

Castle

The Journal of The Royal Anglian Regiment



May 1967





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SUPPLEMENT No. 2

MAY, 1967



Castle

The Royal Anglian Regiment

**BIRTHS
MARRIAGES
AND
DEATHS**

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DRESSED TO KILL . . . Cutting Tales from the History of Hawkes, the
Military and Civil Tailors. Estd. 1771.



THE GENERAL WHO NEARLY LOST HIS HEAD

War was killing off Mr. Hawkes' first customers in 1771. So he invented the shako. In consequence the general and his troops kept their heads. Instead of being slashed to ribbons, they collected ribbons galore. Hawkes was handsomely rewarded . . . so many customers returned to settle their accounts.

NO HEADACHES FOR THE FIGHTING LORD

The customers of Hawkes' successors were browned off by the Abyssinian campaign. Hawkes produced, out of a hat, a corking idea which worked like magic, against sun. Lord Napier, Commander in Abyssinia, suffered no headaches in his Hawkes' helmet and captured Magdala in 1867.

IN THE WARS AGAIN

The British have regularly gone into battle with glory and Hawkes' uniforms. Enough have survived to keep the firm going . . . and on victory parades and ceremonial occasions their splendid Hawkes' uniforms have always lent colour to the occasion.

A PEACEFUL ENDING

As well as uniforms, Hawkes now cut city suits and country-wear for more peaceful pursuits . . . and match jet age speed with immediate-wear service. But there still remains the same military precision of cutting, the same traditional pride in a first-class job, and the same air of style. As history has proved, Hawkes can always rise to the occasion in suitable style.

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OPEN SATURDAYS 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

BIRTHS

- BARRONS**—On 9th December, 1966, in Cyprus, to Caroline and John Barrons, a third son, Andrew John.
- BERRY**—On 2nd September, 1966 at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Jane, wife of Pte. V. Berry, a daughter, Anita Jean.
- BOOKER**—On 15th December, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Eileen, wife of L/Cpl. M. Booker, a son, Paul David.
- BURCH**—On 15th September, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Sara, wife of Major K. Burch, a son, Giles St. John.
- CARPENTER**—On 15th July, 1966, at BMH Berlin, to Daphne, wife of Pte. G. Carpenter, a daughter, Jane Andrea.
- CHATTEN**—On 11th July, 1966, at BMH, Berlin, to Cpl. and Mrs. J. Chatten, a son, Wayne Anthony.
- CHURCHILL**—On 4th November, 1966, at The Mayday Hospital, Croydon, to Valerie, wife of Major John Churchill, a son, Charles Dixie.
- COATES**—On 13th October, 1966, at BMH Dhekelia to L/Cpl. and Mrs. Coates, a son, Wayne.
- COOKE**—On 4th January, 1967, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Elizabeth, wife of L/Cpl. J. Cooke, a son, Garry William.
- COPSEY**—On 29th July, 1966, at BMH Berlin, to Marie, wife of Cpl. R. Copsey, a daughter, Sonia Lorraine.
- CRANE**—On 4th September, 1966 at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Carole, wife of Sgt. A. Crane, a son, Darrin.
- DAVIS**—On 3rd October, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Kathrine, wife of Pte. D. Davis, a son, Derick Sean.
- DAVIS**—On 3rd September, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Marian, wife of Pte. J. Davis, a daughter, Amanda Jayne.
- DELANEY**—On 19th August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Susan, wife of L/Cpl. K. Delaney, a daughter, Jacqueline Ann.
- DIGGINES**—On 10th January, 1967, at BMH Dhekelia, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. Digginés, a son, Lee James.
- FRENCH**—On 11th November, 1966, at Bury St. Edmunds, to Cpl. and Mrs. B. French, a daughter, Tina Michelle.
- FORTUNE**—On 19th August, 1966, at BMH South Tidworth, to Pte. and Mrs. C. Fortune, a son, Andrew Anthony.
- GAMBLE**—On 8th September, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Carol, wife of Pte. T. Gamble, a son, Steven Trevor.
- GINN**—On 1st January, 1967, at Mayday Hospital, Croydoy, Surrey, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. R. Ginn, a daughter, Catherine Ann.
- GOLBY**—On 30th November, 1966, at Bury St. Edmunds, to Jean, wife of Cpl. R. Goldby, a daughter, Carolyn Ursula.
- HAZELWOOD**—On 14th August, 1966, at BMH Berlin, to Jean, wife of Lt. (QM) E. J. Hazelwood, a son, David Paul.
- HILL**—On 6th November, 1966, at BMH Dhekelia, to C/Sgt. and Mrs. Hill a daughter, Rebecca Dorothy.
- HILL**—On 15th October, 1966, at BMH South Tidworth, to Ruby, wife of Cpl. T. Hill, a daughter, Diane.
- HOLMAN**—On 14th December, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Janice, wife of L/Cpl. L. Holman, a son, Nigel Robert.
- HOROBIN**—On 8th December, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Marlene, wife of Pte. B. Horobin, a son, Paul.
- HUNT**—On 2nd February, 1967, at RNH, Imtarfa, Malta, to Pamela, wife of Pte. S. Hunt, a daughter, Maxine.
- IRVINE**—On 1st December, 1966, at Imtarfa, Malta, to Marie, wife of Pte. C. Irvine, a son, Marcus George Jude.
- JENNINGS**—On 14th October, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Beryl, wife of Bds. A. Jennings, a son, Mark Oswald.
- JUBB**—On 29th January, 1967, at BMH Dhekelia, to Carole Diane and Cpl. Michael Jubb, a daughter, Amanda Patricia.
- KENNY**—On 21st December, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Miriam, wife of Cpl. M. Kenny, a son, Kevin.
- LANE**—On 24th February, 1967, at BMH South Tidworth, to Gwendoline, wife of Sgt. P. Lane, a son, Lee Alan.
- LEE**—On 13th January, 1967, at BMH Dhekelia, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. Lee, a daughter, Tavina Tracey.
- LINES**—On 11th July, 1966, at Leicester Maternity Hospital, to Linda, wife of L/Cpl. P. Lines, a daughter, Loriane Ann.
- LUCAS**—On 7th August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Hazel, wife of Cpl. B. Lucas, a son, Darrell Robin Charles.
- LUMBY**—On 31st December, 1966, at BMH Dhekelia, to Sandra, wife of Capt. C. W. T. Lumby, a son, Marcus Charles Yelland.
- MACKAY**—On 2nd January, 1967, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Marion, wife of Cpl. A. Mackay, a daughter, Deborah Anne.
- MAGUIRE**—On 11th December, 1966, at Downpatrick, Co. Down, to Maureen, wife of Sgt. F. Maguire, a son, Kevin.

- MANDERS—On 1st August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Elizabeth, wife of Pte. R. Manders, a daughter, Sylvia.
- MORDEW—On 9th October, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Pamela, wife of Pte. D. Mordew, a daughter, Sharron Ann.
- MURRAY—On 8th August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Beverley, wife of Pte. P. Murray, a son, Leigh.
- NAISMITH—On 24th November, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Kathleen, wife of Pte. J. Naismith, a daughter, Kim Mariea.
- NEALE—On 25th January, 1967, at Bury St. Edmunds, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. B. Neale, a daughter, Allison Mary.
- NORMAN—On 21st January, 1967, at BMH South Tidworth, to Sgt. and Mrs. R. Norman a daughter, Amanda Elizabeth.
- PARKER—On 3rd October, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Doris, wife of Pte. J. Parker, a son, David Anthony.
- PRIME—On 15th September, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Jane, wife of Pte. K. Prime, a son, Wayne Keith.
- REID—On 8th August, 1966, at Hardy Gayers Hospital, Downpatrick, Co. Down, to Pte. and Mrs. A. Reid, a daughter, Helen Patricia.
- RELPH—On 16th August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Margaret, wife of Pte. F. Relph, a daughter, Sharon Marie.
- ROBSON—On 18th August, 1966, at Maternity Home, Shipley, Yorks., to Pauline, wife of Cpl. W. Robson, RAPC, a son, Neil Blair.
- ROGERS—On 4th August, 1966, at Jubilee City Hospital, Belfast, to Pte. and Mrs. C. Rogers, a son, Gary.
- RUSHIN—On 31st August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Janet, wife of L/Cpl. D. Rushin, a daughter, Linda Ann.
- SHEARMAN—On 9th September, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Jennifer, wife of L/Cpl. J. Shearman, a daughter, Tanya.
- SHELTON—On 8th July, 1966, at BMH Berlin, to Edna, wife of Pte. B. Shelton, a daughter, Tina Suzanne.
- SMITH—On 2nd August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Susan, wife of Pte. R. Smith, a son, Allen Paul.
- SPACIE—On 19th January, 1967, at BMH Dhekelia, to Valerie Ann and Captain Ian Spacie, a son, Ian Matthew, a brother for Deborah Jane.
- SPRASON—On 19th August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Kathleen, wife of Sgt. A. Sprason, a son, Anthony Paul.
- SWAIN—On 21st November, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Pamela, wife of C/Sgt. R. Swain, a daughter, Natalie.
- SWANNACK—On 15th September, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Janet, wife of Cpl. K. Swannack, a son, Kevin Mark.
- TAUNTON—On 9th February, 1967, at Aldershot, to Joanna and Captain Peter Taunton, a son, William Doidge.
- TAYLOR—On 29th August, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Freda, wife of L/Cpl. G. Taylor, a daughter, Sharron Margaret.
- TAYLOR, On 1st November, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Christine, wife of Cpl. R. Taylor, a Son, Paul Robert.
- VEITCH—On 14th October, 1966, at Royal Maternity Hospital, Belfast, to Rosalind, wife of Capt. A. R. A. Veitch, a daughter, Diana Ciare.
- WALDRON—On 3rd September, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Sarah, wife of Pte. A. Waldron, a daughter, Julie.
- WALKER—On 4th November, 1966, at BMH Dhekelia, to Pte. and Mrs. Walker, a daughter, Alexandra Annette.
- WAQAIROBA—On 16th November, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Mary, wife of L/Cpl. A. Waqairoba, a son, Raymond Asasela Baselala.
- WARD—On 10th January, 1967, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Jennifer, wife of Pte. D. Ward, a daughter, Paula Jane.
- WARDLE—On 21st November, 1966, at BMH South Tidworth, to Marianne, wife of Sgt. E. Wardle, a daughter, Christel Franziska.
- WHITAKER—On 28th January, 1967, at BMH Dhekelia, to Daphne, wife of Pte. Dennis Whitaker, a son, Perry Malcolm.
- WHYTE—On 7th October, 1966, at BMH Dhekelia, to Pte. and Mrs. Whyte, twins, Michael Darren and Michelle Caron.
- WILKINS—On 1st December, 1966, at Bury St. Edmunds, to Janet, wife of L/Cpl. H. Wilkins, a son, Ian Hugh Robert.
- WINCKLEY—On 8th November, 1966, at BMH Dhekelia, to Penelope, wife of Capt. Jeremy Winckley, a son, Anthony James.
- WOODWARD—On 12th November, 1966, at RNH Imtarfa, Malta, to Jennifer, wife of Cpl. M. Woodward, a daughter, Louise Maria.

MARRIAGES

- AGLAE—NOELINE—On 15th September, 1966, at the Civil Status Office Control in the Seychelles, Pte. D. Aglae to Marie-France Noeline.

- BOWES-HASSALL—On 8th October, 1966, at St. Georges Church, Broken Hill, Major J. R. E. Bowes to Sandra Mary Hassall.
- BRANSTON—BANDY—On 17th December, 1966, at Harlington, Bedford, L/Cpl. M. Branston to Elaine Bandy.
- BROME—FEMERT—On 7th September, 1966, at The Register office, Islington, London, Pte. T. Brome to Gabriele Femert.
- BROWN—HAIOLDT—On 2nd October, 1966, at The Register Office, Epsom, Bdsm. C. Brown to Marianne Haioldt.
- CONDER—GOODWIN—On 25th March, 1967, at St. Mary's Church, Brome, Lt. Rupert S. Conder to Jill (Teena) Goodwin.
- CRICKMORE—TOLTON—On 10th December, 1966, at the Parish Church, Grimsby, Pte. Crickmore to Joyce Christine Tolton.
- DAWE—RILEY—On 10th December, 1966, at St. Mary's Church, Bury St. Edmunds, Cpl. M. Dawe, to Wendy Riley.
- EVANS—BELCHAMBERS—On 13th September, 1966, at The Register Office, West Ham, London, Pte. N. Evans to June Belchambers.
- FARNHAM—FARROW—On 26th October, 1966, at Grimsby, L/Cpl. J. Farnham to Joan Farrow.
- FISK—DUFFIELD—On 2nd September, 1966, at Ballynahinch in the County of Down, Cpl. J. Fisk to Susanne Duffield.
- FOSTER—GERICKE—On 24th September, 1966, at The Register Office, Swindon, Wilts., Pte. J. Foster to Irene Gericke.
- GARRETT—MILLARD—On 1st October, 1966, at the Parish Church, Corsham, Wilts., Cpl. C. Garrett to Carol Millard.
- GEORGE—SIMETH—On 17th September, 1966, at The Register Office, Depwade, Norfolk, Pte. R. George to Jutta Simeth.
- GILL—MEIHUIZEN—On 18th March, 1967, at St. Judes Church, Courtfield Gardens, SW5, Major Peter Hempson Gill to Adriana Phyllis Meihuizen.
- GREEN—CHILDERLEY—On 19th November, 1966, at Norwich, Pte. R. Green to Janice Childerley.
- HAIG-GODDEN—GOLDING-GREEN—On 16th January, 1967, at Aylesbury Buckinghamshire, Bdsm. M. Haig-Godden to Jacqueline Golding-Green.
- HAYNES—RUDIGER—On 12th November, 1966, at The Register Office, Andover, Hants, Bdsm. J. Haynes to Elenore Rudiger.
- HILL—BOSWORTH—On 8th December, 1966, at The Register Office, Leicester, Pte. Hill to Christine Margaret Bosworth.
- HINSON—SCIBERRAS—On 11th September, 1966, at Hamrun, Malta, Cpl. J. Hinson to Carmen Sciberras.
- HORNE—TERRY—On 13th January, 1967, at The Register Office, Dover, Pte. Horne, to Louise Terry.
- HUDSON-GOTT—On 29th October, 1966, at Sliema, Malta, Pte. K. Hudson to Lucy Gott.
- JACKSON—AGUIS—On 26th November, 1966, at Sliema, Malta, Pte. A. Jackson to Francis Aguis.
- JACKSON—NICHOLSON—On 13th August, 1966, at Blaby, Leicestershire, Pte. M. Jackson to Janet Mary Nicholson.
- JOHNSON—TRAPP—On 19th November, 1966, at The Register Office, St. Helens, Pte. G. Johnson to Elizabeth Trapp.
- KNIGHT—BETTS—On 26th December, 1966, at Wigston Magna, Leicester, Pte. R. Knight to Iris Betts.
- LEWIS—JARVIS—On 11th April, 1966, at Boston, Lincs., Pte. P. M. Lewis to Christine Jarvis.
- LINDSEY—RYCRAFT—On 26th November, 1966, at St. George's Church, Dhekelia, Pte. Lindsey to June Kathleen Rycraft.
- LONG—COLQUHOUN-DENVERS—On 13th May, 1967, at Chelsea Old Church, London, Lt. Paul B. D. Long to Kerry Elizabeth Colquhoun-Denvers.
- LORIMER—BARR—On 17th September, 1966, at Loughborough, Leicestershire, Pte. K. Lorimer to Janet Elaine Barr.
- MACKNESS—PEGG—On 3rd September, 1966, at the Parish Church of Braunstone, Leicestershire, Pte. J. Mackness to Janet Pegg.
- MARCER—PAMIS—On 11th December, 1966, at Sliema, Malta, Pte. P. Marcer to Lina Pamis.
- MARLOW—ROWLANDS—On 5th November, 1966, at The Register Office, Northampton, Pte. Marlow to Rene Janice Rowlands.
- MASKELL—NEUMAN—On 1st September, 1966, at The Register Office, Maidstone, Kent, Cpl. J. Maskell to Helene Neumann.
- MAY—McMURRAY—On 14th September, 1966, at The Register Office, Loughborough, Leicestershire, Pte. B. May to Kathleen McMurray.
- McCONNELL—GATT—On 17th September, 1966, at Middlefield Church, Aberdeen, Pte. P. McConnell to Nancy Gatt.
- McNAMEE—CVIKL—On 29th September, 1966, at The Register Office, Kettering, Northants, Cpl. P. McNamee to Manon Cvikl.

MITCHELL—SIMPSON—On 7th September, 1966, at the Parish Church, Muirkirk, Ayr, Scotland, Pte. A. Mitchell to Mary Simpson.

MOORE—SMITH—On 22nd October, 1966, at Chatham, Kent, Pte. R. Moore to Susan Smith.

MORALES—FULLWOOD—On 21st January, 1967, at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Peckham, Pte. W. Morales to Iona Elizabeth Fullwood.

NELSON—KIRKMAN—On 10th September, 1966, at The Register Office, Hertford, L/Cpl. M. Nelson to Ann Kirkman.

PELLE—LINDSEY—On 10th September, 1966, at The Register Office, Hackney, London, Pte. T. Pelle to Lucretia Lindsey.

PIPER—STEPHENSON—On 21st October, 1966, at St. George's Garrison Church, Dhekelia, Cpl. Piper to Lesley Anne Stephenson.

POOK—BROWN—On 15th October, 1966, at St. Alkmonds Church, Blyborough, Lincs., Pte. Pook to Valerie Elaine Brown.

ROULSTON—BEZZINA—On 1st October, 1966, at Sliema, Malta, Pte. D. Roulston to Mary Bezzina.

ROWLANDS—HOXTALL—On 15th October, 1966, at Hinckley, Leicestershire, Pte. A. Rowlands to Christine Hoxhall.

PRATT—MICALLIF—On 16th October, 1966, at Sliema, Malta, Pte. M. Pratt to Concheta Micallif.

SAVEALL—BASSETT—On 3rd September, 1966, at Woodham, Essex, Pte. T. Saveall, to Linda Bassett.

SEGON—DENHAM—On 18th March, 1967, at The Garrison Church, Lincoln, Major P. H. Segon, MBE, to Mrs. B. I. Denham.

SMITH—BARKER—On 17th September, 1966, at The Register Office, Colchester, Essex, Pte. J. Smith to Carol Barker.

SOLE—SPITERI—On 22nd November, 1966, at Sliema, Malta, Pte. B. Sole to Mary Spiteri.

SPIBY—CHURCH—On 20th August, 1966, at Loughborough, Leicestershire, Pte. R. Spiby to Christine Ann Church.

STRAIN—SEDWICK—On 15th October, 1966, at The Register Office, Nottingham, L/Cpl. W. Strain to Rita Sedwick.

STOCKDALE—O'NEIL—On 3rd September, 1966, at St. Peter's Church, Barton-Upon-Humber, Lincolnshire, Pte. E. Stockdale to Olive O'Neil.

SWEENEY—VOIGT—On 13th October, 1966, at The Register Office, Hertford, L/Cpl. J. Sweeney to Roswitha Voigt.

TAPPIN—THOMPSON—On 29th September, 1966, at The Register Office, Horncastle, Essex, Pte. O. Tappin to Gwen Thompson.

TAYLOR—ELLUL—On 15th December, 1966, at Floriana, Malta, L/Cpl. R. Taylor to Josephine Ellul.

TIERNAN—BEETON—On 6th October, 1966, at St. Edmund's Chapel, Bury St. Edmunds, Cpl. P. Tiernan to Heather Beeton.

TURNER—GREEN—On 28th January, 1967, at Cambridge, Pte. A. Turner to Margaret Green.

TYLER—WOOD—On 24th September, 1966, at Loughborough, Leicestershire, Pte. J. Tyler to Susan Marian Wood.

WALKER—O'BRIEN—On 10th September, 1966, at Lincoln, Pte. B. Walker to Patricia O'Brien.

WRIGHT—REED—On 11th February, 1967, at The Registry Office, Ilkeston, Pte. C. Wright to Mary Reed.

DEATHS

ASHTON—On 21st March, 1966, W. J. Lovell Ashton, late The Northamptonshire Regt.

BATCHELOR—On 15th November, 1966, at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, Lemuel Roy Batchelor, aged 80, late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regt.

BIRD—On 9th November, 1966 at 23 Lorraine Road, Leicester, J. C. W. Bird, Ex-Pte. The Royal Leicestershire Regt.

BRADBURY—On 15th November, 1966, at New Bradwell, Bucks., Ex-Sgt. George John Bradbury, MM, late Transport Sgt., 6th (S) Bn. The Northamptonshire Regt.

BROWN—On 3rd October, 1966, at The Star and Garter Home, Richmond, Surrey, William Henry Brown, late Pte. RASC, and The Essex Regt.

BULLIMORE—On 10th January, 1967, at 48 Holmefield Avenue, Leicester, R. Bullimore, DCM, Ex-CSM, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

CARTWRIGHT—On 10th January, 1967, at 139 Beaumont-Lays-Lane, Leicester, E. E. Cartwright, Ex-Cpl. late The Royal Leicestershire Regt.

CATLING—On 9th January, 1967, Chum R. Catling, MM, of Whittlesey, late 1st Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment.

CHARLTON—On 8th September, 1966, at Southwold Hospital, Major Frank Harold Charlton, late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.

