flames three to four feet high were leaping out of the well.

Nevertheless, with complete disregard for their own personal safety all three continued standing over the tanks, manning the fire extinguisher until the fire was out.

Their prompt action and devotion to duty in the face of great danger arrested a situation, the consequence of which would have been most serious to both life and property.

## STAFF LIST

As this is the first edition of *The Castle* it may be of interest to our readers to see our Staff List, which is shown below:

## BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

*Commanding Officer* : Lt.-Col. W. R. Chambers  
*Second-in-Command* : Major J. M. Barstow  
*Adjutant* : Capt. P. D. Taunton  
*Assistant Adjutant* : Lt. H. M. P. Halcrow  
*Intelligence Officer* : Lt. R. F. Goulson  
*Regimental Sergeant Major* : W.O.I M. D. Franks  
*Chief Clerk* : C/Sgt. H. C. Simmons  
*Training Officer* : Major E. Turnill  
*Weapon Training Warrant Officer* : W.O.II R. Sprason

## HEADQUARTER (OPS.) COMPANY

*Company Commander* : Major T. C. S. Knox  
*Regimental Signals Officer* : Capt. I. Spacie  
*Mechanical Transport Officer* : Lt. (Q.M.) R. Baylis  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II J. Rogers

## HEADQUARTER (ADMIN.) COMPANY

*Company Commander* : Major J. P. Growse  
*Quartermaster* : Capt. (Q.M.) J. E. Edwards  
*Paymaster* : Major H. R. Johnston  
*Regimental Medical Officer* : Capt. P. H. J. Courtney  
*Padre* : Rev. E. D. R. Simms, M.A., B.D., C.F.  
*Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant* : W.O.II C. Groves  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II R. Russell

## "A" COMPANY

*Company Commander* : Major M. J. Barthorp  
*Second-in-Command* : Capt. J. G. P. White  
*1 Platoon Commander* : 2/Lt. J. S. Boardman  
*2 Platoon Commander* : 2/Lt. D. W. Costin  
*3 Platoon Commander* : Lt. P. R. E. Welby-Everard  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II J. Dixon

## "B" COMPANY

*Company Commander* : Capt. D. J. Wilford  
*Recce Platoon Commander* : Lt. F. J. T. Young  
*5 Platoon Commander* : Lt. R. H. Thomson  
*6 Platoon Commander* : 2/Lt. G. I. G. Brett  
*7 Platoon Commander* : Lt. N. T. P. Mayhew  
                                   Lt. G. W. M. Hipkin (Designate)  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II C. McColgan

## "C" COMPANY

*Company Commander* : Major A. D. Francis  
*9 Platoon Commander* : 2/Lt. R. Marshall  
*11 Platoon Commander* : 2/Lt. R. C. B. Waller  
*12 Platoon Commander* : Capt. R. C. Hastic  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II A. Smith

## REGIMENTAL BAND

*Bandmaster* : W.O.I C. Blackburn, A.R.C.M.

## AIR PLATOON

*Officer Commanding* : Capt. J. G. Billingham  
*Second-in-Command* : Capt. D. T. Smith

## SPORTS ROUND-UP

There is something for every sportsman in Cyprus. For those wishing to go on to higher things we have a squash ladder. The brighter boys have got on to this already. About a dozen regular players hammer away their wrath daily in our new court. Slowly some Corporals and men are taking up the racket. Outside fixtures are pending. Three entered for the local championships but only one, Major Knox, has survived the preliminary rounds.

Badminton has attracted a similar clientele. Perhaps the genteelness does not attract soldiers. However, the drivers have established their own court and sneak in quite a few games between inspections. The more enthusiastic, together with a handful of wives, belong to the Garrison club which meets on two evenings a week.

Our parade square makes an excellent sports stadium for the Battalion hockey players. More often than not there is a game in the afternoon. With the exception of the notable newcomers, 2/Lt. Brett and Sgt. Speight, Royal Signals, the team is much the same as last year. It took several hard games before they settled to the new conditions, but they have won the last four games. However, they cannot expect to finish the season much higher than the middle of the Major Units League. The second XI, consisting mainly of new players, has produced excellent material for next season. They have been particularly successful and should win the Minor Units League.

A smaller number prefer the loneliness of the long distance runner. We've never been able to discover quite what they are chasing, but they say they do enjoy it. Like several of the sports, cross-country is organised on an island basis. The season began with road-relay races and the team were able to acclimatise and measure up the opposition. The short season then began in earnest with matches every weekend. The ten Battalion runners ran consistently



*The Champion Team, Minor Units Championship, Cyprus, 1965-65.—“B” Company, 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment.*

*Back row: Ptes. Garside, Locke, Cummings, L/Cpl. Emerson, Cpl. Downing, Pte. Treweek.*

*Front row: Cpl. Missen, Pte. Merton, Pte. Darnet, Sgt. Clements, Pte. Gooday.*

well, but were rather over-shadowed by two strong R.A.F. teams and the Cheshire Regiment. However, the team finished fourth in the league table. Three of the runners, Capt. Spacie, L/Cpl. Burton and Pte. Heffernan, ran for the Army side in a successful match against the R.A.F. Others who regularly ran for the Battalion were Sgt. Hammerton, Pte. Brown, Pte. Bill and Bds. Saville. Next season the team should be almost unchanged and greater things are expected.

Just about everyone in the Battalion plays soccer. The first XI have lost only twice in twelve matches in the Cyprus Major Units League. Their fate hinges on two games to be played against the league leaders, Akrotiri Rangers. In present form they should pull off a league victory. Five of our players have been the backbone of the Cyprus Army side, L/Cpl. Emerson, L/Cpl. Cranmer, Pte. Garforth, Pte. Shoot and Pte. Gooday, and can now wear their Army Colours.

At a lower level each Company has a team

in the Minor Units League. Outstanding are “B” Company who won both the league and knock-out competition.

Although the other companies have not been quite so successful, they have really entered into the spirit of the game, even when they have only just managed to scrape teams together because of other duties.

The basket-ballers are on “net.” On form and skill they should easily have won the league. However, due to bad luck more than anything, they will probably now finish in second place. Their points average is high—they won one game by a clear hundred points. Two of the older stars still hold the team together—Sgt. Baker and Sgt. Simpson. S/Sgt. Jones, A.P.T.C., has been a useful addition to the team, as have Cpl. Bradtke and Bds. Crowley.

Boxing has had it highlights recently. In late January the Inter-Company Novices Tournament was held. “C” Company, for the second year running, were champions. Outstanding performances were produced by Pte.



Gray, Pte. Hampton, Pte. Burrows, L/Cpl. Wood and Pte. Mills. Almost immediately afterwards, Cyprus District held the Island Novices Competition. Unfortunately, most of our entries were in the same weight. However, L/Cpl. Wood and Pte. Bill both boxed well and with remarkable skill for novices. Pte. Gray won his weight and consequently loses his novice status. At the end of the evening Pte. Wakefield boxed the R.A.S.C. B.A.O.R. champion in an exhibition bout and entertained his Battalion Supporters' Club as he always does.

Ski-ing is not commonly associated with Cyprus, but for two months of the year the Troodos Range has a thick covering of snow and the Winter Warfare and Leave Centre is open. Besides the advanced and novices courses, each Platoon spends one week on the slopes during the season. In late February the inter-Unit and individual championships take place. The team should be well placed, judging by their performance in B.A.O.R. last year, and one or two individuals stand a good chance of high placings.

Sport plays a great part in our lives. We look forward now to the summer sports of cricket, tennis, athletics, swimming and water ski-ing. Really, we never had it so good.

#### THE POACHER OFF DUTY RECREATION

In case you should think that life here is all work, we have included a bit about the lighter side.

Cyprus is probably one of the best stations in the world for outdoor recreation and the Battalion is taking full advantage of the opportunities to ride, hunt, play polo, ski, fish, sail, water ski and rock climb. Clubs have been formed for all these activities and instruction is given to volunteers of all ages by qualified instructors found from within the Battalion. Swimming is always available on our doorstep and underwater swimming provides many with a new experience and a great deal of interest.

During the winter months the followers of the Dhekelia Drag have been seen regularly every Wednesday and Saturday afternoons setting out from the stables for an afternoon of excitement. A large percentage of the field have never ridden a horse before arriving in Cyprus and the display of enthusiasm and courage shown by the more inexpert horsemen is quite remarkable, as their horses, somewhat out of control, follow the line regardless of cultivation and the real hazards of rocks, encarpments, ditches and invisible holes in the ground.

For those wishing to get away from the island for longer periods of leave there is a sight-seeing tour to the Holy Land being organised by the Padre, a W.V.S. trip to Beirut and a mountaineering expedition to Southern Turkey.

In fact Cyprus is an excellent jumping off point for holidays in Greece, Turkey and anywhere in the Middle East.

The Battalion enjoys the advantages of an excellent Junior Ranks' Club run by NAAFI, where tombola is played every Sunday evening and Mrs. Jean Lane, of the W.V.S., holds a series of social evenings, darts, snooker and billiard competitions and matches against other units. There is a dance floor and roller skating rink at the George Club just outside our perimeter fence, and the Command Library and a workshop, for those wishing to practice carpentry, are just across the road. The Key Cinema is only ten minutes' walk from our barracks and the Garrison gymnasium, where basketball, judo and badminton are played in the evenings, is opposite our main gate. We are now in the process of constructing our own miniature putting course and a beach hut and bar for the summer months. With such a variety of recreation at hand it is hardly surprising that some soldiers, indeed most, prefer to stay in Dhekelia rather than visit the neighbouring towns of Larnaca and Famagusta.

In addition to the recreational activities described above the Battalion has enjoyed two very good variety shows staged by Combined Services Entertainment, and a concert given by our own band for all members of the garrison.

#### FAMILIES

We were able to bring 100 families with us in October; the remainder are just arriving. Most live in the nearby town of Larnaca, but some are beginning to move into quarters in Dhekelia.

At first, for a young wife, it seems a terrifying experience to fly out to a strange land on her own, leaving behind all the fine shops, tidy streets, good roads, safe pavements, helpful policemen and all the other thousand and one little special things which only England can offer.

She soon finds that life amongst the local community is not too bad. The Cypriots are truly a very friendly race and are always ready to pass the time of day with you. In Larnaca the houses are in general quite good; in one or two cases, quite luxurious.

Walking around the local shops is very much like walking in the streets of Aden or Hong Kong. They are small, very close together and have produce from all over the world. The shopkeepers are polite and friendly, and always eager to do business with you. Most wives are enjoying selecting their own materials and styles for their own tailors to make for them; true, things are rather expensive, but the local overseas allowance has been found quite adequate.