- COGAN—On 9th November, 1966, at 202 Braunstone Lane, Leicester, C. A. Cogan, Ex-CSM, The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- COMPTON—On 13th January, 1966, at Rugby, Warwick, William Charles Compton, aged 77, late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.
- DAY—On 15th March, 1967, ex C/Sgt. RP, 'Chirpy' Day, aged 49, late Royal Lincolnshire Regt.
- DEARMAN—On 11th March, 1967, at Brighton, Alfred Frank Dearman, late ORQMS The Essex Regt. Served from 1922 to 1951.
- DOBSON—On 10th December, 1966, at 67 Luther Street, Leicester, T. G. Dobson, MM, Ex-Sgt. The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- DURRANCE—On 13th January, 1967, in The Royal Infirmary Leicester, A. Durrance, Ex-Cpl., late The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- EDWARDS—On 16th January, 1967, at 126 Holmore Street, Derby, G. Edwards, late The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- FAULKNER—On 19th September, 1966, George Faulkner, late The Essex Regt.
- FINNIGAN—On 10th October, 1966, at 26 Rendall Street, Leicester, J. Finnigan, Ex-Pte. The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- FOWLER—On 8th December, 1966, E. P. Fowler, late 2nd Bn. The Essex Regt.
- FOX—On 27th February, 1967, in Harold Wood Hospital, Essex, Ernest Edgar Fox, late The Essex Regt.
- GILLINGHAM—In November, 1966, at Watford, J. Gillingham, aged 73, late the 6th Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regt.
- GOODES—On 11th November, 1966, at Creaton Hospital, Northampton, Capt. (QM) Harold S. Goodes, late The Northamptonshire Regt.
- HAMMOND—On 5th October, 1966, at Bedford, Cecil Herbert Hammond, aged 63, late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regt.
- HARVEY—On 25th January, 1967, in The City General Hospital, Newcastle-Under-Lynne, Staffordshire, Major T. Harvey, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.
- HERBERT—On 3rd March, 1967, at Aden, Cpl. Herbert, aged 20, whilst serving with the 3rd Bn. The Royal Anglian Regt.
- HORSFIELD—On 31st October, 1966, at West Point Hill, Rye, Sussex, Major Ralph Beecroft Horsfield, aged 80, late The Worcestershire and Essex Regiments.
- HUNT—On 10th January, 1967, at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, In/Pen. S. Hunt, aged 81, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.
- JAMES—On 18th November, 1966, at 36 Caldine Road, Leicester, F. E. James, Ex-Pte. The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- JORDAN—On 4th December, 1966, at 35 Cromwell Road, Leicester, A. Jordan, Ex-Pte. The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- KIRTON—On 20th January, 1967, at Valletta, Malta, Pte. Alan Kirton, aged 18, whilst serving with the 4th Bn. The Royal Anglian Regt.
- LEADER—On 8th March, 1967, at Vancouver, Canada, Colonel John Leader, DSO, aged 90, late The Bedfordshire Regiment.
- LOVESEY—On 1st March, 1967, at Lincoln, Fred Lovesey, aged 63, late RQMS Royal Lincolnshire Regt.
- DE LA MARE—On 1st January, 1967, at Eastbourne, Major Andrew Guy de la Mare, MC, late The Essex Regt.
- METCALFE—On 11th October, 1966, at 97 Queen's Road, Richmond, Surrey, Major K. J. Metcalfe, late The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- MORLEY—On 15th December, 1966, at Corringham, Essex, William Jerrard Morley, late Sgt. 10th (Service) Bn., The Essex Regt.
- MOSS—On 12th October, 1966 at 9 Stanhope Road, Derby, V. Moss, DCM, MM, Ex-Cpl. The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- PATEMAN—On 1st October, 1966, at 61 Harrison Street, Leicester, J. B. S. Pateman, Ex-Pte. The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- PHILIPS—On 8th October, 1966, at 26 Palesworth Terrace, Edinburgh, Major W. E. R. Philips, late The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- PHILLIPS—On 27th January, 1967, at 90 Louise Road, Northampton, Major T. Phillips, late The Northamptonshire Regt.
- PILGRIM—On 1st March, 1967, at Peterborough, Major (QM) A. A. Pilgrim, MBE, MM, late The Northamptonshire Regt.
- POOLE—On 19th November, 1966, at 12 Whitehill Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs., D. Poole, DCM, Ex-Sgt. The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- RODGERS—On 4th March, 1967, at Aden, Pte. Rogers, aged 33, whilst serving with the 3rd Bn. The Royal Anglian Regt.
- SCOTT—On 18th December, 1966, at 81 Abbey Park Road, Leicester, J. D. Scott, Ex-CSM The Royal Leicestershire Regt.
- SHIRLEY—On 15th November, 1966, in a traffic accident, Sgt. M. Shirley, 2nd Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment.
- SHOVE—On 3rd November, 1966, at Gravesend, Kent, Major Richard Shove, aged 65, late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regt. Hon. Secretary of Gravesend Branch.

SINCLAIR—On 7th December, 1966, John F. Sinclair, MM. late Sgt. 10th (Service) Bn., The Essex Regt.

SKINNER—On 20th October, 1966, at Bury St. Edmunds, J/Pte. I. W. Skinner, whilst serving at The Depot.

SMITH—On 18th October, 1966, at 66 Bosworth Street, Leicester, Cpl. G. J. Smith, 4th Bn. The Royal Anglian Regt.

SPOONER—On 16th October, 1966, Frederick William Spooner, late The Essex Regt.

WAINWRIGHT—On 28th December, 1966, at The Infirmary Royal Hospital, Chelsea, In/Pen. John Joseph Wainwright, ex The Northamptonshire Regt.

WATSON—On 24th October, 1966, at Aden, Cpl. R. Watson, whilst serving with the 3rd Bn. The Royal Anglian Regt.

WEST—On 17th December, 1966, at Royal Hospital, Chelsea, SW, In/Pen. Carvossa (Chuff) West, aged 75, late Pte. The Northamptonshire, Essex and Dorset Regts. and Corps of Military Police.

WHITTINGHAM—On 14th March, 1967, at Luton, Major (QM) F. W. Whittingham, aged 74, late Royal Lincolnshire Regt.

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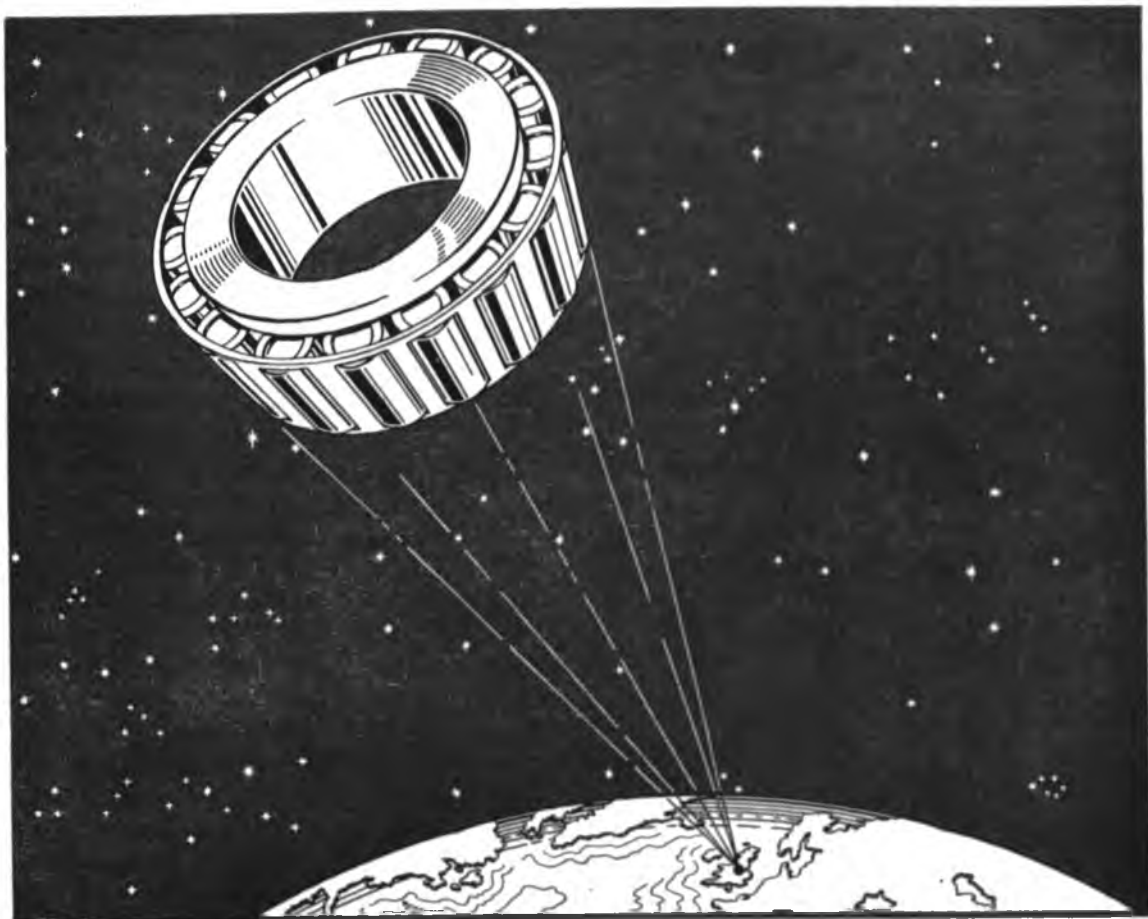
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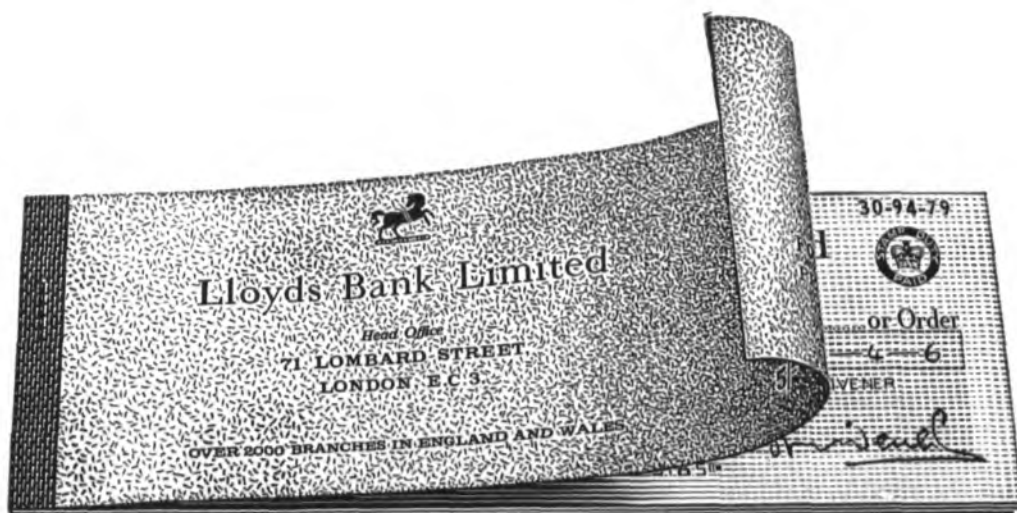
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ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE BATTALIONS

5th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

The Royal Norfolk Regiment (Territorial)

The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (Territorial)

The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (Territorial)

The Northamptonshire Regiment (Territorial)

The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (Territorial)

The Essex Regiment (Territorial)

The Royal Leicestershire Regiment (Territorial)

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Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major J. A. Girdwood (Rtd.).

Regimental Secretaries:

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Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire H.Q.: Major D. Baxter (Rtd.); Major P. H. Segon, M.B.E. (Rtd.).

16/44th Foot H.Q.: Major T. R. Stead (Rtd.); Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., D.L. (Rtd.).

Leicestershire H.Q.: Lt.-Col. P. G. Upcher, D.S.O., D.L. (Rtd.); Major J. T. Dudley (Rtd.).



1st. Bn. (Norfolk and Suffolk)



2nd. Bn. (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire)



3rd Bn. (16/44th Foot)



4th Bn (Leicestershire)

Joint Editors:

Lt. Col. Murray Brown, D.S.O.,
(retd.)

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Castle

The Journal of The Royal Anglian Regiment

MAY 1967

Vol. 2 No. 1

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Our Cover



Our cover photo shows a typical Aden scene. We have superimposed a map of the area for those not so well informed of the trouble spot.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

by
LT.-GENERAL SIR RICHARD GOODWIN, KCB, CBE, DSO,
Colonel The Royal Anglian Regiment
1st April, 1967

In accordance with the gracious pleasure of the Queen the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve has today formed and I have submitted to Her Majesty a message of loyalty and devotion, a copy of which is attached to this order.

The re-organisation of the Territorial Army is made necessary by the conditions of modern war and it is in realisation of this need that within the Corps of the Royal Anglian Regiment there are now one Volunteer and seven Territorial Battalions.

The new Regiments formed today are steeped in the volunteer spirit and the traditions of the former Regiments. I have entire confidence that all Battalions will maintain the reputations which our former Volunteer Battalions gained by their devoted and distinguished service to the Crown and Country.

R. E. GOODWIN,
Lieutenant General,
Colonel The Royal Anglian Regiment.

In reply to the loyal message to Her Majesty the Queen the Colonel of the Regiment received the following—

To,
LT.-GENERAL SIR RICHARD GOODWIN, KCB, CBE, DSO,
Colonel,
The Royal Anglian Regiment.

I sincerely thank you for the kind and loyal message which you have sent to me on behalf of the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve Units, which have been formed within the Corps of The Royal Anglian Regiment.

Please convey my warm appreciation to all ranks of the:
5th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment.
Royal Norfolk Regiment (Territorial).
Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (Territorial).
Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (Territorial).
Northamptonshire Regiment (Territorial).
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (Territorial).
Essex Regiment (Territorial).
Royal Leicestershire Regiment (Territorial).

ELIZABETH R.

Windsor Castle,
1st April, 1967.

5 (Volunteer) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment

An Introduction by The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel H. H. Moore

On 1st April, 1967, a most significant event occurred in the history of the Royal Anglian Regiment. A new Battalion of the Regiment was formed, as part of the new Army Volunteer Reserve, which has replaced the AER and the Territorial Army. Although this unit has received its main strength from former TA Battalions and other units, it is not a "Successor" unit under the Royal Warrant. The event is of some historical significance, in that it is many years since any of the seven former Regiments of the Royal Anglian family formed a new Battalion, in peace and not as a process of amalgamation.

Some emphasis on the word 'Volunteer' in the title is appropriate. Officers and men join for the fun of soldiering; for the chance to serve overseas for limited periods and because

they look on it as a worthwhile occupation. They are well paid for their efforts and the higher their category of Reserve Service so they receive higher bounties. All ranks are paid at Regular rates for time spent on active training. Men in each Company wear the same uniform and badges and have the same subsidiary titles as the four Regular Battalions.

It is hoped that the ties between Companies and Regular Battalions will become close, and that the 5th Battalion will be a fertile recruiting field for them. In addition, the Battalion will maintain a close link with and assist in the training of AVR III units in the Regiment which have replaced the former TA Battalions.

The Battalion would like particularly to see any Regular soldiers home on leave and invites all such to call on it at any time.

TA	T & AVR II (Volunteer)	T & AVR III (Territorial)	Honorary Colonels
4 R Norfolk	No. 1 (Norfolk & Suffolk) Coy.—Lowestoft	Royal Norfolk Regiment (Territorial)	Brig. F. P. Barclay, DSO, MC, DL
SC		Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regiment (Territorial) (incl. two Norfolk & Suffolk Yeomanry Btys.)	Not appointed Col. G. P. Mason, CBE, TD, DL, JP
4/6 R Lincolns	No. 2 (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire) Coy.—Lincoln	Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (Territorial)	Lt-Col. F. C. L. Bell, DSO, MC, TD
4/5 Northamptons	Bn. HQ and HQ Coy.—Peterborough	Northamptonshire Regiment (Territorial) (incl. one sqn. Northamptonshire Yeomanry)	The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Althorp
1 Beds. Herts.	No. 3 (16th/44th Foot) Coy.—Chelmsford	Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment (Territorial) (incl. two btys. Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Yeomanry)	Brig. R. N. Hanbury, CBE, TD, DL, JP
4/5 Essex		Essex Regiment (Territorial)	Col. A. Noble, DSO, TD, DL
4/5 R Leicesters	No. 4 (Leicester) Coy.—Leicester	Royal Leicestershire Regiment (Territorial)	Lt.-Col. C. D. Oliver, OBE, TD, DL

TIES		GUARD		ROO
LOCATION	SUS	DATE OF ARRIVAL	NO OF DAYS	DAYS DONE
289	1. 1950 (N) 2. 1954 (S)	1. 1950 (N) 2. 1954 (S)	1. 1950 (N) 2. 1954 (S)	1. 1950 (N) 2. 1954 (S)



PRIVATE ANGLE

Since my last article craftily smuggled out from my "office", well before Christmas, is now old hat and we are now in 1967 it may be as well to review the work of the last year as far as it affects "Castle". When we first started to redesign and play around with the layouts of the magazine many eyebrows were raised but now that we have had a full year and been given the chance to prove what we felt was right, there is little doubt that the present form of "Castle" is becoming more acceptable. It is, however, disappointing that more of our readers do not write to us with their views, for undoubtedly there must be a lot of readers who do not like the way in which we produce the magazine. Some no doubt may like to see us published more often and others may like to see us published less frequently. It is these views that we seek and we hope that people will let us know what they really want, for after all "Castle" is your magazine and like anything else in life it is what you make it.

For The Royal Anglian Regiment 1966 was a momentous year, it was early on that the announcement was made that the Territorial Army was to be reduced considerably and we had fears that by the time this issue came to press there would be few TA Regiments left in the Royal Anglian Regiment. However we are pleased to be able to say that whilst many

of them have undergone change, our links with the past still hold intact. With this issue we bid farewell to The Territorial Army as we have all known it since well before the last war but in their place we welcome the Volunteers and those new Territorial Bns. and we know full well that they will carry on the traditions of the old Territorial Army in the same spirit as their predecessors.

This issue is yet again enormous in size, possibly too big, but then we are a large family and it is not right to miss out any member of that family. Maybe there is a case to bring out more issues in the year. It has been suggested that we might bring out 3 issues instead of the normal two, but whether this decision is agreed or not ultimately depends entirely on the reader. So let us know what you think. You will see that in this issue, too, we have dropped our competitions, mainly through lack of space but we are pleased to introduce to you Drummer Prowse, at present serving in Cyprus, but who has found sufficient time to put pen to paper and produce some amusing cartoons. There is no doubt that we shall be seeing quite a lot more of his work in subsequent issues and through this column we thank him for the efforts he has made on our behalf. What a pity that there are not some others who could make life easier in the "office".



For an hour Major Smith and Capt. Speedy tried their hands at circuits, approaches, landings and take-offs—a most successful visit to HMS “Galatia”.

In The Air

It is now just over six months since the Air Platoon took delivery of their Sioux and our old friends the Auster IX were flown on their last sorties from Dhekelia into RAF Akrotiri—the Air Platoon had become Rotary.

The introduction of the helicopter to Cyprus immediately changed the field of our activities from what had previously been the rather restricted priority role of an air taxi service operating between the two Base Areas.

Being the only army helicopters within the Base Areas, we give support to all units as directed by HQ Cyprus District; yet this in no way alters our designation as the Air Platoon of 2 Royal Anglian, who administer the Platoon and whose three Sioux are flown by the old Auster Regimental pilot team of Major Smith, Capts. Tyzack and Everitt, and the observers Sgt. Neal, Cpl. Sargent and L/Cpl. Searle. S/Sgt. Cooke REME keeps us flying!

After an initial short period of local familiarisation under QHI HQ 2 Wing AAC, the three aircraft were giving full support to all

demands by the beginning of June. With gentle encouragement, initial training and experimenting, it did not take long for our users to see the scope now opened up to them. Demands for taxi services were restricted and the emphasis laid fully on the tactical side—we were in business with a vengeance.

Based and working from our own Platoon Camp on the old 653 Light Aircraft Sqn. AAC site situated two miles from the Battalion, our tasks cover both Base Areas, numerous small retained sites, and training areas situated in the southern half of Cyprus. The rest of the island falls to our friends, the UNFICYP Flight AAC in Nicosia, who serve under the deeper sky blue beret of the UN.

During late July HMS “Galatia” was carrying out gunnery firing on the Akamas Naval Range and extended an invitation to the Platoon for a Sioux to land on her helicopter pad while cruising off the coastal waters.

Life is full of surprises. The following week the Platoon was suddenly placed on

standby for two Sioux and ground party to support 19 Lt. Regt. in the NATO AMF (L) Exercise Summer/Marmara Express taking place in Greece and Turkey. In late August the thirteen strong Platoon detachment, two fully equipped Sioux flown by Major Smith and Sgt. Blackburn, and the ground party of one $\frac{1}{4}$ -ton FFR and two $\frac{1}{4}$ -ton vehicles under S/Sgt. Rix, set off from Dhekelia to RAF Akrotiri in preparation for the initial positioning flight into Thessalonike. A small rear party with the remaining Sioux to support HQ Cyprus District was left in Cyprus under Capt. Speedy who was shortly to leave for the UK, on return to the Regiment of Capt. Tyzack from his conversion course.

In the next three weeks the Platoon Main moved East from Thessalonike via Xanthe to Alexandroupolis, then over the frontier to the area of Uzunkopru and finally to Yesilkoy Airport, Istanbul. Except for a two day rest and reorganisation just prior to crossing the frontier into Turkey, the Platoon gave continuous support to the Force HQ and 19 Lt. Regt., from dawn to dusk and occasionally a little later! A close and very enjoyable liaison was established with the American, German and Belgian Army Aviation Sections. Our sorties covered all forms of recce, real casualty evacuation using the Stokes litters, re-supply and numerous observer liaison flights during the final battle stages of both exercises. Passengers of General rank ranged from American, Canadian, Italian and Greek. On completion of the tactical exercise in Greece the Platoon led the Force Helicopter fly past at a grand parade in Xanthe at which King Constantine took the salute, but a planned fly past in Turkey had to be cancelled due to gale force winds.

Istanbul was reached on the 20th September

after a thoroughly enjoyable and invaluable exercise. A few days later we said goodbye to our many exercise friends as they were flown out to their respective Countries and Bases, leaving our little party, Sioux, stores and vehicles to await our eventual recovery back to Cyprus.

Throughout the whole exercise the two Sioux, under the gentle care of our air mechanics' team, gave excellent service without a single day off the road. Alas! on arriving at Istanbul and on receipt of Preliminary Instruction No. 14, our two girls were found to be beyond limits!

While awaiting our flyout, the British Consulate took us under its wing. Time was not wasted and we confidently claim to be the 'Army's official guide to Istanbul'—no known place of antiquity was left unvisited, the Bosphorous was toured by motor launch and shore roads, as was the Black Sea coast. Time fortunately allowed a trek to Troy and the battle fields of Gallipoli. Cyprus was eventually reached after numerous frustrations by the final chalk on 20th October.

For those many people who have served in the past at the Dhekelia strip it will be of interest to know that within the next month a fond farewell will be said to the old Nissen Huts and favourite AAC Auster Box constructions originally assembled by members of 653 Light Aircraft Sqn. AAC in 1960. At this very moment the finishing touches are being added to a new hangar complete with self-contained offices and workshop areas at the north end of the Airstrip.

**Exercise ends at Istanbul—
Cpl. Sargeant and friends
of the US Aviation Section.**



Operation

SANTA DROP



Santa with his pilot being greeted by the children at Limasol hospital.

A twelve year old Cypriot child suffering from TB in the Limasol Hospital wrote to Father Christmas. He wanted toys for his younger brother, his sister and himself. The letter was published in our local British Army Newspaper "The Lion".

As a result Operation Santa Drop took place. "Santa" was our local Garrison Sgt.-Major, RSM Herd (3rd Battalion), and his sleigh and reindeer became a Sioux Helicopter piloted by Major D. Smith, OC Air Platoon. The PRI paid for the toys and Santa loaded up his sleigh. "Donner and Blitzen" Smith then whisked him off in the most appalling weather

to the hospital.

Just before the helicopter was due to land the children were led out into the hospital grounds singing Greek carols as the 'chopper' came down through a gap in the clouds. No sooner had the 'chopper' landed than the children surged forward and had to be restrained until the rotor blades stopped turning. One by one they then came forward for their presents. A prayer had most definitely been answered.

The PRI was, as ever, magnanimous and indeed not only did the original three children get their presents but so did all the other children in the ward.

POACHERS AT WAR

(From your special correspondent in the Field)

A little known campaign finished in victory for the British Forces last September. The peasants of the rugged province of Epitiri are now able to go out about their lawful business once again thanks to the efforts of those expert night workers of the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment.

Italian Mercenary

Some of our readers will remember the trouble caused last year by the dreaded Fellagha or Fells under their leader George Costini, a wolfish and bloodthirsty Italian mercenary. Aided and abetted by the equally terrifying Alphonse Poxiface, Mustapha Camel and Ulysees Phew, Costini (always moving by night) terrorised the countryside. Operations by individual Companies seemed to be successful but by early September trouble flared again.

Fiendish Outrages

The Battalion was ordered to the area immediately. No sooner had it arrived when sabotage attempts, murders and thefts were attempted against it. I can only enumerate a few of the outrages: the "smoke bomb in the thunderbox" attack (this strangely enough was not considered worthy of report by the victim) combined with the painted seat outrage (one company commander still bears the scars!); the explosive parcel which added grey hairs to CSM Bird's crowning (but crew-cut) glory and the really terrifying threatening letters one of which was received by the MTO.

Praise for Special Branch

The Battalion moved against the Fells on the night of 25th September having been briefed

by the special branch Superintendent who was heavily disguised to look like the Battalion's contractor Ghulam Nabi. It is of interest to note how closely the SB and the Battalion Intelligence Section worked—Sgt. Bill Gordon (well known in other circles for his soaring tenor voice) said 'If it hadn't been for the SB we would have had nothing to do'—praise indeed from a battle worthy veteran!

The area was split between the companies. A Company found itself pitted against the wily Ulysees Phew (disguised as the Drum Major). B Company challenged the power of Mustapha Camel who went so far as to wear a tangled beard in a vain endeavour to pass for the Assault Pioneer Sergeant. C Company were faced by a gang led by the mysterious Alphonse Poxiface. Rumour had it that he was a defector from Training Company!

Costini seemed, throughout the exercise, to vent his anger on A Echelon. But the gallant drivers and cooks were unperturbed and went about their business with a calm and deliberation which seemed at times almost comatose. Nevertheless the efforts of C/Sgt. Leatherland to escape the vengeance of Costini will never be forgotten, especially by Pte. Negus who found it particularly difficult to assume the outward attributes of the gallant C/Sgt. even when wearing the C/Sgt.'s shirt!

Highlights of the Campaign

Some of the highlights of the campaign: A Company's contretemps with the War Dogs; why did they have to have a tracker dog which would only pick up a scent from the left and therefore tracked left-handed in ever decreasing circles (finally to disappear)? B Company's fruitless night looking for a camel; it subsequently turned out that Camel's map reading was as tangled as his beard! C Company's gallant stand against repeated attacks on their base camp by Poxiface. The fiendish attack on Battalion HQ by fire from Egyptian wooden mortars firing rubber bombs should be mentioned and of course the sterling work of the Signals Officer who prepared (or had to prepare?) countless signals instructions as they were successively compromised.

I can now reveal that the campaign was a success due to the skill of the soldiers by night and to the undercover machinations of Sgt. Francis Aristotle (or Aristotle Francis) of the local Special Branch. Never again (until the next training season anyway) will the Fells raise the flag of insurrection.



Left to right: Lt. T. R. Walker, CSM Sye, E. V., 2/Lt. M. E. Brown; behind: Sgt. Cowan, J., Sgt. Moyse, A.C., with HRH The Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel The Earl Spencer, TD.

4th/5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (TA)

4th Battalion Colours Laid Up

The highlight of the last six months has been the parade for laying up the old 4th Battalion Colours followed by the actual laying up in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Northampton on 12th March. HRH the Duchess of Gloucester graced us with her presence.

The Colours were presented to the 4th Battalion, by the reigning monarch (Edward VII) at a massed parade at Windsor Castle. Since then, the 4th Battalion have undergone a number of changes, either because of a general reorganisation (if this is not a forbidden word) of the TA, or some private reorganisation of

their own. In 1937, their role was changed to Searchlights under the auspices of the Royal Engineers. In 1938 their role remained the same but under the Royal Artillery. In 1947 they were reformed as a Searchlight Regiment, and in 1949 became a mixed LAA/SL Regiment. In 1955, with the disappearance of AA Command, they became R Battery of 438 Regiment RA (TA). In 1961 R Battery amalgamated with the 5th to form the 4th/5th Bn. The Northamptonshire Regt., TA. In 1967 the name of the Bn. will be perpetuated (at least till the next reorganisation) by the Wellingborough

Company of the Northamptonshire Regiment (Territorial).

Escorted by a Guard of Honour, the Colours were marched on with the band, in front of some 400 spectators. HRH arrived, a Royal Salute was given, and Major D. F. Hooton, TD, the Guard Commander, reported the guard. HRH inspected, and the Colours were then marched off in slow time to the strains of "Auld Lang Syne". A further Royal Salute, and HRH left the parade, and a general exodus to church took place. The Commanding Officer Lt.-Colonel F. G. Barber, OBE, TD, received the Colours from the Subalterns and handed them to the Earl Spencer, Honorary Colonel since 1924, who in turn handed them to the Rev. F. Tibbs for safe-keeping. A service of Matins followed at which the Sermon was given by the Rev. F. Adams, the Battalion Padre. Amongst the spectators at the parade was Mrs. G. E. Ripley, aged 94, the widow of Colonel G. E. Ripley who commanded the 4th Battalion when the Colours were presented. In the congregation was Major L. P. Dorman, one of the original Colour Party at the presentation.

After Church HRH attended a lunch party at Clare Street Drill Hall given by the present

Battalion for some 170 guests. Amongst those who lunched at HRH's table were Colonel the Earl Spencer and Lady Spencer, Major-General and Mrs. Gordon-Finlayson, GOC 49 Div./Dist., The Mayor and Escort of Northampton, Air Commodore Haycock, Chairman of the T and AF Association for Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, Brigadier and Mrs. Taunton, Secretary of T and AF Association, the CO and Mrs. Barber, Colonel and Mrs. Jelley, Lt.-Colonel Palmer, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Allebone and Colonel and Mrs. Lewis, ex-CO's of the Battalion.

The whole ceremony went extremely well, and the many compliments paid by the guests provided some compensation for Major R. C. Jeffery whose organisation produced such a smooth running event and who had aged visibly during the previous two months.

For those who may get the impression that the Battalion has done little else, it may just be worth noting that we have also rigorously continued to train, wrestled unceasingly with higher authority in the administrative world, and revelled appropriately at Christmas and at other festive occasions.

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TALES FROM THE DEPOT



Junior Drummers Meadowcroft and Bowler on shining parade.

“HUSBANDS BEWARE—YOUR SLIP IS SHOWING!”

The main interest in .22 Shooting at the Depot is centered on the Ladies.

The Ladies, ably led by the Commanding Officer's wife, Mary Clark, are most enthusiastic and one finds a pleasant family atmosphere each club night.

Current shooting results are very encouraging and it is hoped that the ladies will repeat their success of last season when they won the Lancastrian Cup.

This is a team postal match with teams from 6 other Depots competing. Up to press we are in the lead and have high hopes of retaining this trophy.

Teams consist of 4 ladies scoring a possible team total of 400. In the competition so far our ladies have won the first 3 rounds with scores of 389, 391 and 388, the club being represented by Mary Clark, Shirley Wright, Alma Cotter and Miss Gloria Shields.

The “B” Team are not doing so well only claiming 2 points from 3 rounds. Margaret Knowles, Silvy Downes, Jane Harrold and Joan Russell make up the “B” team.

The Gibraltar Cup is the Ladies Individual Championship and has attracted 64 competitors. For the past 2 seasons this trophy has been won by Shirley Wright, wife of the Q.M.S.I. To date this season the ladies are shooting to a higher standard than in the past claiming 5 places in the top ten with Shirley once again leading the field with an average over 5 shoots of 99.4 followed by Mary Clark with an average of 97.5.

Welcome new members this season include Joan Russell, Val Rees, Liz White, Jane Harrold, Silvy Downes and Anne Jones.

RE-BIRTH OF FUN AT CORPORAL LEVEL

Nineteen-sixty-six saw a virtual rebirth of the Mess for it was rescued, from an almost complete ebb into oblivion, under the very able leadership of Cpl. Missen (2nd Bn.) who

was voted PMC at the beginning of the year. His zest and vigour together with a wonderful amount of help from Major McMillen (Rtd.) PRI has put the Mess on it's feet again and given it a very firm footing with which to step out into 1967. It is fitting at this point to thank Major McMillen for his co-operation and wholehearted support for all our ventures.

A number of Darts Matches were held against local Public Houses during the year and a very successful Tramp's Ball. An extremely enjoyable Games Night was held with us as guests of the Sergeant's Mess. The only casualty apart from one or two people being a little late for duty the next morning was our pride which was hit by the result of the games! We can, of course, invent our rules for the return match.

On December 15 the traditional Christmas Dance and Draw was held in the Gymnasium

which had previously been decorated very effectively under the artistic guidance of Cpl. Thurman (4th Bn.). The evening was organised by Cpl. Eaton (1st Bn.) who also acted as M.C. Even though the MC's microphone had to frequently fight a battle with electronic equipment of the Beat Group, the "In-Sect", all the Draw Prizes were eventually claimed by someone in the room and the evening was an outstanding success. Our thanks also to the Cookhouse Staff for the very beautiful and tasty buffet that they set out for the evening.

Now that we have a permanent Bar in the Mess we are planning an active 1967 with a lot more social activities than ever before. As our activities increase and the year proves to be every bit as successful as it gives the impression of being, we shall be proud to call ourselves members of this Mess. And why not? Without us the Depot simply wouldn't work . . .

A.C.W.I.P.T.

"MUSIC HATH CHARMS"

Cpl. O'Donnell, L/Cpl. Snewin, J/Bdsm. Whines, J/Bdsm. Allgood, and J/Bdsm. Davis practising in the Junior Soldiers Wing.



W.O. AND SERGEANTS' MESS

It is debatable whether the newly decorated building or the carefully planned social activities, organised by the QMSI can claim credit for the sudden influx of new faces. The local constabulary are well represented and do much to make the evenings more enjoyable. It helps, anyway, to have them on our side.

QMSI Joe Wright has chosen the wrong vocation! With his ability to successfully auction partly filled boxes of matches, pieces of blank paper and wooden horses in the Cotter Plate for ridiculously high bids a new position would be more fitting. 'Eskimos beware'.

The Mess Draw was in the very capable hands of CSM Don Richardson. The prizes were fairly well distributed. An increased volume of chatter was heard when a certain member of the Officers Mess rejoiced in winning two ladies powder compacts, and yet

another member of the same Mess proudly sported his shopping basket.

The long periods at battle camp experienced by Sgt. Ben Turner should in future be more bearable with his two electric blankets. According to the grape vine he has submitted a Part 2 works service for electric sockets to be installed on alternate trees.

The Ladies Dinner Night went with a swing, with dancing to the early hours. The RSM was secretly voted the most energetic person of the evening, twisting to the rhythm of a pair of dangling earrings that he had borrowed and swishing a long string of pearls to the Charlston. Mis-spent youth!

A toast was suggested for Sgt. Topper Brown to help him on his way to civilian life but it was decided after much speculation that, small as he is, the machine would not accommodate him.

The Symbol of Excellence



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NORWICH



Major-General F. A. H. Ling, CBE, DSO, and Lt.-Colonel J. M. Barstow, the CO, watching .22 firing at Ilford during the Annual Inspection.

4/5 Essex Rounds Off with Successes

The highlights of the Battalion training for the period after camp have been the Battalion and the District Rifle Meetings and 161 Bde. Tactical Competitions. The Battalion Rifle Meeting was held in September at Rainham Ranges, and a high standard of shooting was achieved which stood our team in good stead for the District Meeting. In addition to the usual competitions, separate events were fired for the Old Comrades, Ladies and Cadets. The Essex Cadets were of great assistance in running the butts for the entire meeting. At the District Meeting the Regiment won the following:—

- The Yorke Cup for best rifle team in 161 Bde.
- Best SMG team in 161 Bde.
- Champion Veteran.
- Champion PSI and Runner Up.
- Third Young Soldier on the rifle, LMG pairs and China Cup.

SMG (PSI) Runner Up.

However, the best achievement was the winning of the 161 Bde. Tactical competitions outright. This was an excellent effort and was a resounding victory over the other three Battalions in the Bde. The results are shown below—

- Officers Competition—1st.
- “Ever Ready” Patrols—1st.
- Infantry Patrols—1st.
- Signals Competition—1st.
- Assault Pioneer Platoon—1st.
- MT—2nd.
- Recce—3rd.
- A/Tk.—3rd.
- Mortar—4th

This was a very fitting end to the last training season of the Regiment and it is hoped that its successor units will be able to do as well in the future.



(Photo: Courtesy of "Leicester Mercury".)

MBE FOR CSM GROVE

Heartiest congratulations to CSM D. G. Grove on his MBE.

The citation reads as follows:

WO11 Grove has been WO commanding 17 Army Youth Team for the past two years. He has commanded this small unit whose task is most difficult with considerable flair and outstanding ability. He has inspired the members of his team with his own very high standards of moral behaviour, enthusiasm, leadership and dedication which has reflected great credit on himself, his Team and the Army.

He has earned the admiration and respect of all senior officials of the City and County Youth Organisation and the Army Cadet Force to a degree where he has been co-opted to their committees to represent the Army's as well as his own point of view.

His devotion to duty is such that he places duty before self or family and the high regard in which he is held by the Youth he serves is an object lesson to all.

* * * *

Congratulations also to Lt.-Colonel Murray Petit on the OBE for distinguished services

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

in the Borneo Territories between 24th December, 1965 and 23rd June, 1966.

Also to—

Major-General G. R. Turner-Cain—C.B.

Colonel R. P. Erskine-Tulloch—CBE.

Major W. D. G. Fairholme—MBE.

Captain (QM) A. D. Russell—MBE.

and to

RSMs N. H. P. Jenks and M. D. Franks on being commissioned, and RSM Driscoll on the award of the Meritorious Service Medal.

* * * *

RMA and Mons

Welcome to newly commissioned officers.

2/Lt. M. B. J. Johnson, 3/12/66.

2/Lt. C. A. Whitehead, 3/12/66.

2/Lt. T. P. McDowell, 11/2/67.

2/Lt. P. R. D. Aplin, 16/12/66.

2/Lt. R. J. Corbett, 16/12/66.

2/Lt. W. F. A. Heal, 16/12/66.

2/Lt. P. C. Shalders, 16/12/66.

2/Lt. C. S. Taylor, 16/12/66.

2/Lt. S. R. H. Underwood, 16/12/66.

* * * *

Our congratulations to Major Derek Tewkesbury and Captain Charles Blinco on their recent appointment as Deputy Lieutenants of Bedfordshire.

* * * *

RSM N. H. P. Jenks, MM, was dined out of the 4th Bn. Sgts. Mess on 20th January, 1967, and presented with a silver cigarette box. Mr. Jenks has now been commissioned and has returned to the 4th Bn. to take over duties of MTO.

* * * *

L/Cpl. Relph of A Company, 4th Battalion won a bottle of whisky from the USMC during a combined British/American Anti-tank Gun shoot in Libya. His crew hit the target with the first shot and before anyone else did.

* * * *

Captain W. H. Morris, 4th Battalion, is transferring to the ACC later this year.

* * * *

Major P. L. Philcox, MC, is retiring from the Army this spring. He is taking up an appointment with the International League For The Protection of Horses. He will be a field worker for the League both in the UK and on the Continent.

Major Horace Parker, 3rd Battalion, who retired in November last has now taken up a managerial position in the ink world—The Pen being mightier, etc., etc. We wish him well in this new venture.

* * * *

Major Peter Gill has hung on as a stalwart of the Bachelors' Club for some time now, but he relinquished membership finally in March. Our congratulations to him and to Adriana.

* * * *

OFFICERS MESS, 1st BATTALION

When the GOC asked the Commanding Officer to run a Subscription Dance for the Wessex Hunt on his behalf considerable research was necessary to find out anything about the Hunt. The Master and hounds were eventually traced in the Barracks of the Royal Scots Greys. The Anti-Blood Sports Society would have approved the Master's opening remark "but my dear chap we're disbanding" (or words to that effect). After such an unpropitious start it might come as some surprise

to learn that three hundred guests attended, and a cheque equivalent to nearly £120 sterling was sent to the GOC to swell the funds of the Mounted Sports Board. Several officers of the Regiment serving elsewhere in Germany were present including Lt.-Colonel Robertson and Major J. Hughes, and Colonel Carroll on a visit from England.

* * * *

Two families in Leicestershire who have done much for the Regiment and the TA are the Olivers of the 4th Battalion and the Germans of the 5th Battalion. Before the World War II Colonel Sir Frederick Oliver was Honorary Colonel of the 4th Battalion and Colonel George German was Honorary Colonel of the 5th Battalion. During World War I Colonel German commanded the 2/5th with great distinction. During the last War Colonel Guy German commanded the 1/5th Battalion with equal distinction and for the last 9 years has been an outstanding Honorary Colonel of the 5th Battalion and later the 4/5th Battalion. Lt.-Colonel Claude Oliver, as well as being Chairman of the TA Association, is taking over from Colonel German and will be the Honorary Colonel of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment (Territorial).

The Regiment is very proud of the important positions held by TA Officers of the Regiment. Colonel Sir Robert Martin, who commanded at the Hohenzollern Redoubt and is uncle to



Lt-Colonel Richard Wilkes presents the Silver Tiger to Colonel Guy German.



the present Lord Lieutenant, was Chairman of the Leicestershire County Council for 35 years and Lt.-Colonel Sir Kenneth Ruddle has been Chairman of the Rutland County Council for the past nine years, while since the last War Colonel A Halkyard, Major Sir Ernest Oliver and Captain S. Brown, who is now Honorary Colonel of the Leicestershire and Rutland ACF, have all been Lord Mayors of Leicester.

REGIMENTAL SECRETARIES

Regimental Secretaries are not normally in the news, particularly in the matches, hatches and despatches sector! It is therefore with considerable pride that they (which include the Editors) record the marriage of Major P. H. (Gus) Segon, MBE, (retd.) that old war horse from Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln. Major-Gen. Sir Christopher Welby-Everard was best man and Lady Welby-Everard gave away the bride.



Dining at The Goodwood Hotel, Singapore, during General Goodwin's visit to FARELF in November. Fifteen Officers and their wives foregathered. Also present but missing from the photo was Colonel Arthur Campbell.

“Jagging” in the 1st Battalion

Four guns in the Battalion, the Commanding Officer, Captain Peat, Lt. Long and C/Sgt. Curson have all had useful shooting this season. We used this year more as reconnaissance than as an actual shooting year and consequently believe that we have done some useful spade-work which should produce good results in the forthcoming season.

Having overcome the German bureaucracy and obtained our various licences, we made several forays to the German North coast after the duck. During November and December these proved fairly productive, but with the onslaught of the hard weather in late December and January, the duck became harder to find as they migrated further South.

However, in six outings 59 head were shot;

of these 41 were duck, the remainder being pheasant, hare, curlew and snipe. The grebe that was shot in mistake for teal was not recorded.

We finished off the season with three weeks in Libya, where it was a relief to get away from German jurisdiction and shoot where and what one could. A very prolific snipe bog was found and four outings were made on it, in one of which the GOC partook. A total of 54 snipe being shot; cartridges expended is a Battalion secret! In all 115 head of game were bagged, blood stains of fallen bustard not being counted.

Anyone joining the Battalion in time for the next season which begins on 1st August, is well advised to bring a gun.

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Cpl. Alec Keep and the Commanding Officer's vehicle after being blown up by a mine on 3rd November, 1966. Fortunately there were no casualties.

With the Pompadours in Aden

COLOURS UNDER FIRE

Aden 5th December, 1966—1312 hrs.

Crump . . . Crump . . . the crash of mortar fire resounded through the tented lines in Radfan Camp. Support Company, formed up for their pre-cordon and search inspection, scattered as the bombs fell along their lines and in the Sergeants' Mess area. The hail of shrapnel that crashed into the wall of the Sergeants' Mess Ante Room was fortunately slowed, and to a large degree stopped, by the walls of the Twynham hut. There were seven slight casualties.

This was the Battalion's first introduction to the new terrorist device known as the drain-pipe mortar. This is a welded pipe cut to a predetermined length and sealed off with a

wooden block through which the bomb is electrically detonated. The 60mm. Brandt bombs are taped to fit the tube and are pre-loaded, being held in position by a wooden block at the top of the barrel and having forked arms running down the inside of the tube.