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OVERSEAS B.A.O.R. ENJOY

# SKOL

INTERNATIONAL BEER

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AT HOME THE BEER  
 THE MEN DRINK IS  
**DOUBLE DIAMOND**  
 BOTTLED AND ON DRAUGHT



The NAAFI shops, of course, are our main source of supply and are very well stocked with an excellent range of groceries, provisions and appliances. The meat is frozen, mainly from Europe and the Commonwealth. Most people buy from local traders vegetables and fruit which are plentiful. One big surprise for us all was to discover that the size of radishes was about that of an egg, really firm and very tasty. Lettuce are good, as is also the fruit. Sunday morning is usually the day when we buy oranges at 25 for 2/- and grapefruit at 10 for 1/- from the local vans. The local wines are

cheap—a good red wine can be bought for 1/7 and white for about 2/3.

Entertainment in the winter months is restricted to the A.K.C. Cinema, mess socials and, of course, the ever-popular tombola sessions and house parties. In the summer we have the beaches, which are beautiful, and, of course, the barbecues which will come with the hot season.

"On the whole it's a good life out here, with Dad taking his turn once again with the washing-up and getting the kids to bed," says 'Mrs. Poacher 65.'

## 4th/6th BATTALION

### THE ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT (TA)

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#### BATTALION REVIEW

Since our last notes in the final issue of "The Poacher," Battalion Headquarters and parts of "H.Q." Company have moved into their new drill hall at Sobraon Barracks. A "rags-to-riches" story come true.

After many years of not having a home to call our own, it is an extremely pleasant change to now have a permanent headquarters which includes an Officers' Mess and Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess.

When all the works services are finished—at the moment, the construction of garages is under way—a detailed description of the new barracks will be submitted for publication in *The Castle*.

In early December, 1964, the annual Administrative Inspection came and went. All members of the Battalion worked extremely hard, and their efforts were rewarded by the subsequent arrival of a very good report.

Christmas found Battalion Headquarters without a home, but it did not prevent the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess from holding their Christmas draw at Gainsborough. Children's parties were the order of the day and Broadgate resounded to voices of children as they received their presents from Father Christmas (a slimly disguised Sgt. Hobson).

In training matters, Civil Defence has occupied our minds. Courses at Devizes have been attended by most of the P.S.I.s, as well as Cpls. Senior and Holman and L/Cpl. Walkden. Others due to attend in the near future include C/Sgt. Woolerton, Sgts. Couldstone and

Gray, Cpls. Robinson and Brett and L/Cpl. Proctor.

Offers for T.A.E.R. personnel to go to Aden were received, withdrawn and re-issued. If the vacancies are withdrawn again, Cpl. Hardy, L/Cpl. Kettle, Ptes. McGarry and Dodds will have at least achieved the unique qualification of being the only men in the Battalion completely up-to-date with regard to vaccinations and inoculations.

It is hoped that 24 men will be training for two weeks with the Guards Brigade in B.A.O.R. in July of this year.

All other forms of training have continued in accordance with the training cycle. From Signal exercises, to Battalion week-ends, to a Brigade T.E.W.T., to a support weapons concentration at Warcop. At least we have been extremely lucky with regard to the weather.

Now all our thoughts and efforts must be turned towards the opening ceremony, early in May, of our new T.A. Centre in Sobraon Barracks. More of that later.

#### WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

We commence our first edition to *The Castle* with our sincere wishes for "good printing" and "long life." We feel this new magazine will bring joy and pleasure to both past and present members, and to all who contribute.

We are pleased to announce that at long last the Warrant Officers and Sergeants have their own mess. This is conveniently and pleasantly situated on the first floor of the new T.A. Centre

here in Sobraon Barracks. All members are delighted, of course, but find it difficult to believe this has really happened. Although the official opening evening has not yet been held, we have already had some enjoyable Saturday evenings with a satisfactory attendance.

The basic requirements, such as carpets, tables and chairs were kindly provided by T.A.F.A., and following each drill evening, to date, other decorative and useful items seem to appear. The main features of these items have been the gifts from the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of outlying Companies, and they were as follows: "A" Company, a silver bar set; "B" Company, pictures of H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh; "C" Company, a visitors' book; "D" Company, a clock; "H.Q." Company, a radiogram.

"B" Company, we add, also presented a large wooden spoon, and we feel a debate is necessary at the next meeting to determine one of two things: the first, that it should be presented annually to the "worst shot," or, secondly, to the member who spreads the best rumour. It has been overheard that the recipient of this spoon during the Sobraon Ball is already topping the list of candidates for either of these awards.

The Sobraon Ball was held on February 13 in the new T.A. Centre, and from comments received and overheard, it would appear that this was a most successful evening. Our aim is, of course, to try and improve each year; we feel we can never stop doing this, which is probably a good thing.

We were delighted to welcome as our princi-

pal guests, Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., Colonel and Mrs. F. C. L. Bell, Colonel G. M. Sanders, T.D., D.L., Air Commodore and Mrs. E. D. McK. Nelson, Group Captain and Mrs. J. F. Newman, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. A. J. Bennett and the officers of the Battalion and their ladies.

All precautions were taken to preserve our precious centre floor, which in itself is a first-class ballroom; the ladies were most co-operative to protect their heels, and it was jolly nice to know that our caretaker had little to do to develop its usual shine. It was he who counted 200 dancers on the floor at once, which is remarkable for the size of the centre.

We feel that special mention must be made of the following, who worked so hard to make the evening a success. C.S.M. Dennis Barsby, S/Sgt. Eric Sharpe, Drum-Major Pat Freeman and Sgts. Tony Coulbeck, Cyril Spencer, Tom Moffett and George Street. To the following ladies, who prepared the suppers, despite being late for their hair-dos, we say thank-you, Mrs. Blood, Mrs. K. Morriss, Miss Morriss, Mrs. T. Coulbeck and Mrs. A. Toyne.

We conclude this edition with somewhat disappointing news of the departure of C.S.M. Frank Cressey, who has decided to retire. Thank you, Frank, for all you did for us and the Battalion, both as R.S.M. and as C.S.M. of "C" Company, who, we feel, are going to miss you. We wish you and your family the very best of luck. Also leaving "C" Company is Sgt. Gant, who has decided that work does not permit him to attend as much as he would like. Good luck to him.

## The Depot Pantomime — Aladdin

*Continued from page 35*

behind the scenes. L/Cpl. Buttery was stage manager, and he and his team had to construct the stage before providing a very efficient contribution to the production. The costumes and make-up were admirably organised by Miss P. Kilner, W.V.S., and sound effects were managed by Q.M.S.I. Wright. The Junior' art and woodwork hobby groups were responsible for much of the effective decoration of the stage and the painting of the five back cloths.

The production of such a colourful, lively and polished show, in what is a comparatively small unit with limited resources, reflects great credit on all concerned. After 1963's production of "Snow White," it was said that a better standard was not possible." Now, after Aladdin, who knows?

## Scholarships at Milton Abbey School

The Board of Governors of Milton Abbey School are offering a scholarship of £200 to the son of a serving officer of the Royal Navy, Army or Royal Air Force. It is available for award on the results of the scholarship examination to be held at Milton Abbey on March 4 and 5, 1965.

Candidate must be under 14 years of age on September 1, 1965. They will be examined in English, Mathematics and French, and in three other subjects from a list comprising Latin, Greek, Science, History and Geography.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Headmaster's Secretary, Milton Abbey School, Near Blandford Forum, Dorset. The closing date for applications is February 19, 1965.

## 4th/5th BATTALION

### THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT (TA)

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#### BATTALION REVIEW

As a Territorial Battalion of the large family of Regiments which have become the new Royal Anglian Regiment, we are delighted to know that although we retain our present title, we are and feel ourselves to be very much a member of the new Regiment. In this arrangement we have the best of both worlds.

We have had some changes in our Regular P.S.I.'s; Sgt. Winkle has left us for the 2nd Battalion, where we wish him luck after four years with the T.A. C.S.M. Cheshire has replaced Sgt. Winkle in Corby. C.S.M. George is back at Northampton after a period of time with the Medical Rehabilitation Unit, R.A.F., at Headley Court, where he found himself in very mixed society. Sgt. Crawshaw has moved from Rushden to Wellingborough; Sgt. Evans divides his time between Peterborough and Oundle, and Sgt. Knight is at Huntingdon.

Huntingdon is the only centre we now have in that county, which has a long history of Regimental associations. However, we are trying to start a new venture at St. Neots by hiring a small room from the Urban District Council. We hope this will re-attract both old members of the Regiment and absorb some of the many new men who are moving into the area from London. Overall our recruiting figures continue to improve and the recently announced Government plan to double the size of Peterborough and Northampton gives us plenty to go for.

We are beginning to make plans for having our new Colours presented and it is hoped this will be done next year.

#### OFFICERS' MESS

In opening our first contribution to *The Castle* we think it well to record that the strength of the Mess is at present 29 and in addition we have five Officer Cadets. Since we last published any notes we have said goodbye to Dennis Anstee who is now in Oman, Tom Agutter who has left the T.A. after 28 years, nearly all with this Battalion, Peter Bryant who has moved to Northumberland, John Richardson who is now a Medical Cadet in the R.A.M.C., and Brian Emery who is no longer in the R.A.P.C. We welcome in their stead Harold Moore who is our new mentor, Bill Bennet who now looks after our finance, Frank Streeck who transports us, and Ted Overall who, if not quite in yet



*The Administrative Inspection—Brigadier J. M. Spencer-Smith, O.B.E., M.C., inspects members of H.Q. Company. Seen left to right: The Brigadier, The Commanding Officer, Cpl. Deacon, Cpl. Freeman and Cpl. Gulson.*

officially, is returning to active service from T.A.R.O.

Since last publishing notes we have had a number of social occasions, including our annual open day to families and friends on the range at the Battalion Rifle Meeting. This year this was held at Brington and was attended by many ex Officers of the Regiment. Our second function was a ladies' night to dine out Dennis Anstee, which was followed by a dance; we just managed to get everyone into the Mess for dinner but it called for an enormous effort from the staff to get round the table. All credit to them that they maintained their usual high standard.

Our last function was again a ladies' night on February 6 and this was in many ways a very sad occasion. We were saying goodbye to Tom Agutter. Tom has given enormously to the T.A. and to the 5th Battalion and 4/5th Battalion in particular, having joined the Battalion on September 1, 1936. Having been

commissioned during the war, he was away from the Regiment for a time in the Recce Regiment. He rejoined the 5th Battalion in 1948 and is one of the two officers still serving who attended the first post-war camp. He has for the last few years been M.T.O. and has established them soundly. We are all very sorry to see him leave us but are glad that he is going to be around, for he is taking over command of the Peterborough Cadet Battalion. We offer him our congratulations on this appointment.