Like all nasty incidents the event had its funny side. There was the driver of our then attached Company of Royal Irish Fusiliers who, some five hours after the attack was driving out of camp. His rather observant passenger remarked on the fact that the vehicle had a large hole in the bonnet. On inspection the driver found that he had an unexploded mortar bomb in his tool box. There is also a story that the Sergeants' Mess Caterer now locks himself in a steel cupboard every time a

door slams, and that no one is allowed to disclose the name of the field officer who disappeared correctly and rapidly under one of the smaller Mess tables.

As a Battalion we do not want to get things out of perspective. The mortar attack like most terrorist activity was not a resounding success. Thirty barrels (set on time fuzes), were laid onto the camp. Of these only twelve fired. Three bombs dropped short outside the camp perimeter, five exploded and there were four blinds in the camp area. The remainder were dismantled by the ammunition and explosive expert aptly known by the nickname of Jelly Baby.

The colours have been under fire and many of the Battalion are counting themselves veterans.

TERRORIST WEAPONS

When the Battalion was warned for duty in Aden we were all well aware that there was a grenade and mine threat. Indeed even the short period between the arrival of the Advance Party and the Main Body quite a few people had experienced their first grenades. It was certainly a warm welcome.

Soon after the arrival of the Main Body the grenade phase was in part superseded by mining. This consisted of anti-tank mines, jumping anti-personnel mines and in some cases, combinations of both supplemented with a

plastic explosive boosting charge. Indeed among our first casualties we had Corporal Turner, Corporal Mogg and Private Moore of 'D' Coy injured by an electrically detonated jumping jack.

Our last Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Lang was also mined while using the Brigade Commander's Landrover, and Cpl. O'Sullivan who was the first mine victim, in true Irish style, came up on the net immediately after the event with "Jees Oiv'e been dynamited!"

The mining and the use of electrically detonated devices caused us to take care, and route clearance is now a regular feature of the operations plan. This consists of dragging alongside the roads with hooks fitted to the ends of poles in order to locate any buried wire. In addition we also maintain night observation on certain sectors of road. These measures proved remarkably successful in-so-far as we managed to capture a man digging a hole in the side of the road with a crowbar. This was an excellent piece of work on the part of Corporal Jarvis of 'D' Company, and led not only to more arrests but also to the break up of the mining gang.

Although we have managed to reduce the mine threat, our opponents seem to have become a little more sophisticated over the past couple of months. This has resulted in the Mortar Phase and also the more frequent use



"Pssst! wanna buy some PE?" Sgt. Brian Hutchinson and Capt. P. B. Light with arms found in a house in Sheik Othman on 30th December, 1966.

of the Rocket Launcher and the Booby Trap.

Grenades of course are still in evidence. These are mainly the British 36 and the Russian or Chinese F 1, though the terrorist armoury is known to contain a variety of others.

We have had three occasions when we have been fired on by small arms. The first was when fire was brought to bear on a 'D' Coy. rooftop picquet. The second when a Kalashnikov Russian automatic rifle was used to supplement a rocket launcher attack on 'C' (Support) Coy. who were on duty guarding the Mansura Detention Centre. The third was at our roundabout picquet. Fire was returned.

SUCCESS

In December the terrorist suffered quite a reversal. Captain Peter Light and the men of the Recce Platoon operate as a Special Branch Squad. Their information led to a good haul of arms and ammunition found in a deserted house. A few days later Major Roy Jackson and his orderly Pte. O'Neill found a buried cache of weapons. Lance Corporals Mitchell and Walshaw of 'B' Coy. found a pistol in an old tyre and Corporal Keogh and Lance Corporal Humphreys of 'C' (Sp.) Coy picked up a gentleman of doubtful character trying to get a pistol through Check Point Golf. This latter arrest led to a number of others as the man concerned had a variety of documents on him.

On one occasion our R.M.O., Captain Jerry Cox, brought his knowledge of Arabic to bear (he previously served with an oil company in Persia) and effected the arrest of a man travelling in a 'wanted car'. Considering that we had been told to look for English plates and they were in fact Arabic the doctor's rapid action was a creditable performance and led to the capture of yet another terrorist.

THE TERRORIST ORGANISATIONS

FLOSY (Federation for the Liberation of the South Yemen) and the NLF (National Liberation Front) are the names given to the terrorist organisations.

Despite these high sounding names the militant cells operating for these political groups are in general small. They are organised on the normal guerilla system and cell members seldom know more than one or two of their unit. Needless to say this makes the problem of obtaining information difficult. Certainly the vast majority of the local nationals, as they are called, are law abiding citizens. Many of them are heartily sick of terrorism but they are

in the somewhat unenviable position of having to remain in Aden when the British have left. They therefore understandably 'sit on the fence' . . . a fairly logical course of action when one realises that the penalty for giving information is a bullet in the head, or worse!

Both the terrorist organisations are Egyptian backed though it is sometimes difficult to know which receives the most backing and when.

It was mid-January when the patrols first discovered the issue of pamphlets calling for a strike. We had a certain amount of success in arresting a number of the people involved in the distribution.

The call for a strike (NLF backed) was in protest against the British Occupation of Aden way back in 1839.

Troops of the Battalion were stood by to go to the assistance of the civilian police during the day of the strike. Little materialised other than the locals putting up road blocks to prevent blackleg workers from reporting.

A NASTY SITUATION AVERTED

The following day there was a report that there was to be a demonstration after mosque hours in the Sheik Othman area. True to form the locals paraded outside the main mosque shortly after noon. It commenced in a comparatively orderly fashion.

The crowd were obviously fired by one or two political speakers, though this was not easily seen from the air . . . our only means of seeing what was happening. Again our troops were alerted for trouble in the event of the police being over-run.

The crowd then produced a number of placards and banners in both Arabic and English calling for an end to colonialism. What appeared to be a coffin draped with the Union Jack was then hoisted onto shoulders and the procession started to move up towards the Police Station and Government Offices. The police riot squads moved in. The crowd halted and a few seconds later the police fired the first of their tear gas capsules. The crowd broke.

From then on it was almost like having an airborne view of one of the old "cops and robbers" films. The crowd would run, reform and start to move. The police would mount their vehicles and drive round to find them. More gas and smoke and the same thing happened again. The party went on for some four hours before the crowd decided to give up the

unequal struggle and to start burning their rubbish on fires in the main street.

There is no doubt that the efficient and prompt action taken by the civilian police averted what could have developed into a nasty situation.

LOCAL FORCES

The local soldiers and police are in a somewhat similar position to the rest of the population with regard to terrorism. This has resulted in only a very small percentage being involved with the two terrorist organisations. However, the vast majority of these polite and likeable Arabs are unaffected by subversion.

In December we saw the first of the Federal Regular Army soldiers working with the men of the Battalion on Check Point duty. Few speak English, and since our soldiers have not picked up much Arabic in their short tour here, some of the sign language is quite remarkable. Despite the difficulties we work well with them, and they are an excellent addition to our somewhat stretched resources.

THE BATTALION TASK

The Battalion has the largest area to cover in the Aden Brigade. The terrain varies from sun baked desert to the muddy soil of the Salt pans (vast areas that are flooded with sea water which is allowed to evaporate in the sun thus

leaving large deposits of salt) and from the massed rubbish and old iron dump of the Drain area to the more palatial residences of Al Mansura. We also have our fair share of Kutcha huts (houses made of packing cases and any other suitable material and of course built anywhere with no semblance of control or order). Centred in these rather diverse areas are the orderly if somewhat dirty blocks of Al Qahira and the main trouble centre, Sheikh Othman.

Naturally the area presents quite a military problem. Our troops are now experts in all aspects of the problems of cordon and search, picketing, frisk and search operations, road blocks, check point duty, route clearance, desert and township patrolling and road observation patrols. In addition they have learnt to operate strange items of equipment. The men have become experts on the operation of searchlights, refrigerators, X-ray machines and ferret boxes. Almost every man in the Battalion is now a reasonable radio operator.

In a recent talk to the Battalion the new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Dymoke, congratulated the men on their efforts and much to their delight announced that, subject to local conditions at the time, the Battalion would return to the U.K. in May. Needless to say the Battalion are now resolved to ensure that the local conditions are kept to the state where this is possible.



Lt. J. R. Hart, the IO, with a drainpipe mortar and 61 mm Brandt bomb.

The now popular song "The Green Grass of Home" has taken on a new significance.

TRAINING AND RECREATION

There is little time for training or recreation. We have however managed to keep up the essentials. Recruit continuation training and Junior N.C.O.'s Drill and Weapon Training cadres have kept the training staff busy. In addition we have trained men of the Royal Navy (H.M.S. "Ashanti" was docked for repairs) and their Captain had his men attached to the Battalion to help us on Check Points. We also brushed up the T.A. "Ever Readies" who came to us for a couple of weeks operational training. Both these groups have been a great help and the resulting trips to H.M.S. "Ashanti" have been very popular. It was gratifying to hear that a number of the T.A. applied to stay on with their various Companies for an extra two weeks. Unfortunately this was not allowed.

The major off duty pastime is catching up on lost sleep, though most people manage to squeeze in the odd trip to the beach. The Mermaid Club and the Tarshyne Officers' Club seemed to get a fair number of visitors though whether they are interested in swimming, or getting a glimpse of a pretty girl in a bikini after the somewhat monastic existence of Radfan Camp, is a debatable point.

In addition to the commitments in Aden itself some lucky people have managed to get a trip up country to Mukeiras. The Battalion has to take its turn at providing the guard in this cool camp close to the Yemen border. By the time we return it is hoped that many more will have experienced this change of air where the platoons can get on with their normal training and the mortars (who go up by sections in support of their rifle companies) get an opportunity to indulge in live firing.

THE RADIO SHOW

Considerable effort was put in by the Battalion in the production of a Radio Show and we managed to get a 30 minutes spot on the local amateur radio. Colour Sergeant South put in a great deal of work to ensure that the show was a success and despite the difficulties of recording the Beat Group (consisting of Ptes. Justice and Lent, L/Cpl. Nock and Craftsman Moore ably supported on the vocal by Sgt. Stockwell) the show went down well with all ranks.

Colour Sergeant South and Sergeant Bennett did a comedy turn, Colour Sergeant Law did his usual "Singing Postman" act and the now famed Cpl. Rickard was in evidence with his tuneful version of "White Christmas". There was a touch of old Ireland from the piper of our attached Company of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, and the martial music of the Drums and Fifes under Drum Major Haley was really excellent. The Band will be pleased to hear that we used their latest recording as an introduction.

COMPANY SMOKERS

These have taken varying forms and have been held in various locations. C (Sp.) Coy. decided to take advantage of the kind hospitality of their host unit 15 Signal Regiment and held theirs in the Cat Club, a rather pleasant area lit with fairy lights and surrounded by what little greenery manages to survive in this sun swept arid desert.

Other companies decided to hold theirs in Radfan Camp itself. They reckoned that it was easier to get to bed from the near vicinity, especially since the Battalion's love for soft drinks, locally known as pop, seems to have reverted to hop since the Christmas festivities.

THE SERGEANTS' MESS

Goodbye, Berlin . . . Hold tight, this is Tidworth . . . Hello, Aden. Just like the recruiting posters.

On arrival in Radfan Camp we had no time to settle in . . . we were thrown in. However we managed to hold our house warming party on 19 November, and what a success it proved to be. The Mess rocketed to the top of the Aden social ladder. This was of course due to our particular knack of entertaining. Without boasting we have been renowned for this for some time and much of the credit must go to Colour Sergeant Rocky South (previously known as Pete).

The Christmas draw was an even greater success. Our cabaret is so good that we are getting outside bookings. (Outside where?—Ed.).

No prize for guessing the identity of Mr. 10 per cent. He was last seen arranging a series of one night stands in Sheik Othman.

Owing to the situation we held our New Years Eve Dance on the 4th February. This too went with a bang, but that is not a nice word around here!

Since some of the married members were missing raiding the larder Rocky and a couple of faithful companions have set up a hot dog stall. It is called Oliver Twist and judging by the prices, Twist was an aptly chosen name. On film nights the orders run to something like 'Smith . . . one egg banjo . . . Row A seat 4 at the end of the first reel.'

We make no excuses to the rest of the Battalion for the feminine laughter and the steady beat of Pop music that issues forth from these hallowed halls. RHIP (Rank has its privileges).

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Our neighbours in Radfan are The Cameronians. They, together with our now regrettably departed Company of Royal Irish Fusiliers, decided that the Sassenachs should celebrate the strange feast of Christmas on condition that we helped them out with duties for Hogmanay. As a result all but one platoon of the Battalion assembled for Christmas dinner. Revelry was the order of the day and there was plenty to eat.

The Adjutant disappointed one company by refusing to sing and fleeing when the pressure was put on, and the Padre was heard to remark that he did not consider the song 'Our Sergeant Major wants a rope around his neck' as being in the true Christmas spirit.

The Commanding Officer turned up mounted on a camel, ably escorted by Colour Sergeant

Abdul Ben Tranham. We are pleased to announce that they are both now believed to be the only members of the British Army licensed to drive camels.

A number of the soldiers were able to visit families for Christmas. These visits were organised by the Padre, David Shacklock, who also arranged the traditional carol and other services.

HELLO AND GOODBYE

Obviously the most important changes within the Battalion since Tidworth are the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel John Dymoke to relieve Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Leng and of course the fact that RSM Bullock has taken over from RSM Blood.

There have been many other changes too numerous to mention but suffice it to say that we wish those who have left us all good fortune in the future. We welcome the new arrivals, whether in the form of old friends returning or new members of the Bn. joining, and hope they will enjoy their regimental tours.

The big "Hello" will of course be in May when, everything being equal we look forward to being reunited with our friends and families. Until then there is a job to be done here in the sunshine.

WE THINK IT WILL BE A LONG, HOT SUMMER.

Sheik Othman Patrol

"Any questions?" Three ranks of attentive faces plainly answer 'No.' The sun sinks low on the horizon, silhouetting the soldiers as they climb up on the armoured three tonner.

After stopping outside camp to load their weapons, they speed through the night to Lake Lines road block. Silently they debuss and spread out over the sand. The light is failing. The wailing cry of the muezzin echoes out over the desert and the clusters of small white houses. Noiselessly they step off towards Sheikh Othman. Only the hum of the radios

and a soldier nervously fidgeting with the safety catch of his rifle betray their presence. As they approach Camel Corner the houses are lit and Arabs wander about or sit drowsily with their backs against the walls of the houses; walls still warm from the midday sun. Dogs begin to bark. The chorus is taken up by other dogs along the platoon's route. The thick sweet smell of charcoal fires and cooking drifts on the light, warm evening breeze.

The platoon splits up just past Camel Corner to ensure a safe passage through Grenade Corner. The Corner is deserted: Only a camel

sits in the empty space, its jaws chewing rhythmically as it stares haughtily at the passing patrols.

Suddenly there is a sharp 'crack' from an alley. Every man spins outwards, rifle at the ready, waiting . . . waiting . . . for nothing. Everybody heaves an inward sigh of relief and hearts cease to pound. The patrol is once again moving onwards. Heads up, eyes darting from alley way to roof top; from the group of Arab bystanders to the lone pedal cyclist as he wobbles his way home to his first meal after the day's fasting.

The platoon has been split into three. Each section is to spend two hours searching pedestrians. Then two more hours are to be spent in searching a piece of ground: In between these tasks they have to seal off some side streets leading off Hunters Road. Some VIP is touring the area and his route has to be piquetted.

The platoon Commander's Section disappeared down a side road. It is smelly, narrow and scattered with litter and refuse. The platoon Commander points to three Arabs talking on the street corner. "Some customers for you, Brogan." The soldier hands his rifle to the man behind him and darts over to the trio. The remainder of the section remains in the shadows, alert, watching. "Hey, John!" universal call for attention has its effect. The three Arabs raise their arms above their heads. The soldier runs his hands over their clothing. "What's in there, John?" who could well be called Abdul, Ali or Ahmed, bends down and opens the wicker basket. It is empty. "OK, John?" "OK, John". The Arab closes his basket and the three continue talking. The section moves on: A car is stopped. The driver gets out and places his hands on the roof of the car. A quick search of the man and car. "OK, John?" "OK, John." The car drives off in a cloud of exhaust fumes and dust. Pieces of paper, disturbed by this unsteadily float back down to the sand.

Through the half-open doorway a television can be seen and further down the road a party appears to be in progress. Drums throb and pipes squeal in the stuffy side street air. Children stand waving in the lighted doorways. "Good morning, Johnny." The Section Commander smiles and waves. Why, he thinks, don't they say 'Good evening.' Still, there are more important things to think about. What would I do if a grenade landed a few yards from me? Would I have the courage to shoot

the grenadier? Let it wait. Must concentrate. Roof tops, alley ways.

By 2100 hours all the sections are sealing off the roads from Hunters Road: Backs to the walls, trying to see through the shadows. Hoping, hoping that perhaps somebody might run this way, grenade still in hand. What a capture! What a feather in the platoon's cap, but . . . nobody, nothing.

The sections move away to the areas they have to search. The sergeant motions his section into extended line. The flank men are alert, watching, guarding their fellows. The rest of the section have their eyes down, searching. Perhaps under this box there's a grenade or perhaps a detonator under that piece of newspaper. Tips of boots gently lift boxes, bottles, tins, old paper. Searching, searching! Perhaps a concealed wire here, perhaps a half buried mortar tube there. Perhaps, perhaps . . . searching, searching! What were the words of that song? Something about "Searching, searching"—most appropriate! Must concentrate, must keep alert, must be something hidden in this wretched piece of ground. A grenade! What a find! What a feather in the platoon's cap! But . . . nothing.

Somewhere in the distance a dull booming thud. "43 Alpha's got a mine, Sir." "OK, let me know if anything interesting happens". Wonder who was in the vehicle, wonder if anybody was hurt? Wonder if they caught any suspects? Wonder if there is anything in this bit of ground at all?

2300 hours and time to go. The section withdraw as silently as it came, only the dogs giving notice of its whereabouts. Back at Lake Lines road block one section is already sitting on board the waiting three tonner: Soon all sections are back at the RV. "Is everybody here? Section Commanders check your sections." "All here, Sir." "Right, let's go."

They debuss at the company lines and gather round the Platoon Commander. "Well done, all of you. I think it went very well. Got any more news about 43 Alpha?" "Yes, Sir. Two slight casualties and one suspect." "Good for them. Perhaps we'll capture the odd one or two ourselves tomorrow. Goodnight." A chorus of "Good night, Sir," and the platoon goes to bed.

Perhaps . . . : We found nothing this evening but came away unharmed. The other platoon found a suspect but had two casualties. Perhaps our turn tomorrow. Perhaps, perhaps . . .

NOTICES

BLESMA

British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association
105 Cannon Street, London EC4
Telephone: Mansion House 7250

A message from the Earl of Ancaster, National President of BLESMA.

"We believe that readers of 'The Castle' could and would wish to help BLESMA in our search for limbless ex-Service men and women who can benefit from our specialised services; which services are freely available to them whether or not they are members of BLESMA.

"Our aim is that no limbless ex-Service man or woman should suffer undue or unnecessary hardship and we can today provide financial help where the need exists. We also help in the provision of aids and amenities within the home and our three BLESMA Homes at Blackpool, Crieff and Portsmouth are available for rest, recuperation and permanent residence. We are constantly finding large numbers of limbless ex-Service men who are not in receipt of their full entitlement of pension and allowances, and many today are benefitting from the help and advice they have received from BLESMA in their individual cases. Our help, financial and otherwise, is also available to the widows of limbless ex-Service men.

"There must be many of the surviving 24,000 limbless ex-Service men who are known to your readers but who are not yet in touch with BLESMA. Would you please help by bringing the Association's services to the attention of your readers and inviting them to inform the General Secretary, BLESMA, at the above address of any former members of the Royal Anglian Regiment or Allied Regiments who are limbless but not in touch with BLESMA so that we can make our services available to them?"

Please help if you can.

* * * *

OFFICERS CLUB DINNERS

1st Battalion—20th October at Army and Navy Club.

2nd Battalion—19th May at United Service Club.

3rd Battalion—30th June at United Service Club.

4th Battalion—5th May at Army and Navy Club.

* * * *

BATTALION MOVEMENT (1967)

Subject to change at short notice!

1st Battalion—No change—Celle, BFPO 23.

2nd Battalion—From Cyprus, BFPO 53, to Felixstowe in mid July.

3rd Battalion—From Aden, BFPO 69, to Tidworth in May.

4th Battalion—No change—Malta BFPO 51.

* * * *

DATES TO NOTE

Saturday, 1st July—Laying Up of Colours of the 1st Battalion The Hertfordshire Regiment (TA) at Hertford.

Sunday, 2nd July—Essex Regiment Service of Remembrance and Reunion—Warley, 3 p.m.

* * * *

TRUCIAL OMAN SCOUTS

To all ex-Scouts. The Scouts now meet during opening hours in the Glass House Stores, 55 Brewer Street, W1, just off Piccadilly Circus. Any Scouts or ex-Scouts when in London are invited to see the Manager Mr. A. R. Arlett and sign the visitors' book to contact other Scouts in London.

* * * *

EX-REGULARS STILL IN GREAT DEMAND IN CIVIL LIFE

HIGH PERCENTAGE PLACED IN JOBS IN 1966

Nearly 82 per cent of the ex-Regular Servicemen and women who registered with the Regular Forces Employment Association during 1966 were placed in jobs—13,625 registered and 11,118 were placed.

"There could be no better testimony than this to the high qualities of the ex-Regular sailors, soldiers and airmen and to their value in all walks of civil life, as well as to the recognition of these qualities by employers, great and small."—(Major-General Wansbrough-Jones).

For the nearest Association Branch ask at your GPO or Regimental Association Headquarters.



The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Col. R. A. St. G. Martin, OBE, JP, presenting his Certificate to C/Sgt. D. Moon, D Coy. at Warcop. In the background: RSM W. D. Benham, CSM L. Coles, and C/Sgt. G. Lennox.

Continuation of a TA DIARY

(Editors Note: In our last edition this diary of 4/5 Leicesters (TA) was cut short for no good reason at 31st July. It was raining then. Is there any connection between the storm at Warcop and that reported by ORC on page 67).