Also we record our thanks to Tom for the magnificent clock he has presented to the Mess.

#### EXERCISE "PENNINE WAY IV"

During the Easter weekend in 1964 a party of 50 men from the 4/5th Northhamptons T.A., and 10 cadets from local units, took part in Exercise "Pennine Way IV."

It was the fourth part of a series of five yearly marches which aim to cover the length of the Pennines. Each part is about 40 miles long as the crow flies, and has so far always demanded powers of endurance while providing training in map reading and compass work at advanced level.

In 1964 the route chosen started at Muker and ran roughly north-west to Dufton. This year for the first time a preliminary recce was made of the route by Capt. T. Agutter and S/Sgt. Ellis, who arranged for overnight accommodation in village halls in Muker, Bowes and Dufton, and in the dance hall of the pub in Holwick. It was in arranging this accommodation that Capt. Agutter showed his ability to charm not merely birds out of trees (which resulted in the Strathmore estates mistaking the recce party for would-be poachers in disguise) but elderly lady caretakers into allowing the use of the Dufton village hall (which resulted in tea for the recce party, too).

The administrative party of seven, under Capt. Agutter, set off for Muker on the afternoon of Thursday. The marchers made their way there in four parties, and because some men had to complete their shift work before leaving, they arrived in Muker at all hours up to five o'clock in the morning. It seemed that no sooner had they had their supper than they were up again for breakfast and ready to face the first leg. This was to God's Bridge and the marching parties set off at 15-minute intervals. There were five marching parties, one of Cadets and four from the Battalion under the commands of Majors Boe and Williams, Capts. Dowdy and Mansfield. Route choosing was taken in turns so that over the three days each

member of the party had the opportunity of leading. This first day taught the advantage of making haste slowly since those who tried to copy the crows found that it was not always the shortest way in distance and never the quickest. It was generally agreed that this was a comparatively easy trip, or perhaps only seemed so because the pub which was found on the route remained open all day. However, the last party to start found that by the time they arrived no draught beer was left, only bottled and this was a form of hardship which remained with them on every day of the exercise. There has been some talk of varying the order of starting in the 1965 exercise.

On the second day the going was harder and made worse by the weather, cold and wet. Hunderthwaite Moor was found to be part covered by bogs which one marcher would testify were waist deep in parts. This was the day later referred to as a blistering cold day when most men got wet and feet began to feel the effects of the rough country. At the end of it everyone saw the advantage of having a recce party secure overnight accommodation in permanent buildings. Major Anstec, the Training Major, did a grand job constructing a drying room from a couple of No. 1 burners and tarpaulins. The food was provided out of local purchase and the sale of 150 sausages and 30/- worth of chips put local tradesmen on overtime. The butcher must have put something in the sausages for in spite of the day's work, most people found enough energy left to attend the dance that evening in Middleton. Exercising initiative of a high order, L/Cpl. Davis stopped a local motorist and bribed him to drive to Holwick, only to discover later that the motorist lived there anyway.

Leaving Holwick the next morning the destination of this the last day was Dufton. The route chosen was by way of the High Force and Moss Shop, and included a climb of over 1,000ft. between Holwick and the escarpment to the north-west of Murton Fell. On this day the last party, by superior navigating, managed to overtake the other parties from the Battalion and got home first, which might be taken as proof that bottled beer is better than draught. However, the party of Cadets maintained the standard of total abstinence, being home first of all, and were congratulated both on this and their good showing throughout the whole exercise.

After a night's rest the contingent returned to Northamptonshire feeling healthier and satisfied with themselves and wondering what 1965 and Exercise "Pennine Way V" would hold in store for them.

# IMPRESSIONS OF MONS OFFICERS CADET SCHOOL

By 2/Lt. C. A. BULL,

4/5TH BN. THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

Having been away from "D" Company for two weeks my Company Commander decided that I should do some work and write about my attendance to the Mons Officer Cadet School, so bear with me for a little time while I tell you my disjointed but lasting impression which I have of Mons.

There now stands a lighter in the Officers' Mess there with the inscription: "From T.A. Course No. 70." New members to that Mess may ask what was T.A. Course No. 70, therefore, in a few words, I shall enlighten them.

Firstly, what is the T.A. or "The Terriers." I quote—"A terrier is a small dog of various breeds originally for following quarry into burrows." A dog—I quote—"with teeth which penetrate or grips objects and detains them." Now that we have cleared up the misunderstanding about the T.A., I will tell you about Course No. 70. We were eighteen different kinds of soft ware breeds, and all gentlemen who had one star on each epaulette—one of the hard ware told us never to call it "pips" sir, oranges have pips, gentlemen have stars, sir.

One of the soft ware, I will never forget, was that most likeable character called "Big Guns," our man from the Signals. There we were winning the war again and a shout came from the left flank, "I want a go on the big gun." Ten minutes later he was found in a hole trying to put the barrel flash eliminator into the gas regulator.

From then on he answered to "Big Guns."

Then there was the man from the Guards carrying on that age-old tradition that only they can interpret the book which they wrote.

We were on that watery square and had arrived at Page 10 Section 13 Drill (all arms) book, Page 20 Section 4, "Book of jokes to be used in conjunction with Drill (all arms) book," when the unbelievable happened; we left the routine laid down in the books. It went something like this: "Squad halt!—Sergeant (calling our Course Sergeant), march this squad at double time to the Q.M. and tell the Q.M. to issue each one of these gentlemen with one set of 'Sense of Humour.'" We then had to laugh.

The read hard ware was very interesting and I will never cease to wonder how logic—as per the Army—works.

We had a Royal Corps of Signals instructor to teach us all about the Infantry, and a Corporal of Horse for our signals instructor. Mind you—they were the best hard ware that the Army could buy—I must remember to write to *Which*.

Our admiration went out to our chief instructor who worked under the terrible strain of knowing that he should be on leave, not trying to teach eighteen week-end soldiers, with occupations ranging from a Prosecutor from the Inland Revenue to a scholar in physics, all about the P.B.I.

"Paschendale wasn't like this," came the cry from a red-beretted form in the trench next to mine. Personally, I did not attend Paschendale, but the rain, snow and mud and the cold—Mons '65 style—soon sorted the men from the boys. I was just too cold to be either man or boy.

The examination proved that "The Terriers" are not so dumb as people might make out, with marks ranging from 54%–98%. We celebrated that night by playing 21's.

Course 70 will long remain in the memories of that wonderful British Army Institution Q.A.R.A.N.C. Our thanks also to them and I hope they still sing our course anthem.

When you go to Mons and see that lighter standing in the centre of one of the Mess tables, say, "I know about course 70—an average lot of Terriers who enjoyed themselves and learnt a lot at Mons—and to show their gratitude to everybody they gave that lighter."

When in Northampton visit

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THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
REGIMENT  
AT  
GIBRALTAR BARRACKS  
BARRACK ROAD



## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

### Lincolnshire Wing

#### 10th FOOT ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Greetings and best wishes to all readers of *The Castle*, and wishing every success for the new Journal of the Regiment.

The President of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association is Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., Deputy Colonel The Royal Anglian Regiment, and its Secretary and Treasurer Major P. H. Segon, M.B.E., whose office is located in The Keep, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln.

Branches of the Association and addresses of their Secretaries are as follows:

#### LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES

Mr. J. W. Densham, 32, Brampton Road, East Croydon, Surrey. Tel. No. ADD 3128.

#### LINCOLN BRANCH

Capt. H. W. Lewin, 129a, Burton Road, Lincoln.

#### LOUTH BRANCH

Mr. G. W. Horstead, 20, Monks Dyke Road, Louth, Lincs.

#### GRIMSBY BRANCH

Mr. B. Brittain, 176, Convamore Road, Grimsby, Lincs.

#### GRANTHAM BRANCH

Mr. P. C. Halls, 2, The Avenue, Dysart Road, Grantham.

#### BOSTON BRANCH

Mr. F. Myatt, 1, Hurle Crescent, Boston, Lincs.

#### STAMFORD BRANCH

Mr. C. W. M. Sylvester, 53, New Cross Road, Stamford, Lincs.

#### SPALDING BRANCH

Mr. A. Waterfall, 26, Brewster Road, Boston, Lincs.

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### JOIN ONE OF THESE BRANCHES

All soldiers of the Regiment on leaving the Army for civilian life are invited to become associated members of any of those branches where a welcome is assured.

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### Northamptonshire Wing

#### BRANCHES

The Northamptonshire Regimental Comrades' Association now has four branches which meet regularly. They are at Huntingdon, London, Northampton and Peterborough.

If any member or ex-member of any of the components which have now made The Royal Anglian Regiment is ever in the area of any branch of the Association, he would be most welcome to call. Contact can be made with the Association and/or its branches through the secretaries. They are:

Association Secretary.—Major D. Baxter, Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road, Northampton.

Secretary, Huntingdon Branch.—Major H. Pallash, T.D., 11, Orchard Lane, Brampton, Huntingdon.

Secretary, London Branch.—Mr. G. H. Tindall, 15, Micawber House, Llewellyn Street, Bermondsey, S.E.16.

Secretary, Northampton Branch.—Mr. J. Matthews, 8, St. Leonard's Road, Northampton.

Secretary, Peterborough Branch.—Mr. H. G. Tompkins, 306, Walpole Street, Peterborough.

#### THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT CLUB

HUT 29, GIBRALTAR BARRACKS,  
NORTHAMPTON.

*President* ... Major D. Baxter  
*Chairman* ... Mr. J. O. Roberts  
*Treasurer* ... Mr. W. McNicol  
*Secretary* ... Mr. J. R. Matthews, 8, St. Leonard's Rd., Northampton.

#### *Social*

*Secretary* ... Mr. W. McGurk.

The Club is the Headquarters of the Northamptonshire Branch of The Northamptonshire Regiment Comrades Association. A full programme of social activities is carried out—outings, parties, annual dinner and dance, children's parties, etc., and the club is also a popular meeting place during Regimental Reunion week-ends. The club is open on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings and also Sunday lunch time.

Welfare work takes its place in our activities; many sick and aged members have been helped

from the Welfare Fund, and money is regularly passed to the Association for welfare work in the wider field.

All ex-members of The Northamptonshire Regiment are eligible for membership of the Club, also any members of The Royal Anglian Regiment. Although the Club is thinning, a larger active membership would enable us to acquire larger premises. We invite anyone interested to join us in our activities, and perhaps help in the work of the Club.

### NEW BRANCH AT HUNTINGDON

Huntingdonshire connections with the Northamptonshire Regiment were even more closely knit on Wednesday, December 16, 1964, when some twenty ex-members of the Regiment met at the T.A. Centre to form a local Branch of the Comrades' Association.

This is the very first time that any attempt has been made in Huntingdon to form a Branch of the Association, which is quite surprising when one realises that the county provided a whole Battalion in the years between the two wars. The potential membership for such a Branch in Huntingdon is therefore extremely high, in common with the hopes of those who are working hard to ensure its success.

The initial meeting took place in response to an invitation sent out to some fifty ex-members of the Regiment by Major H. H. Pallash, inviting them along to discuss the project. The result of this was a firm resolution that a Branch should be formed at once, and without delay the Officers and Committee were elected and the Branch got off to a flying start with donations of over £30 to the funds.

Capt. R. Copley is the Branch's first Chairman, with Major H. H. Pallash as Honorary Secretary and Sgt. D. Knight as Branch Honorary Treasurer. Honorary Welfare Officer and Social Secretaries have been appointed, and already great enthusiasm abounds to get things going.

At a subsequent meeting on January 22 the Branch welcomed Major Donald Baxter (H.Q. Secretary), who gave an interesting talk on the history and objects of the Association, and outlined the general pattern of Branch activities. This "instruction" was particularly interesting and is already proving useful with day-to-day operations.

To a very big extent the success of this newly formed Branch must be credited to our near neighbours at Peterborough. They have given us every assistance and encouragement from the very beginning, and we know they are anxious to see us succeed. We shall be happy to "enlist" anyone who has served with any of the Battalions now comprising the Royal

Anglian Regiment, and any enquiry should be addressed to the Secretary at 11, Orchard Lane, Brampton, Huntingdon.

When in Lincoln come and see

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## 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

The Battalion in the 'divided city' has had its chance to shake out of the restricting environment of the Grunewald and pay its first visit to a West German training area. Soltau in October is not every soldier's dream of heaven, but the Battalion was lucky with the weather which more than any other factor went to make the visit less heart breaking than might be expected.

We had attached to us an officer and eleven men of our corresponding American Battalion, the 3rd Bn. 6th U.S. Infantry, who were split up amongst the Rifle Companies and Recce and Signals Platoons. Most of the time was spent in Company and Battalion Exercises, with the result that the Support Weapon Platoons had to wait until February in order to get some field firing. These Platoons are at present away

at the NATO Ranges at Hohne, camping out in the snow, and will doubtless find the time to run a little recreational transport to Hamburg or Hannover.

Once back from Soltau there was a short pause for breath before we were thrown into our first joint exercise with our Allies. "B" Company was attached to the 46th Regiment Latour d'Auvergn Battalion of the French Forces, who sent some of their officers to us for the 48 hours in which the Grunewald and Havel heaved with activity. Several other exercises followed in quick succession, possibly with the idea of beating the winter weather, but as it turned out winter was a little late this year.

By the end of November activity in Wavell



*With the 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion on training in B.A.O.R.  
Anti-tank Mobas with French Soldiers*

*(Left to right). Pte. Francis (Epping), Pte. McVeigh (Portadown, N. Ireland), L/Cpl. Corcoran (Scunthorpe), Pte. Bennett (Luton), and Pte. Temple (Bedford).*

Barracks was directed to individual training in an effort to bring all the specialist sections to strength and create a surplus. Cadres were being run for N.C.O.s, drivers, support weapons numbers, stretcher bearers, cinema projectionists and the like.

On December 1 Lt.-Col. C. C. Norbury, M.B.E., M.C., handed over Command to Lt.-Col. P. J. H. Leng, M.B.E., M.C. Colonel Norbury was entertained to drinks at the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess on his last day in Command, and then, with ropes attached to his car and led by the Band, he was drawn out of the barrack gates to the cheering of the assembled Battalion.

Christmas in Berlin was as may be imagined a little more hectic than those at Ballykinlar. Although the leave period had started there were very few away, and despite the fewer families here there were more children to be entertained. The Battalion Band acquitted themselves very well by providing music for the Spandau Old Folks Home and at an International Exhibition at the Funkturm as well as singing carols and providing music at the various domestic parties. By January 6 when their Dance Band section played at the Officers' Mess 12th Night Ball they had earned their block leave.

Berlin Brigade have called for closer co-operation between Units and the Bezirks in the British Sector and to this end the Battalion has adopted the Bezirk of Spandau. Apart from entertaining the Old People as previously mentioned the soldiers entertained 70 orphans or children from very large families on December 18 giving them tea in the Junior Ranks' Club and helping to keep them in order during the film and magician's show.

The post Christmas training emphasis has been on physical fitness in readiness for the Inter-Platoon Battle Fitness Tests which are looming up and each Saturday, come snow or sunshine, squads of soldiers can be seen on road walks and runs throughout the Spandau area.

Despite all these activities the normal duties come round with a regularity that leaves little time to become monotonous. The Recce Platoon continue with their patrols along the Sector border, being out at all times of the day and night despite the snow and sub zero temperatures we have experienced this winter. They are from time to time, given relief by sections from the Rifle Companies who are given an insight into the meaning of Communism as they watch the wire and the cleared area beyond it, where East German Communist border guards patrol with their dogs or peer at freedom through binoculars from their watch towers placed at intervals along the wire. There is an ery feeling as one watches and waits for the next attempt of those seeking freedom;



With the 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion on training in B.A.O.R.

(Left to right): Pte. Carpenter (South Ockenden), Pte. Bigham (Corby), Cpl. Tunstill (Chelmsford), Pte. Metcalfe (driver) (Corby), Pte. Turner (Westcliffe-on-Sea), Pte. Denham (Romford).

whether they will make it or be shot down in the attempt. The Battalion has not been involved in any incident since that published in the last edition of the *Wasp and Eagle*.

Companies find guards for the Tiergarten Russian War Memorial as well as the three inmates of Spandau Jail—Hess, Speer and Von Schirach. It fell to the turn of "B" Company to mount the Tiergarten Guard on Christmas Day so they held a separate Christmas dinner on Boxing Day after dismounting. Whilst we take turns with the other British Battalions at the Tiergarten our roster at Spandau is taken in turn with the Russians, French and Americans and so does not come round so frequently.

In the sporting field our success has been patchy. We beat the other units in the Brigade at football and went forward in the Army Cup to the 1 Division round and were then beaten by one goal in a rain-sodden match at Nienburg by 1 Division Royal Engineers.

The hockey team fared less well this year being knocked out of the Army Cup 1—2 by 1 Battalion S.C.L.I. who have also won their way through the Divisional Round. Basket Ball and Badminton are popular games and we are doing quite well in both Leagues. In



*Married at Holy Trinity Church, Lower Beeding, Sussex, on November 28, 1964. Lt. P. B. Light, Royal Anglian Regiment, to Miss Penelope Hope Reford, of Forest Cottage, Lower Beeding, Horsham, Sussex. Guard of Honour Officers 3rd Battalion.*

(Photo Belgrave Press Bureau)

Boxing we were beaten in the Inter-Unit Team Competition by 1 Battalion P.W.O. after a very close fight, having won our first round against 1 Battalion S.C.L.I. Two boxers who have entered the Individual Boxing Championships and won through to the 1 Division semi-finals were Ptes. Allen and Wray who did very well.

We have had two parties of soldiers away ski-ing at Silberhutte and now Lt. McMillen and Capt. Barnett are waiting for more snow before taking the ten pairs of issue skis with soldiers attached.

On Thursday, January 28, a detachment under the command of Capt. R. S. Cross represented the Battalion at the Memorial Service for the late Sir Winston Churchill, which was held at the Kuppelsaal at the Olympic Stadium, and attended by Herr Lübke, President of the Federal German Republic, and Herr Willy Brandt, the Governing Mayor of Berlin, as well as military and civil dignitaries of the Allied Forces, Berlin.

It is hoped that some of our own Territorial Battalion Commanders will be amongst the party of sixty who are invading Berlin on April 10/11 to see for themselves that life here is not all Schultheiss (beer) and skittles. There will also be a welcome for those Territorials who together with their wives wish to visit us in the Spring. The younger set are also being catered for, as we have the Sandhurst Hockey Team on tour with us at Easter, and at about the same time a party of Cadets from Hertfordshire.

Apart from further visits to the Zone (Western Germany) on training, we are proposing to have a "jolly two weeks" at the end

of June when stays are to be loosened and hair let down before we launch ourselves once more into field training sports and the other many activities that keep us occupied.

It has been our practice in the past to include in our magazine notes, arrivals and departures of Officers and Warrant Officers and Sergeants. In the past few months we have welcomed to Berlin: Major G. C. P. Morgan, from J.S.S.C.; 2/Lt. G. Armstrong, 2nd Royal Anglian Regiment; Lt. J. Bowers, from Regimental Depot; Lt. D. Wright, from 45 A.Y.T.; W.O.II Ventress, after temporary attachment to T.A.; Sgt. Porton, from Regimental Depot; Sgt. Noble, from Regimental Depot.

We have said goodbye to: Capt. B. Cridland, to U.N. Forces Cyprus; Sgt. Ball, to Regimental Depot; Sgt. Randal-Wood, Jungle Warfare School, Malaya; C/Sgt. Appleton, 1 Bedfordshire/Hertfordshire T.A., Watford; Sgt. Fowler, Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry; C/Sgt. Herron, Ministry of Defence; C/Sgt. Burchell, Regimental Depot.

**Regimental Week-end**  
**The Royal Anglian Regiment**  
**Regimental Depot,**  
**Bury St. Edmunds**  
**July 16-18, 1965**

## 1st Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (TA)

During September and October last year training weekends were arranged in the Isles of Wight and Jersey.

In September, Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, under the command of Major B. J. Elliott, took part in Exercise "Saltmead Lodge" on the Isle of Wight, in conjunction with H.M.S. *Wessex*, who transported the troops from Southampton, and 4/5 Royal Hampshire Regiment (T.A.) who supplied the enemy force.

Some 100 men of H.Q. Company, under the command of Major D. W. F. Willard, T.D., flew from Southend Airport to Jersey in October for Exercise "Operation Airborne." Training took place in the St. Aubin's Bay area and the Unit was assisted by the Jersey Victoria College Cadets in the role of enemy. The exercise was visited by the Brigade Commander, Brigadier N. St. G. Gribbon, O.B.E., and Lt.-Col. D. W. Browne, M.C., the Battalion Commander.

Both of these exercises did much to stimulate the interest of volunteers during the out-of-camp season and it is hoped that similar exercises will be arranged during the coming summer.

In November, No. 1 Company held a highly successful recruiting weekend at Hemel Hemp-

stead under the direction of their Company Commander, Major B. J. Elliott. Members of other Companies assisted with demonstrations and the Regimental Band and Drums 'Beat Retreat.' The Mayor of Hemel Hempstead and other local dignitaries were entertained and supported the event. Units from as far away as Tidworth assisted this venture.