WARCOP CAMP

1-3 August

Companies train for Section Test Exercise. Rain.

4 August

Colonel of the Regiment and GOC 49 Div. visit Camp. Rain.

5 August

Visit of Deputy Colonel of the Regiment. Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire presents his Certificates of Merit to WOII Coles, C/Sgt. Lennox and C/Sgt. Moon. Sun shines briefly.

7 August

Honorary Colonel presents TD to Major G. W. E. Wootton. Church parade and Battalion march past. Rain.

9 August

Start of Section Test Exercise and visit by GOC-in-C Northern Command. Helicopter rescue support to D Company Section. Heavy rain--Base Camp washed out.

10-11 August

Test exercise continues on East side of Pennines where sun is discovered. Winners of exercise, A Company Section led by 2/Lt. J. Kelly, runner-up D Company Section led by 2/Lt. H. Coles. Raining on return to Warcop.

12 August

More rain and no grouse. Fire power demonstration washed out.

13 August

Battalion return to Leicestershire. Still raining at Warcop.

LEICESTERSHIRE

4 September

Massed Band and Drums of 148 Inf. Bde. Beat Retreat at Lincoln.

24-25 September

49 Div. Rifle Meeting at Beckingham.

The Battalion came third over all. We congratulate Sgt. Smith and Cpl Dorman of C Company for winning the LMG pairs and Pte.

Tidd of B Company for becoming the Young Soldiers Champion Shot.

2 October

John Hall Cup Rifle Competition. Battalion took third place.

14 October

4/5 Bn. Officers Dinner Club dine at Leicester.

22-23 October

HQ Company patrol exercises on Long Mynd in Shropshire. Rain again.

24 October

Colonel of the Regiment and Regimental Colonel fly into Leicester for short visit to Bn. HQ.

29 October

Two teams to Northern Command night marches.

30 October

Brigade Commanders Annual inspection of Company TA Centres.

5-6 November

Bn. M.T. Rally, much rain. Won by Ptes. Lauper and Bullock of HQ Company. Participants from 85 Company WRAC welcomed.

13 November

CO is Parade Commander at Armistice Parade in Leicester.

19-20 November

49 Div. Study Period at Nottingham and Divisional Dinner.

26-27 November

AVR II and III Officer Study Period on Internal Security Operations at Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

3-4 December

AVR II conduct Internal Security Exercises at Proteus Camp. Permanent Staff run CCF Officers Range Instruction Course.

16 December

Officers Ball at Leicester.

17 December

All Ranks Ball at Leicester.

23 December

We say farewell to Captain Anthony Pollard who leaves for Malta after being Adjutant of

the Battalion for two years.

9 January

We welcome Major Leonard Hunt, Admin. Officer designate for AVR III.

14-15 January

A Company on shake-down week-end at Leek as future AVR II No. 4 Company of 5 (V) Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment.

21-22 January

The last 3 in. mortar shoot at Beckingham. Weather fine and the shooting accurate.

4-5 February

C Company (AVR III) escape and evasion exercise at Beckingham. Weather fine.

10 February

New GOC 49 Div. visits Battalion HQ.

11 February

4/5 Battalion reunion attended by 200 members past and present. A silver tiger was presented to Colonel Guy German in appreciation of his loyal and unswerving support to the Battalion during his ten years tenure as Hon. Colonel. The presentation was made by Lt.-Colonel Richard Wilkes, Commanding Officer, on behalf of all ranks, past and present of the Battalion. GOCs Young Soldiers Certificates for outstanding service were presented by Colonel German to L/Cpl. R. Whiston D Company and L/Cpl. C. E. Bozzoni of HQ Company.

11-12 February

No. 4 Company (AVR II) Command and Signal exercise at Oakham.

18-19 February

D Company (AVR III) escape and evasion exercise at Proteus. More rain.

24 February

Ladysmith Ball at Leicester. Run by WOs and Sgts. Mess, and well attended by Senior NCOs and their wives.

4-5 March

Rifle Classification by AVR II at Brington and AVR III at Kibworth.

In "Mainly About People" you will read of TA Tiger personalities. Whilst we claim these outstanding men to ourselves we think that all in The Royal Anglian Regiment should know of them.

As Others See Us

Extracts from a serialised account of the 3rd Bn's activities in Aden written by Christopher Wilson of the "Bedfordshire Times". We are much indebted to the Chief Editor for his permission to publish extracts and photographs



"It's hot but you get used to it". Pte. V. Tiller.

I stepped out of the British United Airways VC 10 at Aden airport, blinded by the harsh glare of powerful searchlights as they swept the midnight compound into which we had taxied. Heavily-armed groups of airmen stood guard as we debarked and climbed, under watchful eyes, into a grenade-proofed coach.

It was then that I suddenly realised that I had found an Aden that rarely reaches the daily papers—an Aden as volatile as a touch-paper an inch from the flame.

The warm, close night could not repress my shiver as I was met by Major Richard Gresty, second-in-command, who told me that the Battalion's Commanding Officer had been grenaded only two hours earlier and was in hospital.

NOT LIKE BERLIN

Not three months earlier, the Battalion had been "playing soldiers"—as many of the men described it—in Berlin. Theory and exercises had been all-important there, they told me: And now all they had learnt was being put into practice—with no chances for making mistakes.

The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel

P. J. H. Leng, had explained the role of the 3rd Battalion, the Royal Anglian Regiment, to me.

"Our job in Aden is to search large numbers of vehicles and people for illegal import of arms and ammunition. In addition we guard several places in Aden, such as the British Forces Broadcasting Station. We send out continuous patrols to Sheikh Othman—a town of 125,000 people as well as providing men for cordons and searches, anti-mining activities, road blocks, and illegal entry operations."

Within twenty-four hours of landing in Aden, I found how massive an understatement this was.

AN INCIDENT A DAY

One of the first things I saw while I was still in the up-country Radfan Camp, where the Battalion is stationed, was a jeepload of men practising how best to get away from a grenade when it is thrown at them on patrol. And this is no idle "bull". There is an average of one "incident" a day. The euphemism is the soldiers' own—they know what such a word entails. A grenade being thrown or a mine being exploded is within the realms of these



"Berlin was all high life and beer bars, here the work is hot. First time round Grenade Corner, you're scared". L/Cpl. P. Wilshaw.

mens' reality. Yet they talk about "incidents" with a casualness that is not forced, and indicates their true worth as soldiers:

There are over half a dozen regiments on duty in Aden, together with RAF and Royal Navy representation. But it is completely true to say that almost no one is receiving the intensive treatment that our own regiment is weighted down with. The majority of soldiers and service personnel work in the southernmost tip of the peninsular, around the renowned Steamer Point, where there is generally a less attrited atmosphere.

The Pompadours are generally accepted to be "up the sharp end", where attacks are more prevalent and blatant. They man a complex of four checkpoints, and it is within this area that most of the action takes place. With independence promised for 1968, there is no let-up in the cat-and-mouse warfare that constantly tries the dogged persistence of these men.

There is danger although the soldiers themselves would laugh if they were called heroes. Their devotion and determination in their duty is nevertheless ungloriously heroic, for this is not a glorious war.

Dates, days, and hours are irrelevant detail as these men work unceasingly through day and night keeping the peace. Their thoughts turn to home as the mail arrives, or as they glance at a calendar portraying the green countryside which they miss.

NO COMPLAINTS

The fact that the rest of Aden largely works only until lunch-time does not unduly perturb them. They know they have a job to do, and they count the days to July when they will be coming home.

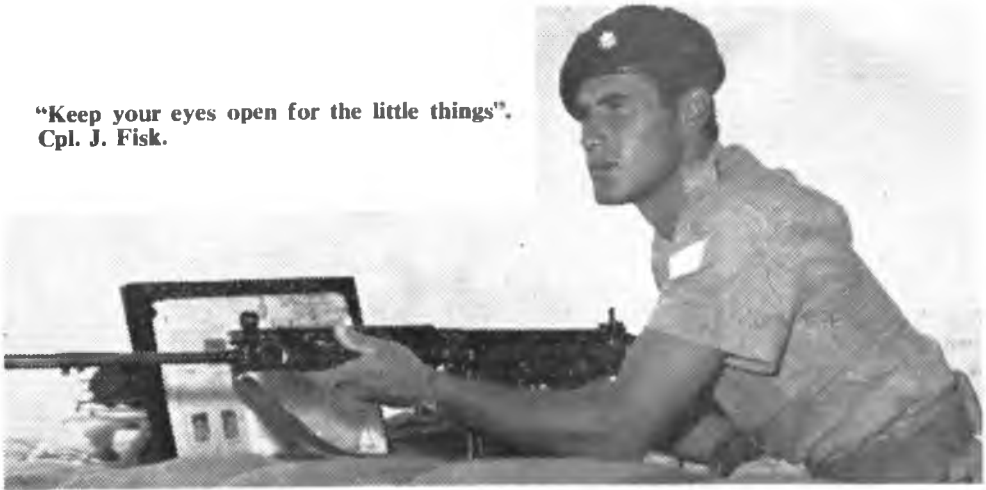
Complaints are about the heat or the sand . . . no more: The days of the barrack-room lawyer are past. Here in Aden I found every man aware of his job and his responsibility in keeping the peace. His cares for other things—sleep, food, and sunbathing on the beach—come far behind. The conversation is confined to one topic only . . . the job.

The officers and soldiers alike share an intangible bond which makes them an efficient machine when they go into action. There is no standing on ceremony as they check their loaded weapons together; talk together; patrol together vigilant and ready.

"My chaps are settling down very well, we're Drummers". Sgt. B. Sutcliffe.



**"Keep your eyes open for the little things".
Cpl. J. Fisk.**



A CHRISTMAS PATROL TO GRENADE CORNER

It was like some bizarre, updated Western as we straddled the centre of the Road in Sheikh Othman, the trouble spot of Aden. The sun pitched into our faces as the patrol approached the main street. Suddenly there was the strident blare of a car horn. Then another. And another . . . until a dozen cars had tuned into this unnerving cacophony. It was the local nationals' way of letting everyone know that the British soldiers were on patrol.

Roman soldiers must have patrolled Israel just as warily in the time of Christ. For centuries young soldiers from many lands have

undertaken the uneasy task of acting as martial policemen in the politically turbulent sandy lands encroaching upon the Red Sea.

The unease and the turbulence remain. For the soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment it was a working Christmastide, keeping their vigil over a wary Aden awaiting a new flashpoint.

The thought of Christmas would not be forgotten by these men. The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, had thoughtfully provided one homely reminder of the Nativity in Israel—Christmas puddings. But they would not all be eaten on Christmas Day. Some would be eaten on Boxing Day or the day after as the men came back off duty to open their Christmas mail from home.



"I suppose we enjoy being up against some kind of odds." Pte. M. Hudson.

The Kutcha hut children look on in delight as "Johnny" searches their elders.



The new Commanding Officer of the Battalion, Lieut.-Colonel J. L. M. Dymoke, who took over from the previous C.O. Lieut.-Colonel Leng, while I was in Aden, will wish the men a happy Christmas, and then sit down to arrange the next day's operations. A spirit of dedicated business and "real soldiering"

permeates the whole regiment. They really haven't the time for much leisure or festivities.

"Keep your eyes peeled. Don't just look at the locals. Look over the tops of the buildings, and at the verandahs!" These admonitions echoed in my mind as I walked the street in the middle of the patrol. I found a thousand



Stalking the street, sheriff style.

Arab eyes boring into the back of my neck as I made each tentative move.

Nowhere was there any sign of animosity, shrouded or open. My straining eyes caught between searching glares only the smiles of the idle men, as they strolled behind us, or looked up from their work. Smiles which were not reflected in the eyes. Smiles which would accompany "Meester, can I sell you this lahvelee watch?" Smiles which would accompany, "No' sir, I did not hear the explosion!"

But the soldiers knew the answers when it came to protecting themselves. An Arab would never throw his grenade just to get his five pounds if there was any chance of getting caught. And the more alert and aggressive the patrols looked the less likelihood there was of "excitement", as the soldiers drily called it. And the Anglians proved this to me. The men had become cats; treading carefully, looking stealthily; not missing a thing. My confidence grew, sure in the knowledge that I was safe in their hands.

THE HOT SPOT!

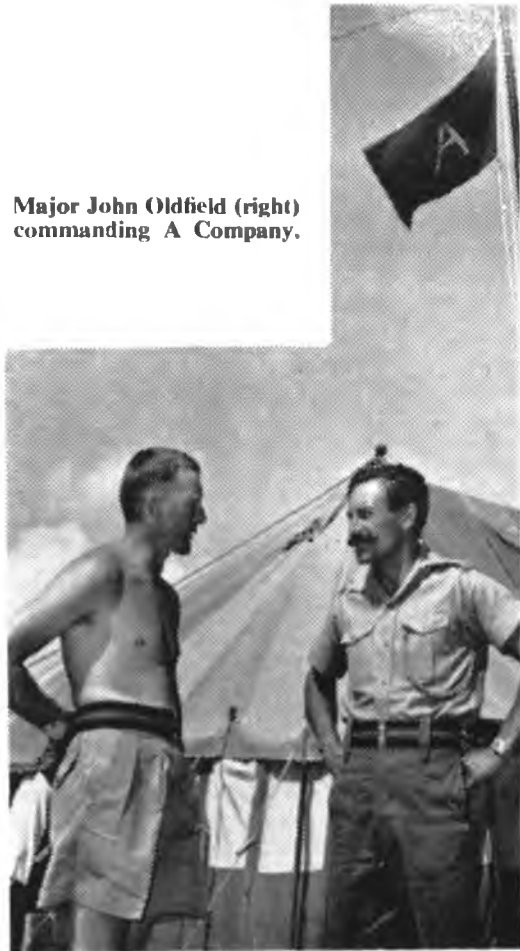
On we went round the notorious Grenade Corner into Hunter Road. The lads call it the "hot spot" in town. They had reason to. Lieut.-Colonel Leng had been grenaded along there just before I arrived, I remembered.

Never ceasing in the endless search for something different, something suspicious, my patrol twisted off into the side streets, stopping groups of men and searching them for any likely clues that might lead to arrests—not just arms or ammunition. Generally, the locals knew the pattern backwards, and just raised their hands in compliance above their heads. Cars, rubbish tips, premises, were searched. All the time, the soldiers were triggered for any suspicious movement.

Yashmaked women drew their young ones to them and closed their doors. Older children, on their way home from school, kicked up the dust under our feet, shouting "Ello, Johnny!" while their appealing eyes begged us to smile back at them. The pro-Nasser teenagers in their white shirts and shorts hurried by, aloof and without comment.

Night falls quickly in the cool season, and I secretly hoped that our patrol would hurry in retracing its steps, so that the gauntlet of the market would not be faced in the dark. Already I had been eyed curiously as we had picked our way through it before. Although my clothes were similar, I wore no identifica-

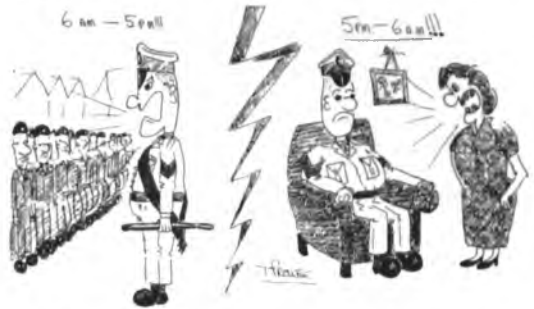
Major John Oldfield (right) commanding A Company.



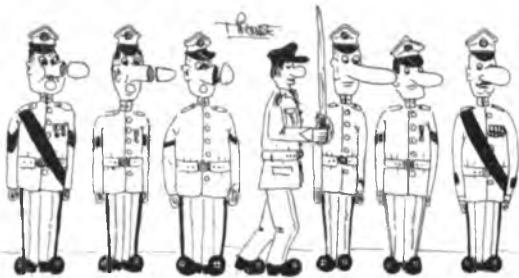
tion or beret. My hair was longer. And I carried no weapon.

But it was planned that we should re-emerge in the market at dusk. During the two-hour patrol, I had found towards the end that my concentration had slipped. I would suddenly find that I had not looked everywhere. Or I would find myself looking at something without seeing it.

But I had nothing to fear. The men surrounding me were professionals. I remembered an officer saying to me over dinner: "They've grown up out here. We're a young regiment, and yet the experience in Aden has made our men professionals—first class at their job." I silently agreed as I reflected over the soldiers' unobtrusive yet careful policing of the district. We allowed ourselves to be swallowed once again by the yawning maws of the market, now lit only by a few lamps.



CARTOONS
by
Drummer T. Prowse
now serving in
Cyprus



Your Association

2ND REPORT BY PRIVATE ANGLE

Liaison with Branches

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect I found was the increasing number of serving and retired members who are now visiting and joining the Branches of the former Regimental Associations.

Membership—Increased by 500

Thanks to the efforts of hard pressed Commanding Officers the total membership is now over 2,200. I suppose this represents about 60 per cent of serving soldiers. Not really good enough! It should be 100 per cent.

Benevolence—A Day's Pay—For What?

I was a bit surprised at the "I'm alright, Jack" and "What do I get out of it?" attitude I found. I believe this is due to sheer ignorance and even stupidity—with due respect to those who are my elders and betters! Nonetheless, great strides have been made in the last year. In October last, twelve hundred individuals were donating a Day's Pay to the Regimental Benevolent Fund. Today the two thousand mark has been passed—nearly 60 per cent. of the posted strength—representing an Annual Income of £4,000 in round figures. I enquired where this not inconsiderable sum went to, and was told it is, of course, invested, bringing an income of about £240 a year. Even to me, a mere private, this didn't seem very much. Nor is it when one considers that each former Regiment disburses over £1,000 in each year. And yet 11 cases have been granted an average of £12 each and £1,500 has been loaned, interest free, to four individuals:—

- G** For travel expenses, etc., to dependants of soldiers killed,
- A** wounded, or died whilst serving: —4 cases.
- N**
- T** Hardship cases; debts, sickness, etc.: —7 cases.
- S**
- L** Against terminal grants or on approved repayment arrangements
- O**
- A**
- N** Two long service senior NCOs: —house purchase.
- S**
- One long service NCO severely disabled by enemy action: —house furnishing.
- One six year soldier unable to rent suitable accommodation: —house purchase.

So I said "This is easy money, how about

some?". Alas, I hadn't got a genuine reason—all the others had—and I was politely reminded that if you don't put in you can hardly expect to take out, unless you have a very genuine case. Of course, I had forgotten to give a day's pay although I said I would!

These loans are made possible by the generosity of the Army Benevolent Fund. Our very grateful thanks. As our own resources increase and we approach our 100 per cent. target I hope that the ABF will be generously supported by us.

Annual General Meeting 1967

This will take place at Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds, on Saturday, 15th July prior to the Beating of Retreat. The time has not been fixed but I'm reliably told it will be around 4.30 p.m.

Members wishing to raise any matter are required to give the Secretary, in writing, not less than seven days' notice of their intention, stating the subject.

The Regimental Weekend

Members of the Association and members and Old Comrades of the Associations of the former Regiments are invited to attend the weekend activities listed here:

Friday, 14th July

GOLF MEETING at Flempton, open to all ranks. Entries close 1st July. Details on application to Major T. E. Robinson, H.Q. Royal Anglian Regiment, Bury St. Edmunds.

OFFICERS' DANCE at The Angel Hotel.

Saturday, 15th July

GOLF MATCH versus Flempton G.C.

CRICKET MATCH versus Bury and West Suffolk C.C.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION A.G.M.

BEATING OF RETREAT CEREMONY by The Band and Drums of the 2nd Battalion and Junior Bandsmen and Drummers of the Junior Soldiers Wing of the Depot.

OFFICERS' COCKTAIL PARTY.

WARRANT OFFICERS and SERGEANTS' COCKTAIL PARTY.

Sunday, 16th July

CRICKET MATCH versus AMPTON C.C.

Details of travel arrangements can be obtained from your nearest Association Headquarters or Branch. The warrant officers and sergeants of the HQ and Depot invite you all, serving and retired, to a Dance and Social evening to be held in the Gymnasium. Drinks and refreshments will be on sale in the Gymnasium immediately after the Beating of Retreat.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as care to come.



Mr. P. C. Munn, Industrious Secretary of the Association of Sergeants, The Essex Regiment.
(Photo: Courtesy of "Southend Standard")

Around the Branches

THE ROYAL TIGERS ASSOCIATION

Winter is always a time for Re-unions—The 1st Bn. (formerly the 8th) which fought in North West Europe had one on October 29th, the 7th Bn., which fought with the Chindits, on November 19th and the 2/5th Bn. which fought in France and were evacuated through Dunkirk, in North Africa, Italy and Greece, on November 12th.

Our South African War Veterans are waiting until the weather gets a little warmer and hope to have theirs on May 17th.

The Royal Tigers Association are grateful to the 4/5th Bn. for the gift of £93 profit on the successful Tombola at their Officers' Ball before Christmas. We are also extremely grateful to the very great number of Tigers, serving and retired, who helped us over our sweepstake on the Grand National this year in which we made a record profit, after paying for prizes and administrative expenses of £750.

The Royal Tigers week-end this year will be on Saturday and Sunday June 24th and 25th. The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Tigers Association will take place at 6.15 p.m. on the Saturday followed by the Dinner at 7.30 p.m., which is half an hour earlier than last year. All will be at the T.A. Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester. On Sunday the Regimental Parade Service will take place in the Regimental Chapel at 11 a.m. and not at 10 a.m. which has previously been the time.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

"Stubborn grit finds better 'ole in 'untingdon"

Every Branch of such Associations as ours must have its problems from time to time. Our first main setback has now reared its ugly head. After enjoying the excellent facilities and genuine hospitality of our local T.A. Centre for the past two years, we are to lose this

accommodation from the end of March, due to the reorganisation of the Territorial Army, and the decision to close the Centre at Huntingdon. Doubtless we will find some other roof to shelter us, but it will never be quite the same again. We will have lost the atmosphere . . . our peculiar ways may not go down well in other surroundings, and we shall have to re-adjust. However, as our Chairman Capt. Bob Copley remarked in his address at the Branch A.G.M.: "This reverse must be met in the usual way that old soldiers deal with such tactical withdrawals, including a little grumbling and a 'helavalot' of stubborn grit and determination that we will soon find a 'better ole', and the sooner the better—We hope that someone, somewhere may offer even temporary accommodation for the meetings of a cheerful bibulous collection of old soldiers like us". We must now put on record our most sincere thanks and appreciation to the T.A. Association, Lt.-Col. Barber, and Capt. Overall for the very pleasant facilities and extreme generosity they have extended to us over the past two years. The Second Branch A.G.M. on Friday, 24th February was a successful occasion, and a review of the year's activities was solid proof that our time has not been wasted. Our membership has increased, so too have our finances.

Eleven Branch meetings were held throughout the year and Social functions also have not been neglected. Most important of all we have fulfilled our main role, that of Welfare. Regular visits were made to our aged, sick and infirm comrades, and a helping hand extended wherever this was necessary. The Branch was represented at all the main Regimental functions during the year and contact is maintained internally by means of the regular issue of a quarterly Branch News Letter sent to every member. Soon they will produce a register of names and addresses of all members. We plan to circulate this to all other Branches and hope they in turn will do something likewise. One so often hears the cry "I wonder where old so-and-so is these days"—well, we'll tell you,—you tell us, and who knows what happy reunions may be the result! Other Branches may have other ideas which we also could use. If so, please let us have them, because we're comparative "rookies" in this Association business when we check on the length of time that some of you have been operating.

One rather special piece of news with this issue. The Branch at last has appointed a President. This long awaited appointment of honour was bestowed at the A.G.M. upon Major W. V. (Bill) Marshall, who lives at The

Chelmsford Branch—A very sociable group



Pound, Park Lane, Harpole, Northampton. Bill Marshall has been a Vice-President since our formation and has taken an active interest in the affairs of the Branch. We could have no one better so far as the affairs of the Regiment are concerned. He's pretty well 'clued-up' and his association with Huntingdon goes back to 1936 when he was Adjutant with the 5th Bn., complete with horse and groom! We extend a hearty welcome to him, and we know he will have our interests at heart at all times.

Members who know ex-Sgt. (Alf) Humphrey will be sorry to learn that he has been in pretty poor health for some time past, and has recent-

the Regiment to Peterborough, viz. Sgt. K. Allen and Cpl. M. Sparrow for duty with 4/5 Northampton (T.A.). It is good to have a link with the regular element of the Regiment.

Christmas has again gone and once more the Secretary became 'Santa' to 15 ex-members or widows of ex-members by visiting them and handing over gifts of hampers and cash. They were much appreciated too.

The Northampton Branch has paid us a visit for a social evening and a very enjoyable evening was the verdict of all attending. We are looking forward to a get together with the



Some of the Old 5th Battalion mainly from Loughborough.

ly had part of his left leg amputated. His progress is steady, but sure, and we wish him well for a complete recovery in the near future. His most staunch supporter in his fight for recovery is a dear old lady who continually urges him on her visits to be out of hospital in time for her 90th birthday on the 27th May this year!

PETERBOROUGH BRANCH

We are pleased to report an increase in membership and during the last year have recruited seven Life Members and sixteen Branch Members. The younger members are the ones we want and any ex-member of the Royal Anglian Regiment would be most welcome to the Branch. We welcome two serving members of

Huntingdon Branch in the near future.

As the 4th/5th Bn. will by now be disbanded and replaced by AVR units we take this opportunity of thanking the Commanding Officer and All Ranks for the kind co-operation and assistance afforded to us at all times during their existence. We wish every success to the new units who follow them.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

For many of our Branches this has been the time for Annual Reunion Dinners and the holding of A.G.M.s at which officials are elected and proposals regarding future events are considered.

The first to start the season was **London Branch** which held its Dinner and Dance at the Euston Tavern on Saturday, October, 22nd, 1966. Under the Chairmanship of Lt.-Colonel A. C. Clark, OBE, eighty members and their wives attended the Dinner and amongst the guests were Brigadier and Mrs. Paton and also Brigadier and Mrs. Peters. In proposing the toast of The Regiment, the Deputy Colonel gave the latest news of the Regiment's activities which was received with great interest.

The following Saturday, October 29th, 1966, **Bedford Branch** followed suit, holding its Annual Dinner and Dance at the Lane Drill Hall. This was a most successful and enjoyable evening, just over one hundred being present. The festive mood of the occasion was typified by the Chairman, Mr. L. A. Butler, in his characteristic speech of welcome to the guests. The closing down of the Lane Drill Hall has entailed moving across the road to 40 Ashburnham Road for monthly meetings. The first AGM in the new venue was held on Friday, February 3rd, 1967; the support at this, over forty members attending, and the fact that the Branch is now receiving a few members from the Royal Anglian Regiment are good signs for the future.

Watford Branch deserves to be congratulated on the way in which it overcame accommodation difficulties arising out of the closing down of the TA Centre at Tolpits Lane. It was decided to hold the Annual Dinner and Dance at the Holywell Community Centre and this proved to be a happy choice when some 80 members and guests assembled there on Saturday, January 21st, 1967. The Branch President, Captain J. S. Payne, and his wife were again able to make the journey from their home near Bournemouth in order to be present.

Hertford Branch will be the next to hold an Annual Dinner, on Saturday, April 1st, 1967. In the meantime the Branch reports that it has held its AGM, a number of Social Evenings and also the Annual Children's Party on Saturday, January 14th, 1967, when forty children were entertained at the TA Club in Hertford.

THE ESSEX REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

Despite the somewhat hectic "Social Season" which culminated with the Christmas festivities last year, many of our branches are already well advanced with arrangements for this year's functions.

Some of the Old 4th Battalion mainly from Leicester





The President and Vice-Presidents of Bedford Branch, at the Annual Reunion Dinner on October, 29th, 1966. Major G. H. Barlow, TD, Major C. J. Corkerton, Major W. Berridge, Major H. T. Beasley, MBE, Major D. T. Tewkesbury, MBE, DL (President), Mr. E. J. Cannon, and Major J. F. Robinson. (Photo: Courtesy of "The Bedfordshire Times")

One event which took place since the last issue of the "CASTLE" was the Chelmsford Branch Annual Dinner in November. A splendid affair with 120 present and our Lord Lieutenant as guest of honour. The branch, although formed as recently as 1963, continues to prosper both financially and in numbers, and has already one or two big events planned for the months ahead, including a Reunion Dance at Keys Hall, on 29th April, and a coach outing on 18th June.

The committee of the Southend branch and the Thurrock sub-branch held a series of meetings at the end of the year which resulted in Thurrock becoming a separate branch of the Association. This most amicable agreement will probably benefit both parties, and there is no doubt that the co-operative spirit which always existed between the parent and the sub branch will continue to prosper under the new arrangements.

Southend, who now meet regularly (the last Thursday of each month) at the Eastwood Road TA Centre, are planning a coach outing in the Spring and an Annual Dinner in the Autumn. There are hopeful signs of an increase in branch membership which is a great credit to a hardworking committee.

Thurrock are hoping to move to their new HQ in the United Service Club, Stanford-le-Hope in the very near future. The branch already has 5 Ex Royal Anglians among its members.

Saffron Walden report a very successful year socially and financially and a full pro-

gramme of varied events is laid on for this year. The main items are the Grand Fete on 15th July, the Social and Dance on 30th September and the "Christmas Bazaar" on 16th December. As a result of the generous support forthcoming at past functions of this nature, the benevolent activities of the branch have increased greatly, and the Christmas grants programme last year was double that of the previous year.

Metropolitan Essex branch, at its AGM in January, has decided to investigate the possibilities of an informal Social Evening for members and their wives, and this will undoubtedly be a popular event.

Mr. (Ex CQMS) Percy Nunn, the industrious Secretary of the Association of Sergeants, has recently retired after "46 years' Service", although not all of it with the Colours. Enlisting in RWK (TA) in 1920 he joined the regulars (Essex Regiment) in 1925, and served with them until 1946 when on discharge he commenced employment with the Essex T & AF Association. Though "retired" Mr. Nunn is kept busy with the affairs of the Association, and of his local British Legion branch of which he is President. He is the Standard bearer to the Legion and the Essex Regiment Association.

The Regimental Reunion at Warley this year will be on Sunday 2nd July, commencing with the Service of Remembrance at 3 p.m.

Tickets for the Service and for Tea (6s. per head) may be obtained from the Secretary at RHQ, Warley.

THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

The London and King's Lynn Branches have held their annual dinners at which it was encouraging to see some new faces. The organisers would like to have seen more present and they emphasise that since these functions are attended by members of the Regiment who have served between South Africa 1900 to Cyprus 1956, no member should stay away on the score that he will not meet any of his friends.

There were about five hundred guests at the Regimental Ball held in Norwich on January 6th. The Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk and the Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment were among those seated at the High Table.

A good deal of activity has gone on behind the scenes to ensure that the less fortunate members of the Regiment are not forgotten at this time. It has been a long standing regimental custom to send Christmas gifts to members who reside in the Star and Garter Home, the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, British Legion Homes, Hostels for the Aged and to long-term patients in Norwich Hospitals. In addition, gifts of sweets and cash are distributed among the occupants of the Regiment's twenty-two Memorial Homes in Norwich and King's Lynn. In all some 170 gifts were made this year and from all accounts these are greatly appreciated.

A considerable number of calls for assistance have been made upon the Benevolent Fund and we are most grateful for the considerable help received from the Army Benevolent Fund in this work. It is perhaps worth mentioning that it is not only the "old and bold" that need to be assisted. In two cases where large grants were made in greatly necessitous cases the applicants were under thirty years old, one of them having been a National Serviceman.

Britannia Barracks, the Regiment's home in Norwich since 1887, will cease to be occupied by any unit of the Regiment after 31st March when the 4th (Territorial) Battalion is disbanded. Contact with the Barracks will continue whilst the Norfolk and Suffolk Headquarters of the Royal Anglian Regiment and the Royal Norfolk Regiment Museum remains in the old Hospital block. How long this situation will remain is anyone's guess, but judging by the time usually taken to reach decisions in such matters it is unlikely that there will be any developments for a year or so. Besides, who knows for certain that the sound of military movements on the barrack square

and the screams of children from the married quarters will not again be heard after a lapse of nearly eight years!

We extend a very warm welcome to all members of the Royal Anglian Regiment Association who settle in Norfolk at the end of their service and invite them to attend our reunions and take part in the various activities which are arranged from time to time. In particular, if those who live in the county wish to attend the Regimental Week-end at Bury St. Edmunds in July they should write to the Secretary at Britannia Barracks, Norwich, and he will endeavour to organise a party and arrange transport.

The annual Service to commemorate those who have died in the service of the Regiment will be held in St. Saviour's Chapel, Norwich Cathedral on Sunday, 30th April, commencing at 10 a.m. A cordial invitation to attend is extended to all former members of the Regiment.

SUFFOLK REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

The big news at the moment is that we moved our offices and the Museum into the Keep at Gibraltar Barracks on March 15th. It will take some while to get the Museum set up but we are doing this as fast as possible and will publicise the reopening in every way possible. We shall be pleased to welcome visitors and hope that they will call in and see us frequently.

A memorial window to the late Brigadier R. H. Maxwell, CB, has been designed and is now being made. A service of dedication will be arranged when the window is ready, and the date will be announced in due course.

Two of the occupants of the War Memorial Homes have died recently, Messrs. Crisell and Smale. These Homes which are situated near the Abbey Gardens in Bury St. Edmunds, have been built to provide accommodation for Old Comrades of the Suffolk Regiment at a low rent. They are normally allotted to people who are over 65 years of age. A waiting list is maintained and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Suffolk Regiment War Memorial Homes Ltd., Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds.

The Annual Reunion will be held on Sunday, 16th July, 1967, at Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds. We are very grateful to the Commanding Officer, Depot, The Royal Anglian Regiment, for allowing us to use the facilities of the Depot on this occasion.

**10th FOOT ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE
REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION**

All the Branches have, as usual, been very active over the past six months, but have not reported in detail. Readers look forward to hearing about goings on of their local branches in October.

Fred Lovesey, Chairman of the Lincoln Branch died suddenly on 1st March. His passing will be mourned by those who knew him. A short obituary notice appears elsewhere in this journal.

It is reported the Gus Segon addressed the Louth and District Annual Branch Dinner on 11th February and said that wives should be encouraged to take more interest in Territorial Army activities. "Why should there not be a ladies' rifle club, badminton and tennis groups", said he, and promptly got himself married again. Doubtless the corridors of Sobraon Barracks will resound with the crack of the rifle and the ping of the tennis ball.

**Louth and District Branch 10th Foot Royal
Lincolnshire Regimental Association Dinner at
Louth on 11th February, 1967.**



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E.C.A.
N.E.C.T.A.
R.T.R.A.

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some of your letters

ENGLAND MY ENGLAND

I come to England poor and broke
go on dole, see Labour bloke.
Fill in forms, have lots of chatters
kind man give me lots of ackers.
I thank him much, and then he say
"come next week and get more pay."
"You come here, we make you wealthy,
Doctor too, to keep you healthy."
Six months on dole, get plenty money,
Good 'Pal' meat to fill my tummy.
Send for friends from Pakistan,
tell them "come, quick as can".
Many of us on the dole,
Lovely suit and big Bank roll.
National Assistance is a boon,
all the darkies on it soon.
Come over here in rags and tatters,
go on dole, collect some ackers.
Then come with me, all live together.
One bad thing the bloody weather.
One day white man come inside,
ask me if we wash in 'Tide'.
I say "Yes, we wash in 'Tide',
too damn cold to wash out-side."
All get nicely settled down,
fine big house in busy town.
Fourteen families living up,
fourteen families living down.
All are paying nice big rent,
more in garden live in tent.
Soon I send for wife and kids,
they won't have to live in digs.

Six months later, big Bank roll,
still go Labour, still draw dole.
Wife want glasses, teeth and pills,
all is free, get no bills.
White man say he pay all year,
to keep National Assistance here.
Bless all white men big and small
for paying tax to keep us all.
We think England damn good place,
too damn good for white-man race.
If he not like coloured man,
plenty room in Pakistan.

Postal Address: Highgate.

LOCATION LISTS

Dear Readers,

Several requests for a Locations List to be included in each issue have been received.

This is not possible, unfortunately, primarily on account of expense. In any event a high proportion of locations and appointments are out of date as soon as they are published.

The next list will be published in October, 1967, and will be a straight-forward alphabetical record. We think this will be more useful to you.

Yours faithfully,

C. R. MURRAY BROWN,
Joint Editor.

"Never touch the stuff myself." Admiral Sir Michael Le Fanu, C in C Middle East visits the Battalion 'Pop Shop.'



CHRIS IN A

**Left to right:
Capt. M. J. Menage, Capt.
R. G. Bates, Major R. G.
Wilson, C/Sgt. Templeman,
Sgt. Edwards, CSM Harris,
2/Lt. R. Greenham, Sgt.
Bunning and Sgt. Butler.**

Christmas Eve being celebrated in the Cpls. Mess by L/Cpl. Andy Anderson (REME), L/Cpl. Roy Barker, and Cpl. Charles Musicka.





Corps of Drums—
Front row, left to right:
 Ptes. Hanson, Arnold,
 Oakes, L/Cpls. Ford,
 Gobey, Royal, Phare and
 Howell.
Back row, left to right:
 Ptes. Gallagher, Berry,
 Baker, Holohan.

STMAS ADEN

**Rogues Gallery: Sgt. Ted
 Bennett, C/Sgt. Rocky
 South and CSM Cliff Ven-
 tress at HQ Coy. 'Smokers'
 Christmas Day, 1966.**



"Sing choirs of Angels".
The Sgts. Mess choir, who
wish to remain anonymous,
at the Sgts. Mess Christmas
Draw.

Army Cadets—what, where, when?



Cadets in Training.

(Editors' Note: We have taken the liberty of publishing the following short article from the Norfolk Army Cadet Force as it seems to us that it speaks for all our Cadet Forces and provides a clear and concise account of what the Cadet Forces achieve).

On 1st April, 1967, as a result of the re-organisation of the Reserve Army, the ACF in Norfolk will become affiliated to the Royal Anglian Regiment through the County link, the Royal Norfolk Regiment (Territorial).

The ACF has a dual responsibility as a Youth Organisation sponsored by the Local Education Authorities and as a Pre-Service

Organisation sponsored by the Ministry of Defence.

In Norfolk these responsibilities are met through the voluntary efforts of 48 officers, and 37 SMI/SP's whose aim is to provide a worth-while sparetime activity for a section of the youth of the county numbering at present some 530 cadets. Some 50 entrants have been encouraged into the Services during the past year. This figure does not include those who entered the Services after leaving the ACF. In fact, it has been stated by the Director of Recruiting that nearly 50 per cent. of the intake into the Regular Army have at some time been members of the ACF.

The activities provided consist of Military, Citizenship, and Recreational Training all of which are carried out on a Sub-unit, Battalion and County basis.

Priority is given in Military Training to getting the cadets through Parts I and II of Certificate A since this provides the main basis for financial grant from the Ministry. But the retention of the interest of the older cadets must always be considered.

To meet these needs, in addition to the twice weekly Parade Nights in each sub-unit, numerous courses are run by the Ministry (Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park), Command and District. Camps are held on sub-unit and battalion levels culminating in the annual county camp which this year will be held at Crowborough Warren in Sussex. It is hoped the attendance will be around 350 all ranks.

In 1966 our annual camp was held in Scotland where great fun was had in assault-boating in the Firth of Tay, training on the excellent facilities around the camp and undertaking 24 hour expeditions into the Highlands including the Royal Estate of Balmoral, by kind permission of Her Majesty the Queen.

For the past three years we have sent parties of cadets to BAOR; in 1965 to 18th Field Regiment, RA, in 1966 to 1st Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment and this year the party will go to 22nd Signal Regiment. Last year, in addition, a party officially sponsored by the Ministry, visited Holland.

We have also taken part in Exercises at the invitation of the TA. The last occasion being in February this year when some 130 ACF acted as dissidents, looters and evacuees in one of the first exercises to be held in this country to try out the new role of the TAVR III, acting in co-operation with Civil Defence and the Police.

Over the past year we have maintained a satisfactory standard of Shooting, holding our own at the TA and District Rifle Meetings and coming Third County in the national "News of the World" Small Bore Shooting Competition.

But it is through Citizenship Training that we forge and maintain the close link with our local communities which is essential to our survival as a Voluntary Youth Organisation. In this we are greatly assisted by the support and encouragement we receive from the Education Authorities in the County through their Youth Services. The whole approach to the Service of Youth is undergoing great development in this country at the moment. The statutory Youth Services are expanding fast and are at the same time looking for closer co-operation with the Voluntary Youth Organisations. No. 44 Army Youth Team has done much to foster this co-operation and many ACF sub-units are taking part in "Viking Challenge", in which teams composed of boys from all organisations compete in youth activities such as shooting, canoeing, marches, etc.

This year for the first time a national ACF day is being observed on 16th April as ACF Sunday. We shall join in special Church Services in our local communities.

In the field of Sport also we can look back on a good year. In the Final of the Eastern Cmd. round of the Nathan Football Cup we were beaten by 1-0 goals in 1966 and this year we meet Suffolk ACF in the Semi-Final in March.

We came first out of Six Counties in the Command Tetrathlon at Woolwich, second out of Eight Counties in the Command Athletics, our team forming part of the Eastern Command team who were runners-up in the National Finals at Leeds. We were also first out of five counties in the Command Swimming at Chelsea Barracks.

This year we held our County Boxing Championships for the first time on an individual novice basis to encourage the young entry and were greatly assisted by Norfolk ABA, who laid on exhibition bouts, and by the PT Staff of the Depot the Royal Anglian Regiment who provided Black and White Demonstrations.

Over 300 parents and friends attended our County Sports Day in June and watched not only a fine display of athletics but also demonstrations of Cadet activities laid on by each Battalion in turn. The prizes were presented by Major General I. H. Freeland, Vice-Adjutant-General and Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

Our Corps of Drums, formed early in 1966 by the Gorleston Company, has distinguished itself throughout the county at many functions including the British Legion County Rally and more recently, in the interval of the Norwich City v Bristol City match at Carrow Road before a crowd of 28,000.

And so on 1st April this year we pass into a new era in which we shall look for greater support from the Regular Army to replace that which we have had in the past from the TA. We know we shall receive this directly from HQ East Anglian District through the newly augmented establishment designed for that purpose.

We are also very conscious that with the contraction of the TA the ACF will, over large areas of Norfolk, be the sole wearers of the Queen's uniform and we are determined to be worthy of all that that implies.

LINCOLN CADETS VISIT OSWESTRY

On the Weekend 3rd-5th February, 1967, a party of 30 Cadets and Capt. L. N. Bird visited the Junior Leaders School at Oswestry.

The Cadets carried out PT and Obstacle Course Training under the supervision of the PTT's of the School. Visits to various parts of the Training Centre were arranged and lectures were given by the CO of the Company.

There was a marvellous indoor Swimming Pool. It was gratifying to see the way that some of the Cadets swam and dived. They should be able to produce a good swimming team for the Command Swimming to be held later in the year.

Although being unplaced in the Northern Command ACF Championship Cross Country Run team event, Cpl. Ground of the Boston Det. kept Lincolnshire on the map by being first home in the Junior Class.

The County is again becoming interested in boxing especially in the Junior Classes and at the Command Championships L/Cpl. C. Turner won the 9 st. 7 lbs. Class C, L/Cpl. D. Preston was runner-up in the 7 st. Class J, Cpl. E.

Preston was runner up in the 9 st. 7 lbs. Class B, Cdt. D. Green was runner up in the 10 st. Class B, Cdt. J. Addlesea was runner up in the 11 st. 7 lbs. Class B.

All of the above are from the Sleaford Detachment.

Major Clayton retired as Cadet Executive on the 31st March, 1967, and as a fitting reward after completing 50 years service with the Regular Army and the Army Cadet Force, he received his award of the MBE from Her Majesty on 28th February.

SPORTING CADETS IN ESSEX

Boxing

At Chelmsford an entry of 115, the highest for 15 years, took part in the 6½ hours continuous boxing at the 1966 championships. Strangely this strong revival coincided with the decision to suspend the National Championships for two seasons.