An escape and evasion exercise, Exercise "Fly-by-Night," was organised by the Battalion Training Officer, Major R. B. Keatley. A total of 15 Units, including several U.S.A.F., took part and the competition was won by Hertfordshire A.C.F.

In the Divisional Band Competition, held at the Duke of Yorks H.Q., Chelsea, on October 11, the Drums obtained second place whilst the Band came fifth. All competitors attained a very high standard.

The Battalion's Annual Administrative Inspection was carried out by Brigadier N. St. G. Gribbon, O.B.E., Commander 161 Infantry Brigade (T.A.), on February 3 and 4.

Preparations are now under way for Annual Camp which will take place from April 24 to May 8. The Camp will be at the Army Home Defence Centre, Devizes, Wilts, where the



(Photo: "Hertfordshire Hemel Hempstead Gazette," Hemel Hempstead, Herts.)

1st Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (T.A.)

The Band and Drums march past the Mayor during No. 1 Company Recruiting Day, November 15, 1964.

Battalion will be trained in Fire Fighting. We are hoping for a summer like the last in order that the inevitable soakings may be more easily borne!

#### OFFICERS' MESS

A Cocktail Party was held in the Mess shortly before Christmas and a number of distinguished guests from both counties attended this function.

Recent departures from the Mess have been Major A. S. McCraw who is now attached to H.Q. 43 (Wessex) Div./District and Capt. M. S. Beevers, now P.S.O. with 557 Company R.A.S.C. at Barnet.

Newcomers welcomed to the Mess are Capt. R. H. I. Colsey who joins us as Unit Paymaster and 2/Lts. R. A. Hall, B. P. Holt and D. M. Pell who have recently been commissioned into the Regiment.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

A successful training day for Warrant Officers and Sergeants was held at Hertford in November, which included a lecture by the Command-

ing Officer who outlined the training activities during the coming year. This was followed by a Mess Meeting and Lunch which had been organised by the Mess Members of H.Q. Company. Guests invited to lunch were the Commanding Officer, Adjutant, Quartermaster and all Company Commanders. It is intended that similar functions shall be held at quarterly intervals at different Company locations.

We regret the departure of Sgt. South, P.S.I. H.Q. Company, from the Mess. He has now rejoined his Regular Battalion in Germany on completion of his tour of duty with us. As his successor we welcome C/Sgt. Appleton and hope that his stay with us will prove to be a pleasant and interesting one.

The only other newcomer to Mess life is Sgt. R. D. Brown of No. 1 Company and we congratulate him on his promotion.

Our congratulations are also extended to C.S.M. Watson who was recently awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and to C/Sgt. Fairclough and Sgt. Jones who were both awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for meritorious service in the T.A.

## 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (TA)

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SIR WINSTON L. S. CHURCHILL, K.G., O.M., C.H.

The Battalion had the great honour of being represented at the State Funeral of the late Sir Winston Churchill who was Honorary Colonel of the Battalion for more than twenty years.

A detachment of three officers and eighteen other ranks under the Command of Major B. G. Chaplain, T.D., marched in the funeral procession. The detachment was made up of all ranks from all Companies and it was their privilege to represent members past and present of the Battalion when the nation paid its last respects to this great man.

#### COMBINED OPERATIONS

On the weekend of November 14/15 a composite company from the Battalion took part in a combined operations exercise with the Royal Navy, called Exercise "Dawn Mist."

Apart from the Company, the force included the Recce Platoon, elements of Battalion Headquarters, Gunners, Sappers, and Services, all under command of the C.O. This force embarked at Chatham Dockyard on the afternoon

of Saturday, November 14, in H.M.S. *Rampart*, an L.S.T. of about 1,000 tons.

The force sailed at about 20.30 hours for the assault landing area, which was at Wrabness, a tiny village a few miles up the River Stour from Harwich. All went according to plan, and at 07.00 hours H.M.S. *Rampart* beached at exactly the correct spot, and out of her bow doors, into about 3ft. of water charged the assault force of some 130 officers and men, followed by about 20 vehicles. There were a few nasty moments as the vehicles drove off the ramp, but all went well, thanks mainly to a R.E.M.E. genius who managed to restart two three-ton trucks whose engines stalled on entering the water.

Having secured the beachhead, the force had to move by road to the Colchester training area to attack and destroy an enemy radio station.

The exercise went well and we all learnt a great deal on the many aspects of training involved. The Royal Navy, as usual, looked after us all very well during the passage from Chatham, and even managed to provide a calm sea—quite an achievement in November.



[Photo by courtesy of the "Bramtree and Wisham Times"]

*4th/5th Battalion The Essex Regiment (T.A.)*

*Exercise "Dawn Mist."—The assault force landing on Wrabness beach from H.M.S. "Rampart."*

Later this year, one of our sister Battalions in the Brigade is to do the same exercise, and this time we shall be the enemy guarding the beaches. We look forward to seeing someone else wading ashore in 3ft. of water.

#### THE OLD COLOURS

The laying-up of the Old Colours of the 4th and 5th Battalion is to take place at the Regimental Chapel at Warley on Sunday, July 4, in conjunction with the annual Service of Remembrance of The Essex Regiment. The Chaplain General has agreed to officiate at the service.

Because of the large numbers who are expected to attend on this occasion, it is planned to hold a Drumhead Service in the Gardens at Warley as the Regimental Chapel will not be large enough to hold all the congregation.

It is to be hoped that the weather on this occasion will be as kind as it was when the Colonel-in-Chief presented the Battalion with New Colours last July.

#### PERSONALIA

There have been a number of departures recently among long-serving members of the

T.A. Major Gordon Ashton has retired and was dined-out in November. He has been succeeded by Major Geoffrey Brewer as Second-in-Command of the Battalion. Major Jack Harries now leaves after many years of commanding "H.Q." Company, and is succeeded by Capt. Roger Tomkins. With much regret "B" Company have had to say goodbye to C.M.S. Breton, and they wish newly-promoted C.S.M. Culliton as long and successful a stay as his predecessor. Due to the added responsibilities of their civilian jobs, we have also had to bid farewell to C/Sgts. McDowell, of "D" Company, and Ward, of "C" Company. We wish all these ex-members good fortune and many re-unions in the future.

#### SMALL BORE SHOOTING

The enthusiasm in the Battalion for small bore shooting continues to increase, and "B" Company are to be congratulated on coming seventh in the N.S.R.A. National Competition, in which 120 teams from all over the country took part in the final.

#### WATERLOO

The Battalion has been invited to take part



in celebrations in Brussels, in June, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. One officer and four other ranks will be joining a party from the 3rd Battalion as the Regiment's contingent. Fortunately, the celebrations coincide with the second week of camp. No doubt those concerned will look upon it as a camp to remember!

#### ANNUAL CAMP

Annual camp this year is to be at Shorncliffe, once again by the sea, and once again in tents. Last time the Battalion camped there they suffered from gale-force winds for most of the fortnight. The story goes that the Officers' Mess ante room was blown down in the middle of a cocktail party, which is one way of bringing such a function to a rapid conclusion.

### REGIMENTAL CALENDAR

**MAY 15:** Southend and District Branch, The Essex Regiment Association Annual Dinner and Dance at the Grand Hotel, Leigh-on-Sea. Tickets (21/-) and further details from: Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. F. Harrod, 9, Whittingham Avenue, Southchurch, Southend-on-Sea.

**JULY 4:** Regimental Remembrance Service and Reunion, Warley. Laying-up of the Old Colours of the 4th and 5th Battalions, The Essex Regiment (T.A.). Tickets of admission and full details can be obtained from the Secretary, The Essex Regiment Association, Warley.

**SEPTEMBER 18:** Saffron Walden Branch, The Essex Regiment Association. Annual Social and Dance, Town Hall, Saffron Walden. Full details from: Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. W. Elsom, 11, Castle Cross, Saffron Walden.

**SEPTEMBER 19:** Regimental Service and Annual Reunion, Kempston Barracks, Bedford. Full details can be obtained from Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., Secretary, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association, Kempston Barracks, Bedford.

**OCTOBER 9:** London Branch, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association annual dinner. For details apply to: Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. G. Aldridge, 118, Valley Drive, Gravesend, Kent.

Please mention "The Castle" when purchasing from firms who advertise in these pages.

## THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Celebrations to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo will be held in Brussels and in London. All "Waterloo" Regiments have been invited to send a representative party to Brussels, and the former Essex Regiment will be represented by detachments totalling four officers and 21 other ranks from the 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion in B.A.O.R., and 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.). In addition to the above party, the Band and Drums of the 3rd Battalion will take part in the massed bands display.

The main Brussels celebrations will take place during the period June 14-21, 1965, when the programme will include a massed bands display, a memorial drumhead service and a ball given by H.M. Ambassador.

In London, a parade will be held on the Horse Guards, the date of which will be given in the National Press. Museum exhibitions will be held as follows:

Brussels: Waterloo Village, April-October.

London: May-June.

A selection of exhibits from The Essex Regiment Museum will be included in each exhibition, including the Salamanca Eagle at the London display.

### The Regimental Chapel, Warley

The monthly services at the Chapel continue to bring together many of the 16th/44th/56th members and friends, and we look forward to the coming months, when many of those who live some distance from Warley are able to make the journey during the finer weather.

The service on February 7 was a memorable one, as it was in the form of a tribute to Sir Winston Churchill, who was for many years Honorary Colonel of the 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.). The Rev. Gerald Restall, assisted by the Rev. F. J. Hickey, from Tilbury, conducted the service, during which some of Sir Winston's favourite hymns were sung. The old 4th and 5th Battalions were strongly represented.

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#### OPERATION "MUSKETOON"

A new book by S. Schofield, "Musketoon" is the recently-published story of an almost entirely unknown Commando raid on a power station in Norway in 1942, an operation which is considered a classic of its kind, is published by Jonathan Cape at 18s.

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## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

### The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association

1st/5th BEDFORD (1914-18) "YELLOW  
DEVILS" O.C.A.

Despite diminishing numbers, the branch still continues to be active. This was demonstrated in no uncertain fashion at our Christmas meeting, when we were able to disburse over £20 in grants to our less fortunate comrades. As is usual on this occasion, our President, Mr. C. W. Gilder, extended hospitality to all those present, a gesture very much appreciated by our members.

It was a great pleasure to receive a letter from Colonel C. H. Miskin, who was our Transport Officer in Gallipoli. He now lives in the Channel Islands, but hopes to attend one of our meetings at some future date. He was, of course, one of the prime movers in the formation of our O.C.A., 40 years ago.