6th Regiment came out on top with nine winners, and Cadet Rowe (1st Regiment) was adjudged "Best Boxer".

Cross Country

The County Championships were held at Chelmsford on 11th March, and the Junior Team event was won fairly comfortably by the Brentwood Troop of 3rd Regiment. The Senior

event was a very close affair with 3rd Regiment getting home by one point.

Soccer

In the County final on 12th March, 2nd Regiment beat 6th Regiment by 3 goals to 1.

ACF MEDAL FOR RETIRING PADRE SUFFOLK ACF

At a Dinner on the evening of Saturday, 10th December—Rev. G. D. R. Taylor was the Guest of Honour on his retirement from the Suffolk ACF. He was presented with the Army Cadet Force Medal by the Hon. Colonel, Major-General W. A. M. Stawell, CB, CBE, MC, JP.

Approximately 40 cadets from B area marched from Framlingham to Ipswich on Boxing Day, when Ipswich Town were playing Charlton Athletic. Arriving per schedule they paraded outside the Ipswich Town Football Club ground, and then headed by the Lowestoft Detachment Band, and with the ACF Banner flying, they marched round the ground during the interval to the applause of the crowd (the cheers were the biggest of the afternoon (Press statement!)).

Suffolk ACF beat Hertfordshire ACF in the quarter finals of the Eastern Command ACF Cup Competition at Sudbury on Sunday, 5th February, 1967, by 7 goals to nil.



**THE SIGN
OF
GOOD BEER
WITHIN**





The officers, 1st Battalion The Royal Tasmania Regiment, 16th October, 1966.
Front centre: Lt-Colonel L. A. Simpson, OBE, ED, (CO), and Colonel C. E.
Watson Smyth, Comd. Tasmania Comd.).

Tasmania

A visit to the Royal Tasmania Regiment

by **Major B. M. Parsons**

While in Australia last October as one of the UK delegates to the 7th ABCA Infantry Standardisation Conference, I was privileged to spend a week-end with our affiliated Australian regiment, The 1st Battalion The Tasmania Regiment.

I flew from Melbourne to Hobart on the morning of October 15th and was met by the DAAG of HQ Tasmania Command, who kindly looked after me and acted as guide and chauffeur during my all too short stay. We spent that morning driving around Hobart and seeing some of the beautiful countryside. Tasmania for its size has the most varied scenery of any of the Australian states, one is rarely out of sight of a stretch of water and there are many picturesque views. That of Hobart from the

top of Mount Wellington is quite breathtaking and well worth a visit.

That afternoon I was driven some 80 miles up the East coast to the small town of Swansea, where the officers of 1 RTR (to give the battalion its Australian abbreviation) were carrying out a week-end exercise. Arriving in Swansea, any thoughts I had of spending the night with rugged Australian infantrymen camping out in the bush were luckily soon dispelled. For I found that they were already well established in the local hotel, delightfully situated just above the beach overlooking Swan Bay.

It was soon apparent to me that the exercise was one of the highlights of the battalion's training and social activities. Since 1 RTR is

part of the Australian Citizens' Military Forces (CMF—akin to the TA), individual companies and platoons are scattered throughout the island, and it is only on such occasions as annual camp and week-end battalion training that all the officers can get together.

The main purpose of my visit to The Royal Tasmania Regiment was to take greetings to them from our own regiment and to present to them a Royal Anglian Regiment plaque on behalf of all ranks. The presentation took place after an excellent dinner in the motel, which was attended by Colonel C. E. Watson Smyth, The Commander Tasmania Command, Lt.-Col. L. A. Simpson, OBE, ED, Commanding Officer, and all battalion officers. In accepting the regimental plaque, Lt.-Col Simpson stated how very pleased he was to receive such a token of friendship between our two affiliated regiments and asked that his thanks and good wishes, and those of his officers and men, be conveyed to all ranks of the Royal Anglian Regiment. He explained that he was unfortunately unable to give our regiment a similar gift at that time, due to an impending change in his own regiment's insignia, but he hoped that this would be done once the position was

clear. He did however make a personal gift to me of a very handsome inscribed pewter tankard, which I shall always treasure. Amongst other presentations made was one to Lt.-Col. Simpson himself, to mark his relinquishment of command. The new Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. Frank Poke, ED, has now taken over. We congratulate him and wish him every success.

I was present at, but scarcely capable of taking part in, the exercise next morning in the country just outside Swansea. I was however alert enough to appreciate the enthusiasm and high standard of training amongst the officers, which was most impressive. After lunch I reluctantly said goodbye to them all and started my journey back to the mainland. A memorable week-end indeed. I could not have been made more welcome or entertained more royally and certainly the Australians' well-deserved reputation for first class hospitality was fully justified. Anybody who is fortunate enough to visit Tasmania in the future would I know be made just as welcome. We in turn would be delighted to meet and entertain any members of the Royal Tasmania Regiment in UK and hope that they will let us know of their arrival, so that contact can be made.



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News from the 4th Battalion in Malta



The 4th Battalion have had a visit or two during the past few months. Has this happened to you?

"Come to Malta for a quiet leisurely holiday" say the tourist advertisements, but we long ago gave up waiting for a bit of the "quiet leisureliness" to seep into our daily, weekly or even monthly activities here. Instead we have exercised on our own, and with the American Marines in North Africa; survived numerous inspections and visits; won the Command Rifle Meeting; enjoyed Christmas; despatched a company to Aden (reported elsewhere), maintained a platoon in Benghazi, and more recently begun to wonder about our own future here in Malta.

Our experiences in North Africa are always

an enjoyable break from the routine of this small island, and they are dealt with at length elsewhere in this magazine. We enjoyed working with the Americans on Exercise Desert Frost but we still have not got used to the idea of considering ourselves "A Battalion of Seasoned Veterans" which is how they described us in their intelligence handout!

The exercise was a good one and it was a change to hear Americans praising our equipment. Theirs was obviously not really suited to desert operations and the difference was noticeable.

A memorable event which occurred during this exercise period was the deluge. The trouble with the deluge was its MPI (or Ground Zero). Battalion HQ and the administrative area caught it fair and square. B and C Companies suffered too, A Company not at all. The latter behaved like tourists flocking to the devastated area!

There were many sighs of envy as C Company departed for Aden last January, and the fact that some of them travelled to Aden via England did not help either! From all reports we gather they are acquitting themselves well there. Of course they will have to be trimmed down to size when they return! Their activities in Aden are covered elsewhere in this magazine.

Here in Malta at the time of writing these notes, no one quite knows what to expect of the future. We live from day to day listening to all the news broadcasts, and reading all the papers. Visiting MPs from Westminster abound on the island as do reporters and BBC men. The Officer's Mess visitors book contains many a well known name. These visiting politicians and newsmen are probably our best sources of in-

formation. At least they think they are! But no one really knows what is going to happen here.

The political situation seems to build up during the first half of each week. It reaches a crescendo about Tuesday or Wednesday, fades away to insignificance by Sunday, then starts all over again the following week.

Anything we write about events in Malta will be out of date by the time it is printed. Suffice it to say that it is a busy time for all of us, and a worrying one too.

In the sporting world our efforts to enter the Association Football Army Cup Competition have failed, simply because we are based in Malta and therefore ineligible. Given the opportunity we shall challenge the winners just to prove our point!

So far 16 members of the 4th Battalion have married local girls in Malta. Pte. R. M. Allsop is the latest to succumb. His marriage is planned for July this year.

Congratulations to Cpl. and Mrs. A. Mackay of the 4th Battalion on the birth of their twins.

After a worrying start and a great deal of hard training, the 4th Battalion shooting team acquitted itself well in the Command Championships in Malta, winning the Major Unit Team Matches in rifle, LMG, SMG, and pistol.





Support platoon transport of C Company 4th Battalion dives ashore in North Africa on Exercise Desert Frost.

‘C’ Company Joins the USMC

Early in 1966 there was much talk of an Exercise “Tall Palm” taking place in North Africa in September. Much mystery surrounded the whole project. Rumours there were,—the United States Sixth Fleet might be involved—there would be no leave in September—*one of our companies might swap with an American company and so on.*

Towards the middle of August the Commanding Officer informed the Company Commanders that the exercise would indeed take place as planned and that it would involve an opposed landing by a US Naval task force consisting of one battalion of US Marines with normal support. The 4th Battalion was to defend the beach head. The US and British authorities thought it would be most interesting and beneficial for the battalions involved to exchange one company. The Company Commanders could get no change from the Commanding Officer as to which Company he

would swap. They all went away wondering how he would make the choice.

It was remarkable the change which went through C Company when we heard that we might be selected to travel into battle in landing craft rather than dig defensive positions in the rocky ground of North Africa. It was as if everyone was willing the CO to choose us. Salutes were smarter, boots were cleaner and reactions were sharper. Arguments both logical and without any foundation were put forward. **We had to be chosen because we were the best!**—**we would be chosen because they wanted to get rid of us!**

The Commanding Officer kept us on tenter hooks till the last moment and it was not until a week before the exercise was due to start that the good news came through. We had been along the coast and had just returned to barracks marching at quite a pace. The CSM met us at the door grinning from ear to

ear and told us as we stood sweating from the march that we were going to join the United States Marines!

From that moment things began moving very rapidly. Elements of the US Sixth Fleet arrived in Malta and quickly the 6th Battalion of the 2nd Regt. US Marine Corps and ourselves began to get to know each other. As for C Company we had our first introduction to our novel task one morning when the whole company went on board the US Ship "Mountrail" lying in Grand Harbour, Valletta. Hotel Company of 6/2 USMC normally live and operate from this ship and it was to be our home for the amphibious landing. Whilst on board we learnt a lot by way of lectures, demonstrations and practice about the techniques of soldiering on board ship and getting from the ship to the beaches. We saw our accommodation and where our vehicles would be stored—we practiced fitting our equipment so that we could go up and down the scramble nets at the ship's side, without impeding ourselves or the others in our team. To round off the morning we were able to see and talk about the equipment which the USMC uses. Last, but certainly not least, the whole company was entertained to lunch on board ship. Believe it or not the men of the company were served with chicken followed by ice cream!

A few days later the battalion packed itself into a couple of British LSTs and several aircraft and moved across to North Africa, arriving at Torbruk and El Adem. We then drove westwards along the coast until we arrived at the exercise Concentration Area.

Once settled in, a reconnaissance party consisting of the Company Commander, Platoon Commanders and drivers went off to inspect the beaches on which we were to land. From a study of aerial photographs the beaches had appeared to be narrow and gently shelving, but what the photographs couldn't show was the fact that the sand was extremely soft. It was clearly going to be extremely hard work getting vehicles off the landing craft and on to the firm ground above the beach.

The next day we were ordered to get ourselves and our vehicles aboard a landing craft, and by dint of an all out man-handling effort we packed everything aboard and found ourselves heading out to sea to the "Mountrail".

We were all most grateful that there was no

sea running as in rough weather it is an extremely hazardous operation getting out of the landing craft on to the climbing ropes up the side of the ship and onto the deck. As it was it was reported that the Company Commander and CSM went up arm in arm!

No sooner were we aboard and settled in to our accommodation than we started out on a detailed programme of work.

We were all given a talk by the ships Executive Officer on the history of the ship and its present role and in outline how the landing would take place the next day. Then the detailed planning of who was to travel in each landing craft. This sounds easy, but the vehicles had to be put into certain craft and the Company had to be split up into the remaining craft as well as those carrying the vehicles, in accordance with the permissible weight loads. On top of this we also had to fit US Marine personnel from Beach Teams and Landing Teams into the ten craft we had been allocated. So tight was the loading programme that it was not even possible to detail rifle sections to boats and individual soldiers had to be nominated to make up loads.

The Company was to land in the first wave of Landing Craft, preceded only by another Company in tracked amphibious vehicles, and therefore we had to come up the beach ready to deploy tactically! In the end it was all worked out and every soldier was allocated a boat and told its number.

It was necessary to practice boat teams going to 'debark stations'. Further complications arose. The Mountrail has ten boat stations numbered 1 to 10 and also allocated in colours. By this means one knows exactly, or should do, which station to go to!

Now the boats may be lowered quicker at one station than at another and to prevent delay any boat team can be ordered to any boat as and when it is necessary for loading. Boat teams are called forward by the ship's loudspeakers and the call is not repeated.

For troops familiar with the ship and well trained in 'debark drills' this system should provide no difficulties, but for us the whole process was a nightmare! "Boat team 2 dash 6 to Blue five, Boat team 2 dash 1 to Red four" etc., etc. in quick succession! By over organisation the Company Commander ensured that for the first practice not one man arrived

at his correct boat station! Suffice it to add that the following morning at 0430 hours in inky darkness with the ship completely blacked out, everyone went to his correct boat station.

With all the final preparations, we were late to bed that night and reveille next morning was at 0300 hours. The ship was humming with activity. Breakfast was eaten quickly and in the troop decks we all feverishly donned our equipment and fastened on weapons and checked life jackets. Outside on deck, all was darkness save for a few stars twinkling cheerily in the sky. The Company Commander and CSM stood anxiously by a tannoy speaker waiting for it to call. Odd soldiers caused momentary panic by coming up and asking what their boat team number was! Then it started—'Boat 2 dash 6 to red five' and so on in a monotonous drone. We were away. From now onwards we would not be organised as a Company till after we hit the beach. The CSM's face was a picture (or would have been if it could have been seen). He always makes it a point of pride to see the Company gets where it should go and on time, and his was the first boat called to station!

As each boat team assembled, its members scrambled down the nets and into the landing craft. Once aboard, the craft left the side of the Mountrail and commenced a circular course with other craft till all were in position and each following in its correct sequence. Then in accordance with the landing time table the ten craft with C Company on board peeled off behind the leader and headed for the beach. The single crash of a naval gun from a destroyer and the low passes over the beach of two Canberras served to remind us of the fire support we would get for a landing of this nature, and it was not difficult to sense the tension that would be apparent if we had actually been about to make an opposed landing.

As we got close to the beach we saw the amphibious tracked vehicles climb up out of the water and on to the beach.

We were organised to leave the craft with 9 Platoon on left forward and 11 Platoon right forward leaving 10 Platoon in reserve with the extra task of assisting support platoons vehicles ashore. However, at this juncture the unexpected happened. For some reason the line of landing craft hit the beach slightly too far South with the result that the left hand five craft ran on to rocks some 30 yards out to sea in about six feet of water! It was clearly not possible to land so all five craft backed off the rocks and swung round to land on the right of the remaining craft. Down went the ramps, into the water we jumped and in seconds the Company was ashore. 9 and 11 platoons moved off the beach and moved over to regain their proper positions and we began moving inland to our reorganisation position. By dint of back breaking work, 10 platoon succeeded in getting all our vehicles ashore without one being 'drowned'. This was most pleasing as we learned later that several American vehicles were casualties to the water.

In accordance with our plans, the Company moved off the beach and swung left to gain ground and protect the left flank of the landing.

We met up with resistance some 800 to 1000 yards from the shore, but managed by using air strikes and later 81 mm. Mortar and 105 mm. Howitzer fire to press on and secure both our objectives.

Realism was unfortunately lacking from the time we hit the beaches, it being after all only an exercise, but it is safe to say that for C Company the whole exercise was exhilarating, exciting, full of new adventures, and all in all, an experience we are unlikely to forget.



C Company of the 4th Bn. land in North Africa from a USMC landing craft on Exercise Desert Frost.

THE TIGERS

ON DETACHED

DUTY

IN ADEN



Pte. Cripps of the 4th Battalion ready for a helicopter patrol in Aden.

In January, 1967 C Company departed from Malta for a two months tour of duty in Aden. There was a requirement for extra guards to ensure the security of RAF Khormaksar and all its subsidiary installations during the current terrorist activity there.

Living and working as we do side by side with the Royal Air Force we have learnt not without surprise, that despite minor differences the 'blue jobs' have pretty well the same ideas as ourselves. If, through having a somewhat restricted task, we learn very little of value as soldiers, we will nevertheless at the end of the two months have done a great deal to foster good relations with another service.

As to how we live and what we actually do here I can not do better than hand you over to someone who has "seen it all before"!

Everyone said—"If you don't climb it, you will be back". A thing like that you just don't really believe—I mean not in this day and age. It's just not scientific. So we never did climb the b—— mountain, and we came back. And of course everybody pointed their grubby fingers at us and said "told you so—should have climbed the wretched thing".

So we came back and here we are pushing

for a gong—well some of us are! While in the background shimmering in the arid heat, stands a mean, hard and ugly, unforgetting mountain—Shamsan—Jebel Shamsan.

We flew over it when we arrived saying "it's not changed much": it's nice to be one of those who can say that. You know—sort of rugged isn't it. We flew to Aden in a Britannia of Trans-Global Airways, an exotic far-flung sounding, sort of airline. It somehow did not give the reassuring feeling that one gets from say British United or Eagle Airways. It got us here though, so good luck to them.

Half of us lived at the Red Sea House for the first couple of weeks, but then they moved us all together into RAF Khormaksar, behind the safety of the wire. The airfield is a big triangle of buildings, hangars, vehicles, parks, clubs and runways. Sand everywhere. Its noisy too. There's the generator that sounds like a squadron of Vulcan bombers perpetually taking off, and then there are the Hunters, who are perpetually taking off, and the VC 10s, and the Boeings, the Beverleys, Argosy's, DC 3s, Britannias, Whirlwinds, Wessex and so on.

Some say it's a cushy posting. I suppose it is really, well it is compared with the 3rd Bat-

talion's task. There are the Married Quarters to patrol after dark—and when those young things set off in their mini skirts, well . . . The Causeway is boring unless you get a drunk Arab or a parked car. It is better than Salt Pans Guard though. Mind you the food's good there! The rest of the task is looking after the airfield really, road blocks and snap cordon and searches. Tedious and soul destroying. Mind you the biggest attractions are the helicopter patrols. Cruising just above the ground and then diving out of the sky onto some poor unsuspecting Arab's motor-car, for a quick frisk.

Just like the advertisements. Soldiers of the Sixties! They say if there's no trouble you are doing your job well. And there's very little trouble in the area, but it's not very exciting, is it, I mean, a couple of grenades keeps up the interest, you know, stimulates the nervous system.

Every so often an aircraft goes up country and needs a guard for the trip, that always good for volunteers, still the sun's hot, the fags are cheap, the beer's cool, what more could you want? Who said women? And there's days to do—to climb Shamsan.

ORPHAN OF THE STORM

Report on Exercise Desert Frost

by ORC

As a result of my last effort I now appear to be well and truly lumbered with the task of producing articles for the "Castle" Magazine. In fact, those in authority have taken it for granted that I will do so. Recently, when asked if my next article was ready I replied that I hadn't written one. This colossal effrontery on my part was met with looks of shocked disbelief and the terse order to 'get on with it'. So with much insubordinate mutterings and tutt-tutting I have put pen to paper. Perhaps if I write badly enough it won't get published and no one will ever ask me to write another article! Here then, by popular request, is a right load of old codswallop.

The Battalion moved to North Africa by air and sea in early September to carry out desert warfare training, beach assault landings and all the usual gubbins battalions do in the field. (Here I must apologise for my lack of technical knowledge). During the three week period of training exercises were carried out at Platoon, Company and Battalion level, and a major beach assault landing exercise with our American cousins (elements of the US Marine Corps) also took place. Whilst all this was going on I, in my capacity as ORC, remained in the FMA 'minding the store'. Here I must explain for the benefit of the unenlightened the correct definition of ORC. It means Orderly Room Clerk and nothing else! Thank you.

On the 20th September the Battalion finished whatever it had been doing and returned to the FMA to rest from the fruits of its labour and prepare for the move back to the 'Jewel

of the Mediterranean'. By this time I was very busy at my typewriter in my shelters air portable pounding out move instructions, nominal rolls, etc. I, and my staff of one (Pte. Maggot Gibson), together with a fine upstanding gentleman called the Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM N. H. P. Jenks, MM) worked well into the night and when we, I mean the RSM, finally called it a day at 0200 hrs. the majority of our work was completed. Flight rolls and instructions were laid out in neat piles ready for distribution the next day. We therefore retired for the night well satisfied with our efforts.

At 0515 hrs. on the morning of 21st September the rain started. It came down in solid sheets. I did not worry unduly at this stage. The tent will stand up to it I thought, although I knew full well the metal struts were held together with bits of string. The rain was soon accompanied by a hurricane force wind. Still I remained calm. The famous last words 'it couldn't possibly happen to me' were running through my mind as the centre pole of the tent suddenly snapped in two and seemed to coincide with an ear shattering clap of thunder. I was no longer calm. "The tents falling down" howled my tiny assistant as he struggled valiantly to hold up the centrepiece. Panic-stricken I groped my way towards the tent flap shoving 'Hercules unchained' out of my way. "Save the typewriter" he screamed. To hell with the typewriter I thought. At that particular moment the typewriter, tent and him were the least of my worries. My own personal



Orphan of the storm.

well-being and safety were, as usual, uppermost in my mind.

As I rushed from the tent I grabbed the Adjutant's movements board, not through any thoughts of saving it, but merely to use as a shield against the howling wind. A fatal mistake! The wind caught the board and I virtually took off. I quickly let go the board and hours of work on the part of Major Robinson was whisked away never to be seen again. At this particular time I began to notice sharp stinging pains in certain parts of the body and suddenly realised that I was in the raw. This is about as close to nature as you'll ever get, I thought, and looked round wildly for somewhere to shelter. I spotted the Maggot making for the Battalion 2 IC's tent which appeared to be standing up well to the storm. Sanctuary!

I battled my way towards it. Major Robinson was sitting on his camp bed in his pyjamas and one boot, chuckling quietly to himself. "Can't seem to find my other boot" he muttered. He glanced up. "Oh hello" he said casually. "My, you do look cold" he intoned sympathetically and tossed me a sodden shirt. I thanked him, wrapped it round me and sat down in two foot of mud and water.

My newfound place of sanctuary lasted about five minutes, then with an ominous groan and a sigh the tent slowly collapsed. I callously left my benefactor to fend for himself and sought refuge elsewhere. Damn silly place to stick a tent anyway, I muttered. Shelter was finally found at the Regimental Aid Post,

where, in my hour of need, I was consoled by the RMO—Captain K. J. Clapton. I remained there until the storm abated sipping coffee and smoking cigarettes, wearing a borrowed poncho—I had by this time abandoned the 2 IC's shirt.