We have recently lost two of our members, Mr. G. Morgan and Mr. A. Dimmock, and tribute to their memory was paid at our last meeting.

Our hard-working Secretary, Mr. Jack Ward, has had a spell in hospital. We are happy to report that he is now fully recovered and able to resume all his duties.

#### HERTFORD BRANCH

We very much regret to report the death, in November, of one of our oldest Vice-Presidents, Councillor D. Dye, aged 82. "Danny" was a much-loved member of the branch, which he supported to the utmost. It was during his three years in office as Mayor of Hertford that he did so much to foster and cement that close association between the county and the Regiment which exists today. His funeral service was attended by our President and Secretary, as well as several members of the branch.

In November, Major J. S. Townsend was Chairman for our annual general meeting, which was well attended. The reports by branch officers showed that the branch is in good heart and in a sound financial position. All the present holders of office were re-elected for the forthcoming year.

On Saturday, January 9, the annual children's Christmas party was held at the T.A.

Centre in St. Andrews Street. This included community singing, a cinema show, a really festive tea and, of course, the distribution of suitable presents. Our thanks are due to Charlie Mansfield and his committee for organising such a splendid show, and to Mr. "Smudger" Smith for operating the cine projector at such short notice. After the party, a social evening for members and their friends followed. This was exceptionally well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Once again we are indebted to Charlie Mansfield and his helpers.

Under our Secretary's leadership, our small bore rifle team has won four of the last five matches and, at the moment, we are top of the league in the Hertfordshire County Small Bore Association.

#### WATFORD BRANCH

It is our very sad duty to report the death of our Branch Treasurer, Mr. W. C. Packer, who was such a stalwart member of our branch and through whose efforts the branch has achieved its high standing. He was Treasurer for many years, and his knowledge and wisdom were held in high esteem by all those who had the pleasure of working with him. Our branch annual dinners were always a speciality of his, and through his management of our finances, we think we can claim that our dinners were second to none. "Wally" will be greatly missed by us all, and we shall be hard put to find someone to try and carry on his work.

Our annual dinner was again very successful, and we did our best to make it a grand finale at our present headquarters. Many of our regular friends attended; it was a first visit, however, for Colonel M. C. D. L. Reynolds, O.B.E., The Regimental Secretary, and we hope that he enjoyed his evening with us. We were also pleased to have as our guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Watford, Alderman and Mrs. A. W. M. Reynolds. Following the dinner we had a dance, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

At the time of writing we are still not certain when we shall be moving to our new Headquarters at Tolpits Lane, but we hope to hold our annual general meeting there early in April.

#### ST. ALBANS BRANCH

The branch annual general meeting was held on February 10, 1965, when we were glad to

have our President, Lt.-Col. J. H. Busby, M.B.E., and our Vice-President, Capt. W. G. Cann with us, in addition to fifteen members of the branch. The following were re-elected for the ensuing year: President, Lt.-Col. J. H. Busby, M.B.E.; Vice-President, Capt. W. G. Cann; Chairman, Mr. G. H. Windmill; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. H. R. Howard.

The meeting approved the balance sheet for the previous year, which showed that we were in a sound financial position. A vote of thanks was passed to our Secretary, Mr. Howard, who does so much to keep the branch together.

We have continued our meetings throughout the winter. One or two of our regular supporters have unfortunately been unable to attend owing to illness, and we wish them a speedy recovery.

We would like to take this opportunity of assuring anyone leaving The Royal Anglian Regiment and settling in our district that they will be warmly welcomed at our monthly meetings, which are held on the first Wednesday of every month at the T.A. Centre, Harpenden Road, St. Albans.

#### BEDFORD BRANCH

It was with great regret that we heard of the death of Rev. H. John, M.B.E., just after he had taken over his new parish at Tollerton. Padre John was our Branch Chaplain for many years, as well as being so well-known as Chaplain to the 16th Foot Regiment Depot. The Memorial Service was held at the Parish Church, Kempston, on January 23, 1965, and was attended by our President and Secretary.

We also mourn the passing of yet another member—one of our oldest—Mr. Ted Smith.

The annual general meeting was held on Friday, February 5, 1965, at the Social Club, T.A. Centre, The Lane, Ashburnham Road, Bedford. It was a great credit to members that so many were present (37 of them attended from as far afield as Hertford) to transact the annual business of the branch. The following were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, Mr. L. A. Butler; Secretary, Mr. C. C. Wells; Standard Bearer, Mr. J. Pithers; Benevolent Representative, Mr. E. J. Cannon; Sub-Editor, *The Castle*, Major C. J. Corkerton.

This meeting was the first to be held at our new home; all future monthly meetings will take place there, at 7.45 p.m. on the first Friday of each month. We wish to thank Lt.-Col. Browne, Commanding Officer, 1st Bn. Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (T.A.) and Major Gibbs, 248 Field Squadron, R.E. (T.A.) for giving us the facility of meeting in such delightful surroundings.

- *It is worth your while to read the advertisements in this magazine.*

## The Essex Regiment Association

The annual gathering at Warley this year will be on July 4, when the Regimental Remembrance Service and Reunion will be held.

The occasion will be of special interest, as it is intended that the Old Colours of the 4th and 5th Territorial Battalions of The Essex Regiment shall be laid up during this service. It is expected that the numbers of those wishing to attend will be too great to be accommodated in the Regimental Chapel, and a Drum-Head Service will therefore be held on the R.H.Q. lawn. Admission will be by ticket only, and full details can be obtained from the Secretary of the Association.

6th Bn. The Essex Regt. (Cedars) O.C.A. ...

Since our last notes, branch affairs have been rather quiet.

Our main social event of the year is our annual dinner, which is held on or near the anniversary of the Battle of Gaza. This event is always well supported, but we are very glad to welcome new members and friends.

The dinner this year will be held at the T.A. Centre, Vicarage Lane, East Ham, on Saturday, March 27, and any further information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. W. Leaford, 71, Herschell Road, Leigh-on-Sea.

#### SAFFRON WALDEN BRANCH

1964 was a most successful year for the branch, many enjoyable functions were held, and our financial position is now better than ever before, notwithstanding the considerable benevolent assistance programme which we were able to carry out. Our thanks and appreciation are extended to the Honorary Secretary and the members of our hard-working committee, and, of course, to our President, Major Lipscombe and Mrs. Lipscombe.

Our big dates for the current year are as follows: Annual General Meeting, Monday, April 5; Grand Fete (Saffron Walden Football Ground), Monday, August 30; Annual Social and Dance (Town Hall), Saturday, September 18.

#### CHELMSFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH

The past year, for Chelmsford Branch, has been very successful, and although we have only been in existence under 18 months, membership is now approaching 250.

We have run three socials at Chelmsford T.A. Centre, and each was so well supported that the hall was filled to capacity. We thank our members for their support and loyalty.



A group of committee members' wives at one of the Chelmsford Branch social evenings.

Our pattern of events for the future is to run two or three socials at Chelmsford, a grand dance at Warley, and a family sports day each year.

On April 3, we shall run our first grand "Pompadour" Reunion Dance at the Keys Hall, Warley. For those of you who served at the Depot, Keys Hall was the Barracks Gymnasium, and this fact may, or may not, bring back pleasant memories. Any ex-member of the Regiment would be made most welcome at any of our functions, and full details will gladly be sent by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. Gilder, T.A.C., Market Road, Chelmsford, Essex.

We welcome our new journal, *The Castle*, and wish it every success.

#### METROPOLITAN ESSEX BRANCH

At the annual general meeting of the branch, held at the Whipp's Cross T.A. Centre on January 25, Major C. D. Randall, M.C., was appointed Chairman in succession to Colonel Hugh Craig, O.B.E., T.D., D.L. Colonel Craig, who proposed Major Randall, had officiated since the formation of the branch, some five years ago.

All members present joined in a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman and welcomed Major Randall. Colonel Craig now becomes the first President of the branch at the unanimous request of those in attendance.

A vote of thanks was also accorded to Capt. Bruce Faint for his hard work as the Honorary Secretary and for his very satisfactory report.

#### ROMFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH

The annual gathering of the branch, which takes the form of a dinner at Upminster, will not be held this year, but the annual tea party,

which Colonel and Mrs. Lockwood kindly give at Bishops Hall, will take place, as usual, this year on June 26.

The next annual dinner will be held in the Spring of 1966.

## Essex Army Cadet Force

#### BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Essex Army Cadet Force Boxing Championships took place on Saturday, November 28, at the Essex Yeomanry Drill Hall, London Road, Chelmsford, by kind permission of Lt.-Col. A. R. Motion, T.D.

The number of entries was less than last year, but the boxing, generally, was better, and more bouts went the full distance. Cadet A. Hayden, last year's National Cadet Champion had no opponent.

The Inter-Regional Competition was won by 3rd Essex Cadet Regiment (R.H.Q., Brentwood) with 25 points, with 6th Regiment (R.H.Q., Chelmsford) second with 15 points.

The Smith Cup for the best boxer was won by Cadet D. Bass, 3rd Cadet Regiment.

The prizes were presented by Colonel P. H. A. L. Franklin D.L., County Cadet Commandant.

#### COMMAND TROPHY

The Essex Army Cadet Force easily retained the Inter-County Herapath Trophy in the Eastern Command A.C.F. Boxing Championships, which were held at Woolwich on Saturday, January 9, 1965. In doing so, they won 12 of the 25 titles, and only lost three of their 18 bouts.

*Continued on page 80*



## 4th (Leicestershire) Battalion THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

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As this is the first issue of *The Castle* readers may find a summary of our activities during the past two years of interest.

The 1st Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regiment returned home from Germany in the summer of 1962, and were stationed at Watchet in Somerset. Our activities were interrupted later that year by a warning for an emergency tour in the Far East, as a result of the Brunei revolt, and the Battalion finally departed in February, 1963, our destination a little uncertain. The advance party left for Singapore but were sent on to Hong Kong, where the rest of the Battalion joined them.

We spent five months in Hong Kong training for jungle warfare in a colony without jungle. In August and September we moved to Borneo where we relieved 2/6 Gurkha Rifles. The Battalion was now spread over an area about the size of Wales, and engaged principally in very active patrolling. During our time there we accounted for a number of raiders, and a large amount of equipment, luckily without loss to ourselves. When the Battalion returned by air direct from Borneo in February, 1964, two subalterns, Lts. Alan Thompson and Mike Peele, were awarded the M.C., C/Sgt. Davis the B.E.M., and four were Mentioned in Despatches. The citation for Lt. Peele's award appeared in the *London Gazette* of November 13, 1964, and reads as follows:

"On the 23rd January, 1964, 2nd Lieutenant Peele was the commander of a patrol of 20 men flown into the jungle, in Sabah, to follow up a suspected band of 80 to 100 armed intruders. Early next morning he found the tracks of a large party and followed them up rigorously, even abandoning packs to enable his men to move faster. After five hours he sighted some terrorists in two shelters which were the beginning of an enemy camp. Although he believed himself to be outnumbered he at once planned a surprise attack but one of the enemy stumbled on to his assault group. Realising that surprise was lost, 2nd Lieutenant Peele shot this man and ordered the assault group to charge through the camp firing from the hip. In the face of fire from a light machine gun the assault group fought through the camp which proved to be about 250 yards long and to have contained some 60 armed men. The



LT. MICHAEL PEELE, M.C.

*The citation accompanying his award will be found in the 4th Battalion Notes.*

enemy fled into the jungle leaving behind 6 dead, a quantity of weapons, valuable documents and the majority of their equipment and ammunition.

"The important success achieved by 2nd Lieutenant Peele and his patrol was largely due to his courageous and aggressive leadership."

During World War II our 2/5th Battalion, which served in France, North Africa, Italy and Greece, started the custom of awarding the Regimental lanyard, which at that time was only worn by officers, to soldiers who gave outstanding service on active service. By the end of the war one or two soldiers had won as many as three lanyards which they proudly wore. This custom was continued when on their return from Borneo Lt.-Col. Peter Badger awarded "the lanyard" to the following:

Solid silver model of a Royal Bengal Tiger, emblem of former Royal Leicestershire Regiment — redesignated The 4th (LEICESTERSHIRE) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment. It is one of many fine models in solid silver we have been privileged to supply for over 100 years for presentation to various units of H.M. Forces.



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*B" Company just about to embark en route to Gatwick.*

Cpl. Reece, Cpl. Durant, Cpl. Hughes, Cpl. Walton, Cpl. Rourke, L/Cpl. Henson, L/Cpl. Halford, L/Cpl. Dance, L/Cpl. Mann, L/Cpl. Lock, L/Cpl. Rothery, L/Cpl. Roberts, Pte. Jones, Pte. Tinsley, Pte. Gray, Pte. Foran, Pte. Bond, Pte. Gribbons, Pte. Wallace, Pte. Blasdale, Pte. Grant, Pte. Berry, Pte. Hickling, Pte. Marsden, Pte. Holder.

The Battalion re-assembled from post-Borneo leave on March 31, when Lt.-Col. Badger handed over command of the Battalion to Lt. Col. J. A. C. Cowan, M.B.E. Almost at once we were in the thick of a pretty hectic programme. On the one hand we tried to train ourselves for our new role in the Strategic Reserve; on the other hand we tried to broaden the education of large numbers of young officers, N.C.O.'s and men who had known no form of warfare other than jungle. And at the same time we tried to enjoy ourselves.

There are four main training requirements for a Battalion in the Strategic Reserve. First, it must be expert in the normal Internal Security drills. Secondly, it must be trained for Counter-Insurgency (or anti-terrorist) operations. Thirdly, it must be trained for all phases of conventional war. Finally, and superimposed on the other three requirements, it must know the drills, procedures and techniques involved in the magic phrase "airportability."

We reckoned that we knew a fair amount about the first of these requirements, a great deal about the second, very little about the third, and nothing at all about the fourth. So our programme for the year was planned on the basis of priority for conventional war and airportability—plus, of course, keeping our hand

in at the other requirements and catching up on such mundane things as classification, M.T. and Signals cadres, support weapons cadres, etc.

From a training point of view the main highlights were a three-week period of Company group and Battalion group training on Salisbury Plain in June and July; endless trial pack-ups for air moves; and, during September and October, a major Strategic Reserve exercise called "Storm King." The exercise was a hard one in every way and took us sometimes by air, sometimes by road, sometimes by rail and sometimes by river, from Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire to Otterburn in Northumberland, and thence to Stanford in Norfolk.

On September 1, 1964, The Royal Anglian Regiment was formed and 1st Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regiment became 4th (Leicestershire) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment. It was with great pride that we received on that day a message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Anglian Regiment. The occasion was marked by a Battalion parade, and on September 5 The Band and Drums performed the ceremony of Beating Retreat, which was followed by cocktail parties in the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes. Amongst the many guests we were delighted to see were Lieutenant-General Sir Colin and Lady Callander and the Regimental Colonel and Mrs. Denny.

Although naturally regretting losing our old title, the Battalion has accepted and settled down to this new organisation sensibly and well.

Almost immediately after "Storm King" a party of us under Major Holloway spent about three weeks in Leicestershire carrying out K.A.P.E. (Keeping the Army in the Public Eye). Although the weather was cold we feel that, thanks largely to the great help and kindness of all the people we met in the City of Leicester and the counties of Leicestershire and Rutland, our visit was a success.

In November, we were "Stand by" Battalion for the Strategic Reserve but we had no alarms and most of our officers, with their wives, were allowed to attend The Royal Anglian Regiment inaugural party at St. James's Palace. This was a wonderful afternoon which everybody enjoyed very much.

We were all delighted that the Colonel of the Regiment was able to visit us on December 3 and 4. This was a very happy occasion for us all. While he was with us he took the opportunity of meeting as many soldiers as possible.

The Band did not go to Hong Kong and Brunei, and had a successful year on its own. On the return of the Corps of Drums they earned themselves praise at a number of different engagements. The Colonel of the Regiment attended the Lighting the Tree Cere-



*"A" Company on Exercise "Storm King." Back: Sgt. Kerr, L/Cpl. Hackett. Front: Ptes. Purdy, Palmer, Tebbutt, Turbill.*



**ADVANCE PARTY IN ADEN**

*Cpl. Kenny, a Cook, and Pte. Bursnall of the M.T. Platoon swap notes with one of the Royal Scots from whom the Battalion took over.*

mony in Trafalgar Square on December 19, which they performed at the invitation of the Mayor of Westminster. We took the opportunity of showing off our Fanfare of Trumpets given to us by the City of Leicester on our return from Korea. It is understood that both the Colonel of the Regiment and the Mayor were well satisfied.

We returned from Christmas leave and started to prepare for Exercise "Spring Canter," a three-week exercise in Libya. The advance party was already in Libya and taking over vehicles and stores, when on January 7 the Battalion was paraded in the gymnasium and the Commanding Officer told us the news — Libya was off; instead we were to go to Aden early in February to relieve the Royal Scots. It is to be a six-month tour.

We are all very sorry to have to leave our wives and families behind but are glad that we can leave them in Watchet again where 43 (Wessex) Division/District have always looked after them so well. Our posting to Malta with our wives and families in November will make, we hope, a most pleasant change.

During the past two years we have had little chance of playing many games. We hope we shall be able to do this when we get to Malta.

Changes have and are, of course, taking place in the Battalion. Major John Parsons is handing over to Major Terry Holloway as Second-in-Command and going to Netheravon as an instructor, and Major Seton-Browne returns to the Staff. Soon after Christmas Major John Bromhead retired at the age of 55. For the past twenty years he has given great service to the "Tigers," first as a Company Commander and for the last few years as Paymaster. To him and his wife, Freda, we wish the best of luck in their retirement.

We welcome Major Burch, of the 3rd Battalion, who comes to command a Company.

In the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess R.S.M. Benham takes over from R.S.M. Loader as R.S.M. of the 4/5th Battalion, and we welcome R.S.M. Jenks, M.M., in his place.

As these notes are being written some of the Battalion have already arrived in Aden and some are about to go. We are looking forward to meeting the 1st Battalion there and wish the best of luck to *The Castle* and to all other members of The Royal Anglian Regiment.

*Make a note of the dates for the*

**ROYAL TIGERS WEEK-END**

*Saturday & Sunday, May 22 & 23, 1965.*

(see page 79)

## ORDER OF BATTLE

### 4TH (LEICESTERSHIRE) BATTALION

#### BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

*Commanding Officer* : Lt.-Col. J. A. C. Cowan,  
M.B.E.  
*Second-in-Command* : Major A. J. Parsons,  
M.B.E.  
(Major T. Holloway,  
Designate)  
*Adjutant* : Capt. B. N. Crumby  
*10/Assistant Adjutant* : Capt. F. A. H. Swallow  
*Regimental*  
*Sergeant-Major* : R.S.M. N. Jenks, M.M.

#### HEADQUARTER COMPANY

*Officer Commanding* : Capt. W. J. G. Brown  
*Second-in-Command* : Lt. A. Fisher  
*Battalion Paymaster* : Lt. P. Carr  
*The Quartermaster* : Capt. (Q.M.) N. McColl  
*Technical*  
*Quartermaster* : Lt. (Q.M.) E. P. Kelly,  
D.C.M.  
*Signal Officer* : Lt. B. D. Hickman  
(2/Lt. R. Howe,  
Designate)  
*Mechanical Transport*  
*Officer* : Lt. J. E. Tilley  
*O.C. Recce Platoon* : Lt. M. J. Peele, M.C.  
*O.C. Army Youth Team*  
*and Recruiting Team*  
*Officer* : W.O.II D. Grove  
*Regimental Quarter-*  
*master Sergeant* : R.Q.M.S. G. E. Veitch  
*Company*  
*Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II L. Grant

#### " A " COMPANY

*Officer Commanding* : Major K. Burch, M.B.E.  
*Second-in-Command* : Capt. F. L. B. Vigers  
*Support Platoon*  
*Commander* : Lt. B. H. M. Davenport  
*Platoon Commanders* : 2/Lt. M. R. Charles  
2/Lt. M. E. Romilly  
*Company*  
*Sergeant-Major* : C.S.M. S. Bryant

#### " B " COMPANY

*Officer Commanding* : Major P. L. Philcox, M.C.  
*Second-in-Command* : Capt. J. C. D. Higgs  
*Support Platoon*  
*Commander* : Lt. A. E. Thompson, M.C.  
*Platoon Commanders* : 2/Lt. A. C. Taylor  
2/Lt. H. R. Childs  
*Company*  
*Sergeant-Major* : C.S.M. C. Murray

#### " C " COMPANY

*Officer Commanding* : Capt. R. H. Robinson  
*Second-in-Command* : Capt. J. R. E. Bowes  
*Support Platoon*  
*Commander* : Lt. D. E. A. Michael  
*Platoon Commanders* : 2/Lt. D. W. James  
2/Lt. P. B. Keeble  
2/Lt. A. W. C. Dexter  
*Company*  
*Sergeant-Major* : C.S.M. J. Pearce

#### REAR PARTY

*Officer Commanding* : Major R. H. A. Graveston

## 4th/5th Battalion

### The Royal Leicestershire Regiment (TA)

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The first edition of *The Castle* presents an opportunity for 4/5th Royal Leicestershire Regiment (T.A.) to send out good wishes to all other Battalions, whether Regular or T.A., with whom we will in future be associated, and in particular to our local Regular Battalion, 4th Royal Anglian, who are now in Aden. To them we send our best wishes for a successful tour.

The quiet of the winter months has slipped past and too soon the hurly-burly of the training season and preparation for annual camp are thrust upon us. This year our training is directed towards the field of Home Defence and the camp is to be at The Army School of Home Defence in Warminster.

Cadres for First Aid have been run and at the time of going to press members of the Battalion are busy preparing for the St. John Ambulance Certificate.

As part of their training "A" Company enjoyed a fruitful weekend's Initiative Exercise, during which members of the Company were despatched throughout the length and breadth of Britain on various tasks, which included obtaining signatures from the team captains after the England-Wales Rugby International in Cardiff. All tasks were successfully completed and many much more quickly than the Company Commander had reckoned possible—it is rumoured that he is now actively trying to

discourage members of his Company from using too much initiative.

Changes of appointment include the arrival of Capt. Tony Pollard as Adjutant, vice Capt. John Heggs, who is now in the warmth of a mid-oriental sun, and the arrival of R.S.M. Benham to replace R.S.M. Loader, who now leaves after 2½ years with the 4/5th Battalion.

With the greater part of the training year still to come the future looks busy, and members of the Battalion can look forward to varied training in Home Defence and normal infantry soldiering before and during camp. The Band and Drums are preparing to Beat Retreat, with the massed Bands and Drums of 148 Infantry Brigade, at Bath and later at the 50th Anniversary Celebrations at C.O.D., Chilwell.

At the same time training is going ahead for the Brigade Support Weapons Concentration at Warcop Ranges, while the M.T. have, as usual, a full calendar of rallies.

Major Richard Wilkes is kept busy supervising the instruction and military education of some eleven Officer Cadets.

Stop press news indicates that eight members of the Battalion, who are all T.A.E.R. Volunteers, will have a chance of spending two weeks with 4th Royal Anglian Regiment in Aden. Good luck to them; good luck to 4th Royal Anglian Regiment!

## ORDER OF BATTLE

### 4/5th BN. ROYAL LEICESTERS (T.A.)

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS		R.C. Padre :		Capt. J. T. Jones	
<i>Commanding Officer</i>		<i>Assistant Pnr. Platoon</i>			
<i>(Reg.) :</i>	Lt.-Col. J. P. N. Creagh	<i>Commander :</i>			Lt. R. H. Must
<i>Second-in-Command :</i>	Major R. G. Wilkes, T.D.	<i>Company</i>			
<i>Training Officer :</i>	Major J. Hartley	<i>Sergeant-Major :</i>			W.O.II F. J. Botting
<i>Adjutant (Reg.) :</i>	Capt. A. J. G. Pollard	<i>P.S.I.:</i>			W.O.II W. Bradburn
<i>Assistant Adjutant :</i>	Lt. N. D. Hardaker	<i>P.S.I.:</i>			Sgt. K. J. Cook
<i>Intelligence Officer :</i>	Capt. G. B. Lodge				
<i>Regimental Signals</i>		<b>" A "</b>	<b>COMPANY</b>		
<i>Officer :</i>	Capt. J. F. Hampson	<i>Officer Commanding :</i>			Capt. W. G. Wallace
<i>Regimental</i>		<i>Second-in-Command :</i>			Capt. M. I. M. Joule
<i>Sergeant-Major :</i>	W.O.I L. E. Loader	<i>Platoon Commanders :</i>			Lt. A. J. J. Pryce-Howells
<i>O.R.Q.M.S.:</i>	W.O.II G. R. Agar	<i>Company</i>			Lt. J. Underwood
		<i>Sergeant-Major :</i>			2/Lt. J. R. Hoares
		<i>P.S.I.:</i>			
		<b>" B "</b>	<b>COMPANY</b>		
<b>HEADQUARTER COMPANY</b>		<i>Officer Commanding :</i>			Capt. M. A. N. Clarke
<i>Officer Commanding :</i>	Major G. W. E. Wootton	<i>Second-in-Command :</i>			
<i>P.R.I.:</i>	Major J. F. M. Wilkes	<i>Platoon Commanders :</i>			Lt. J. Morgan
<i>U.P.M.:</i>	Major J. T. Dudley	<i>Company</i>			Lt. T. M. Holroyd
<i>Messing Officer :</i>	Major A. R. Cooper-Smith, T.D.				
<i>Quartermaster (Reg.) :</i>	Major J. H. F. Leeson				
<i>C. of E. Padre :</i>	Capt. I. J. Phelps				

**Company**

*Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II N. Parker  
*P.S.I.:* C/Sgt. J. D. D. Grice

**" C " COMPANY**

*Officer Commanding* : Major W. G. Dawson  
*Second-in-Command* : Capt. A. A. J. Wilson,

T.D.  
*Platoon Commanders* : Lt. T. J. Lant  
 2/Lt. J. E. Daly

**Company**

*Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II E. Sowter, M.M.  
*P.S.I.:* Sgt. R. B. Freakley

**" D " COMPANY**

*Officer Commanding* : Major R. D. F. Bream  
*Platoon Commanders* : Lt. W. G. Lewis  
 2/Lt. J. R. Ward

**Company**

*Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II Brunskill  
*P.S.I.:* C/Sgt. A. Hill

**OFFICER CADETS**

R. Lytle, J. C. L. Sellick, M. R. V. Price,  
 C. H. Cole, C. W. Hampton, J. A. Kelly, H. David,  
 W. E. Cronin, M. J. M. Smith, R. C. Lane,  
 P. R. S. Frost.

## Leicestershire Headquarters

Including the Royal Tigers Association

### Royal Anglian Regiment

Leicestershire Headquarters, The Royal Anglian Regiment, started at the T.A. Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester, when the Royal Anglian Regiment was formed on September 1, 1964. Its job is to help the Royal Anglian Regiment, and especially the 4th (Leicestershire) Battalion and 4th/5th Battalion The Royal Leicestershire Regiment (T.A.) in every way possible, and especially in the counties of Leicestershire and Rutland and the City of Leicester, just as the Regimental Headquarters, The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, has tried to do since the disbandment of the Regimental Depot of The Royal Leicestershire Regiment in 1960.

The Royal Tigers' Association of The Royal Leicestershire Regiment will continue to assist all those who have served in the Leicestershire Regiment, and are serving, or have served in, the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, and it will continue for as long as any of them are in need. It will, of course, also do all it can to help the Royal Anglian Regiment Association and those serving and retired members of the Royal Anglian Regiment living in our area.

Royal Tigers' Week-End will take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 22 and 23. There will be the usual dinner on the Saturday night at the T.A. Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester, followed by a reunion, and Sunday morning will be the same, too. The Regimental parade service will be held, as usual, in the Regimental Chapel which, thanks to the help of the Provost of the Cathedral, remains unchanged, with our

old Colours laid up there. It is sad that Major-General Sir Douglas and Lady Kendrew will be unable to get home from Australia to be present, but after the service we hope to march past Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Callander and to dismiss near the Magazine Tower which, thanks to the great help of the Corporation of the City of Leicester, will be the permanent home of the Museum of The Royal Leicestershire Regiment. Further particulars of the Week-End will be sent out, free, to members of the Royal Tigers' Association in April, in a News Letter. It is hoped to send out these News Letters twice a year in future, in the Spring

The Autumn, 1964, issue of "The Green Tiger," the journal of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, was its last. We now wish the best of luck to *The Castle*. During the past five years The Royal Leicestershire Regiment has been through many changes. We naturally regret that our Regular Battalion has lost its old title, but we are proud to form part of the first Large Regiment, with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother our Colonel-in-Chief. Let us hope that we have now reached the best organisation for the Infantrymen of Leicestershire and Rutland that will work in war and peace, and endure for many years to come.

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Our affiliated units are Uppingham School C.C.F., Oakham School C.C.F., Ratcliffe College C.C.F., Loughborough Grammar School C.C.F., and certain detachments of the Leicestershire and Rutland A.C.F.

Last year was marked by their outstanding shooting successes. At Bisley, Oakham School C.C.F. and Uppingham School C.C.F. featured in a triple-tie for the Ashburton Shield, but unfortunately the Rutland Schools were eventually placed second and third.

The Leicestershire and Rutland Army Cadet Force had a very good team, and it was a pity that the team competitions were cancelled at Bisley owing to bad weather. Sgt. Hurst, however, tied for the Bossom Trophy, which is for the best individual shot of the three cadet services. In the shoot-off he and his opponent each got thirteen consecutive bulls before our representative was beaten into second place. Later in the year their team won the Montgomery of Alamein Trophy, open to all Pre-Service Units of all arms throughout the country, for the third time in eight years.

## Essex Army Cadet Force

*(Continued from page 73)*

In the Herapath Trophy, Essex scored 99 points; Kent were second with 46 and Hertfordshire third with 45.

### NATIONAL FINALS

Five Cadets of the Essex Army Cadet Force won their weights at York in the A.C.F. National Semi-Final Boxing Championships on Saturday, January 30, and qualified to compete in the finals at Plymouth. The successful Cadets were: Cadets J. Cochlin (Chelmsford), L. Balls (Leigh), C. Daughters (Whipps Cross), D. Bass (Grays) and L/Cpl. A. Hayden (Ardleigh Green).

Two others, Bdr. Butcher (6th Regiment) and Cadet Proudman (3rd Regiment), most unfortunately were barred from boxing, as their medical certificates did not apparently satisfy the North East Counties A.B.A. Medical Officer, although perfectly acceptable to both Essex A.B.A. and London A.B.A. in previous stages of the competition.



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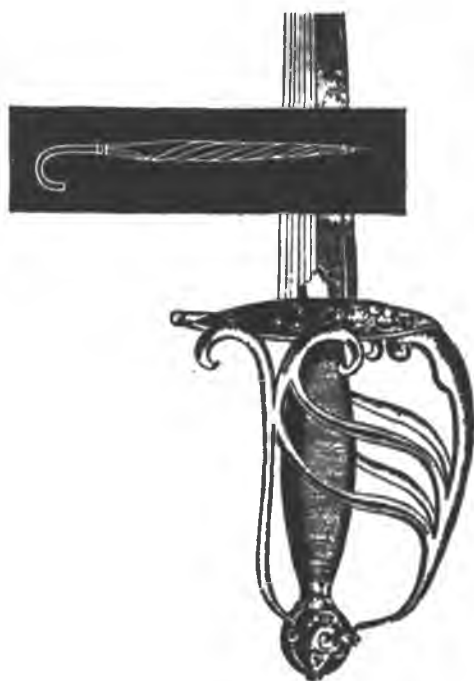
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