I eventually returned to my devastated Orderly Room to view the carnage. As I stood there sobbing quietly the Commanding Officer approached. "Everything alright?" he said breezily. "I think this is a bit of your flight rolls" he added slapping a lump of soggy paper in my hand. With a remarkable show of restraint I gathered the folds of my poncho about me, bowed graciously and solemnly acknowledged receipt of the sodden mess. (I wouldn't have dreamed of doing any other—I mean, he's got status).

Now came the task of clearing up. We were ably assisted in our mopping up operations by various words of encouragement from the RSM. What remarkable results these words produced coming from him! As the sun rose in the sky improvised washing lines appeared all over the area and by mid-day any resemblance to a military camp was purely co-idental. It looked more like the camp of a wandering band of Nomads. Where, the day before, there had been an area of parched shrubs and sand, gushed a "River Ganges" which had swept all before it. Officers' tents—gone. Officers' Mess—gone. Sgts' Mess—gone, and with it the last two precious crates of beer—last seen floating out to sea, or so CSM Hill said! And in the midst of it all, looking like some destitute beachcomber, squelched the lone figure of the second-in-command in his sod-

den pyjamas and one boot looking hopefully for some sign of his kit. The amount of Battalion equipment and kit 'lost' during the floods was quite fantastic. I'm sure, if he thought he could have got away with, the MTO would have said all his vehicles were washed away. (Let's face it—some of them should have been!).

At last order was restored. An improvised Orderly room was erected and once again flight manifests rolled off the press and were

distributed with great speed to all concerned just in case Mother Nature had another go at us.

The return journey to Malta was uneventful. On arriving 'home' I dumped my kit in a heap on the balcony of the Sgts.' Mess (where it remained for about 3 months slowly rotting) donned my best jeans and sweater and hared off to sample the cultural delights of Straight Street. Exercise "Desert Frost" was quickly forgotten!

Things ain't what they used to be

by the Culinary Correspondent of the 4th Battalion

"Would you like a steak cooked to order, roast beef, roast mutton, pork chop, fried liver, a cold salad or maybe curry for lunch today, Pte. Atkins?" This is a far cry from twenty years ago when troop messing (as far as the customer could judge), was such a simple matter—(Atkins senior had only the two obvious choices!).

There is an establishment in Aldershot, brim full of the latest cooking equipment and inhabited by a lot of smart gents in tall white hats, where this new system of military messing is explained and demonstrated—a very simple exercise which you can easily lay up in your own unit! Unfortunately they don't teach you how to cope with antiquated and temperamental equipment nor with one third of your cooks detached, or a complete lack of potatoes!

The theory is simple. In days gone by the Messing Officer and Cook/Sgt. went into a huddle once a week to plan a menu which could be produced from a set scale of rations to provide, in the opinion of the experts, a balanced diet for Thomas Atkins. Now we

are far more enlightened and strive to emulate Mum who serves meals to suit the particular likes and dislikes of her own little brood. Our brood is about 350 strong and the permutation of preferences increases in proportion. Customer research is a very complicated business—the weather, pay day, training exercises, etc. all have an effect on the soldier's palate and have to be taken into consideration when planning the day's menu. To produce this variety we still have a set ration scale, but we are allowed to draw cash in lieu of one third of our rations and spend this money as we wish.

Somehow, out of all this research and planning comes the wide choice of meals enjoyed in the present day soldier's mess. The majority of complaints nowadays come from officers and sergeants who want to know why they cannot have the same variety in their own messes.

Mr. Atkins senior will never believe this tale. If he's got £40 and a couple of days to spare, he should come to Malta and we will prove it. Or better still, if he has a son of the type we're looking for, the lad can come for nothing and we'll even pay him a handsome wage!

SMUGGLING IN SABAH

by Captain P. W. King



A small smuggling boat in Semporna. Power on this one is provided by 3 x 75 hp Evinrude engines.

Whilst on Secondment with 2nd Battalion Malaysia Rangers, I served for seven months in Tawau a small town on the East Coast of Sabah. The East and North coasts of Sabah (formerly British North Borneo) adjoin the coasts of the Phillipine Islands in the North, and of the Indonesian Islands in the East. The whole of this coastline has been subject to attacks by pirates for hundreds of years, and, since the war, has been the home of large scale smuggling operations. Smuggling is mainly done to the Phillipines, and consists of cigarettes, liquor and magazines of a sexy nature. Cigarettes and liquor are heavily taxed, and sex magazines are banned by this very strong Catholic country. Up until President Marcos succeeded President Macapagal in 1965, the country had been very corrupt, and it was due to this that a lot of the smuggling succeeded.

The trade centred on the North East Coast of Sabah, and in particular on the towns of Semporna, and further west on Sandakan. Semporna is a small quiet town almost on the edge of the Phillipine Islands, and Sandakan is the centre of Sabah's large and flourishing timber trade.- Sandakan is the centre of Sabah's timber trade. Sandakan, a large market town by British standards, is reputed to receive over 40,000 Playboy Magazines a month!

Stealth, cunning, local knowledge and good local intelligence come into smuggling. Intelligence is easy, as there is a continuous traffic

of small boats to and from the islands. Good local knowledge of Philippine waters is essential as the islands are surrounded by vicious coral reefs. In case of a quick getaway from a Gun boat or Naval destroyer, such local knowledge can save lives or a long sojourn in the local gaols.

The boats deserve special mention. They are built on Hydroplane principles and are normally anything from 20 to 30 feet or more long. They are flat bottomed, giving very shallow draught. They are usually powered by anything from three to six 75 hp outboard engines. The boats are solid cargo space and can carry fantastic loads. With all engines running some of these boats are estimated to do over 50 knots!

The principles of operation are simple. Firstly they are notified that the coast is clear. The cargo is loaded, and they proceed over to the islands on only one engine. If surprised, they turn straight round and hurtle back at full throttle.

Smuggling is fascinating. It involves skill, patience, nerves of steel and a large element of luck. Sometimes one would notice a boat go out and then not return. Such are the hazards of this profession. With the arrival of President Marcos things have tightened up, and the trade has died down a lot. But knowing the local people as I do, I doubt if it will die out completely.

Conversion Complete

A round-up of 1st Battalion news and events



Rear-link operator, Pte. Robinson, Trg. Company.

The First Division Exercise "Eternal Triangle" was the culmination of ten months' concentrated and sustained effort and the final test of the conversion of the 1st Battalion from a light scale battalion to mechanised infantry. As well as the 1st Division and various corps troops, a German Panzer Grenadier Brigade and a Parachute Battalion and Belgian, Dutch and Danish troops took part.

The whole of 7th Armoured Brigade concentrated between the river Lippe and Soest (well known to many from Iserlohn days) on the 25th September.

The three days before tactical concentration were devoted to shaking out, running the APCs up and practising river crossing techniques along the river Lippe in preparation for the wider expanses of the Weser, seventy miles and five days ahead. We also practised the making out of damage control forms and logs, a lucrative field sport for German farmers at this time of the year. On the Sunday we were joined by two of the combat teams who were to remain part of the Battalion Battle Group (BG) for most of the 'campaign'; B squadron of the 11th Hussars and No. 1 Company of the

Prinzens Livregiment. The PLR is one of the three APC battalions of the Danish Army, and like all the rest is equipped with US M 113 APCs, and manned for the most part by 18 month National Servicemen. We also lost A and B Companies to the 11th Hussars and 2 RTR Battle Groups.

By H hour, 0400 hrs. on Tuesday, 27th September, the BG was concentrated behind the start line as the right assault BG of the Brigade. We had 2 squadrons of armour, our own C Company, an APC Company of Danes, and a fifth combat team consisting of the Recce platoon, a troop of tanks and half a troop of armoured engineers. It was not quite the 1 Royal Anglian we were used to, but a formidable force nonetheless.

We rolled forward with three combat teams up at first light on the first stage of a 100 mile blitzkrieg. Day One was a rapid advance of over twenty miles, crossing two river and demolition lines and filtering through a good deal of dense forest in the best Ardennes tradition. We went firm on an initial brigade objective by 0100 hrs. on 28th September, and 31 Panzer Grenadier Brigade of the Bundeswehr

then passed through us to make the main Blue-land breakout.

By 0700 hrs. we were reduced to our 'normal' three combat teams (C Company, B Squadron and the Danes) and were off again in a follow-up role, making for gaps in the Eggegebirge ridge, the first main Redland defensive line. As ill luck would have it we closed up for our first thrust through a gap punched by C Company just in time to be under the Ground Zero of an enemy nuclear DF. Had it been real, these notes would never have been written. The main body of our BG was out of the war for six hours, while C Company 'survived' and spent the whole night fighting a most interesting battle on the 'wrong' side of the obstacle line.

On 29th September we were revived and pressed on into the open country between the Eggegebirge and the river Weser to our Phase 4 objective. The battle opened out a good deal, and we indulged in a good deal of hectic motoring before last light came. Some other battle groups rather overdid it and succeeded in exposing their flanks to the inroads of the Scots Greys and 3 RTR, who were fighting for the enemy.

On Friday, 30th September we received orders for the assault crossing of the Weser. We lost a squadron, gained A Company, and by last light were formed up West of the river behind our 'screen-up' and crossing areas. It was thought at first that a night crossing would not be permitted for safety reasons, but as H hour approached it became clear that the crossing was to be 'for real', and the first waves of A and C Companies entered the water at 1800, in almost pitch darkness. The far bank



RSM Fowler, taken during filming of "The Longest Day".

was densely populated by hostile umpires and comprehensively mined; however, despite these obstacles to happy motoring, the entire battle group less its non-amphibious vehicles was across by 0130 and the bridgehead was secure.



2 Platoon, 2/Lt. Haes, A Company.

One or two vehicles took a longer trip down stream than their drivers and commanders had planned, but on the whole the crossing went off in a copybook manner. It was the first time that a complete APC battalion had carried out a night assault crossing under operational conditions, so the success we achieved was particularly gratifying. (B Company, although not under our command, crossed immediately to our right, so in practice we crossed 'three up').

The battle for the break out continued all night, all day and night of Saturday, 1st October, and part of Sunday. The character of the battle had to be changed since we found ourselves fighting through mile upon mile of dense pine forest. There were sensational stories of damage on an almost World War II scale done by the armour in some of the villages along our axis. By the morning of Sunday, 2nd October we reached the farthest point of our penetration into enemy territory, and the halfway stage of the exercise; we were almost up to Guttingen in the foothills of the Harz mountains, having started on the fringes of the Ruhr, some 110 miles away as the crow flies or the APC drives.

At midday the Panzer Grenadiers turned coats and joined the enemy; 7th Armoured Brigade went over from the advance to the withdrawal. 1 Royal Anglian BG pulled back over the Weser to hold the South Eastern flank of the Brigade sector, and by first light on Monday 2nd October the first Panzer Grenadiers had come to grips with our forward elements on the subsidiary river line behind the Weser. Some of us felt that it was just like old times. Be that as it may, the Germans lost no time in pressing on, with considerable panache and an airy disregard for minefields, 'blown' bridges and demolition belts. We fell back overnight, keeping just ahead of the leading Panzers, and by the evening of Tuesday, 4th October we were back behind the main Eggebirge ridge which we had assaulted six days previously.

The final phase came on the morning of Wednesday, 5th October. One Bundeswehr battalion timed its assault cunningly to coincide with a VIP visit (that of General von Kielmannsieg) to C Company on our right flank. C Company were sufficiently polite to their guest to allow their attention to be distracted; when they got their eyes back on the ball it was only to find themselves surrounded by field-grey uniforms. Fortunately the war ended at this stage, so no bones were broken.

So ended our first large scale manoeuvres as a mechanised battalion. We had covered some three hundred miles all across country, in what may well prove to be the last large scale free running exercise of its size to be held. The Battalion moved into a harbour area and caught up on lost sleep and maintenance during the 6th and 7th October before entraining for Celle with all 82 APCs.

Dreamland

1st BATTALION COMPANIES EXAMINE THE RECORD

In late August the RAF Officer Cadets from Cranwell proved unable to escape the attentions of A Coy's wide spread net in the woods below Brilon. In a 48 hour search/exercise we captured 12 out of 13 Teams, several of them twice—and there was a moment of personal triumph when OC 3 Platoon, having come to a halt high on a hill in his Ferret, debussed with a shovel in hand to carry out a "recce", and captured a team which was not exactly expecting to see him at that time, or armed in that fashion! We are proud of our shield presented by the Cadets in recognition of being the most successful unit in this particular exercise.

Eternal Triangle came and went in a whirl of movement. We got little sleep but a great deal of value from it. We deny all knowledge of what went on in Neuhaus on that Saturday morning, and we are still waiting to hear why OC A Company's name was taken (in slidex!) when all we had done was to detour 600 yards outside the divisional boundary in order to out-flank the enemy—and we did get permission first from the CO (11 Hussars)! What about the mobile Laundry and Bath Unit, where did it get to? We suspect that the HQ Staffs got the benefit as usual.

In November we swam rivers for Headmasters, showed our paces off to the JSSC and prepared our vehicles for the CIV Inspection. 3 Platoon swam the river Weser for the Headmasters and it is said that one vehicle actually got across with the water up to the driver's chin inside the vehicle. But then this must have been an exaggeration! The JSSG were lively and friendly in spite of Cpl Wade's insistence on 'gripping them' when their debussing drills fell below his own high standards. In fact the

rest of Cpl. Wade's section looked highly pleased that the JSSC were so idle. They had heard it all before! A Company had only ten days clear (from after the JSSC Demonstration) but we were there on time for the vehicle inspection. Well done, Sgt. Stevens and your magic wand.

The Administrative Inspection came next and suffice to say that all went well, though the General might have had food for thought if he had seen the Medical Orderly's condition at the end of the mile run. So to Christmas, and the New Year and Libya.

The training in Libya was lively, refreshing and worthwhile. Notable on the marches was Cpl. Stark's uncanny "sense of direction" (thanks to Cpl Tomson, Pte. Thompson and Pte. LaBorde's instructions, debating and near hysteria at the thought of being lost), led by Company H.Q.'s section straight to the night harbour area (we might have missed it if it wasn't for that little rock in the middle of nowhere!). Sure enough, came the dawn, we were depressed to see that "Kilroy was here" before us!

We were back in our element when we manoeuvred around the excellent battle run in APCs supported by C Sqn. 3 RTR. One Platoon which shall be nameless, engaged an enemy platoon of camels without, regrettably,

Time to feed on "Eternal Triangle". Cpl. Spidy, A/Tk. Section, B Company.



"Bucket and spade was no good". Pte. Ifil, Assault Pioneers.

one hit. 2 Platoon at one stage appeared eager to reduce its numbers by one section when Cpl. Bowman and Cpl Mackenzie chased Cpl Wade up a wadi, firing happily. But we all survived to fly back to Celle, trained and highly scented!

* * *

"Hello 28, I am completely surrounded, have eaten my scantlist and do not know what frequency to change to at midnight." The familiar Yorkshire accent from 28 as he is overwhelmed by the enemy! Time and time again frustrated voices were heard on the net as vehicles disappeared towards the enemy lines. In fact 28A was not seen for 12 days and had it not been for a thirsty call sign 21 stopping for a drink at a local pub, 28A would still be driving round Soest.

Probably the most exciting and deftly executed manoeuvre of the exercise was the company's crossing of the River Weser. Major Henderson led the way by completing one and a half very smooth turns in mid stream and reversing out on the enemy bank into a minefield. L/Cpl. Perry, whilst trying to follow the Company Commander, successfully completed his turns but came out of the river on the home bank!

For the second phase of the exercise the Germans became the enemy but were no match for 6 platoon. A company night attack had successfully found a German company sleeping in the village of Liebenau. Having been caught, literally, with their trousers down the Germans surrounded 6 platoon in a panic and with menacing looks. Moving quickly, 6 Platoon fixed bayonets and moved through the horrified Germans. It seems the enemy wished to call the whole thing off after this incident!

The battle did go on but the stories are too numerous to tell in this short space.

Anyone entering B Company lines on 16th December in the evening would have witnessed the strange sight of about thirty "hosts" heavily scented with Old Spice and Brylcreem, chasing a bus full of WRAC birds. B Company's guests had arrived and what was to prove a highly successful visit had begun.

The visit included a trip to the Border, tea in bed (WRAC only) and the dance which took place in the Cinema on Saturday the 17th. The competition to take tea to the WRACs in the morning was intense and almost matched the ingenuity used to get an invitation into their block. One nameless soldier found himself caught between heaven (WRAC girl friend hauling him into the block through a window) and hell (platoon commander hanging onto his legs outside).

The dance went well and as far as we know everyone behaved himself apart from one uninvited guest from C Company who retired hurt by a piece of plaster of paris, wielded with great effect by a friend of B Company

(sixteen stitches).

"Hullo 6, this is 63, I'm being shot at".

Away to the left of a long low feature which the Company had just cleared, an LMG from 5 Platoon was busy engaging what they considered to be a legitimate target. Luckily the Recce Platoon's speed of reaction under fire was commendably swift and backwards.

While doing field firing we experimented with the use of grenades and PE as fishing aids, with some success; and while on the march L/Cpl. Taylor discovered that snakes like to keep warm at night. All of which was good experience to add to that of the battle run with its speed and freedom of manoeuvre.

* * *

"Wish we were back on our feet"! This has been the sad lament for over a year now. After the night navigation marches in Libya many opinions have been changed. Two night marches were carried out; one of 20 kms. and one of 16. The first of these proved to us two very important lessons, and to Cpl. Watson, three. Firstly we found ourselves relying completely on our compasses although certain of us tended to disbelieve them on occasions. Stories of a large magnetic field halfway across the desert were told by Cpl. Leaman, and Sgt. Finn remained convinced that the local authorities should be informed of the vast untapped mineral wealth in the country. Secondly, the fact that we are optimistic individuals made us make light of the distance and we were all convinced that we had reached our objectives when we were in fact about three miles short. Cpl. Watson learned that the desert is



"The competition to take tea to the WRACs in the morning was intense . . ."



'O' Group Ex "Eternal Triangle". Major Henderson, B Company.

occupied by people other than friendly patrols. Having followed a tribe of Bedouins for quite a considerable distance he discovered their true identity and spent the rest of the night cursing with true Geordie spirit the unfortunate ancestors of his unwitting enemy.

Although the sangars erected on the defensive position never actually looked like the Ideal Homes Exhibition, the weather held out and for three days our miseries were not increased in this respect. The escarpment looming up to the South provided "Ali Peat" and his notorious assistant "Osman bin Osborne" with a likely base from which to strike fear into the hearts of the stalwart defenders. On the first night Sgt. Lines and 9 Platoon brought back news relating their precipitous journeys up and down the wadis. It seems that a well-sited bush prevented serious injury to Sgt. Lines, who found accidentally that the quickest way down was falling! Although the guerillas were on a seemingly unscalable plateau, Lt. Drinkwater and 11 Platoon turned the odds and mounted a decisive if controversial fighting patrol. Patrolling thus encountered new hazards which made this phase of training a change from similar activities at Soutau, although whenever trip flares are laid it is as well to know where they are, as L/Cpl. Sylvester found when searching for his evening meal from his standing patrol position. On ambushes it was nothing short of sheer coincidence that a patrol from another unit should choose to walk up the same wadi as our exercise enemy. However by this stage 10 Platoon were prepared to take

on all comers—much to the surprise of some wanderers from 1 Worcesters.

All in all we enjoyed ourselves and learned a lot, which after all, as a certain tall, well built officer was heard to remark, was why we went!

"Triangle" was voted interesting, sleepless and occasionally amusing. For instance there was the time when Cpls. Dempsey and Barker narrowly escaped capture and subsequently threaded their way home through enemy lines and minefields in blissful ignorance that the tanks, from which they were trying to thumb lifts, belonged to the opposition.

The night crossing of the Weser carried its own peculiar brand of humour. We are all still wondering how it was that the boat, carrying a minefield breaching party and which so unfortunately overturned, happened to be loaded with the greater part of the Assault Pioneer stores. Sgt. Oxley maintains that no thought of the forthcoming Admin inspection so much as crossed his mind!

Sig. Cox's green gaiters are still a talking point in the Company. The topic was first raised by the General during the inspection. A more happy subject of conversation was Pte. Baxter's reply to the General that 'he re-enlisted in the Royal Anglians as a result of a tip-off from a friend in the Royal Irish Fusiliers.'

Libya was chiefly noted for L/Cpl. Herd's acid comments over the air. Since he was using call sign 9, none dared answer him back—over the air that is. What was said elsewhere can only be guessed at.

The Assault Pioneers now know that blisters look like. They have also learned that what is blown up must be dug out. However, they all suffered gladly in the cause of hygiene and handled a lot of interesting new equipment in the process.

The Recce Platoon's trip to Augila Oasis is reported elsewhere in this magazine. A lesser known odyssey was Cpl. Sadler's journey across country to El Adem. We still think he only went for a bath but he insists there really was an error in navigation. 80 miles? You judge.

Now we are back, skiing is proving popular and a representative party from the Company is off to Oberammagau in March. We don't entirely agree with our non-skiers who refer to it as 'backsliding'—or maybe, on second thoughts . . .

* * *

The description often given by some to the largest company in an infantry battalion—that unmanageable, untrained mass, does not apply here. Unmanageable sometimes we may be, but untrainable mass we resent. After all, we have all been riflemen in our time and because of our specialist skills have been promoted to the 'large' company.

Failings, like all humans, we have, and the greatest is trying to produce material to interest others for this journal. What has happened during the last few months that merits mention in our notes? One can only guess that the adventures and activities are so original and rewarding that our contributors do not care to pass them on. A few facts have come to light. We have a new company commander, Major Garnett. Major Palmer remains with us for a while at Battalion HQ. The CSM is on his feet some three months after his accident—it must, however, be mentioned that it will be some time before he can advise those with dirty boots to look at his! Why?

The company club goes from strength to strength and its activities were well patronised over Christmas. The improved decor will, we hope, increase its popularity along with the recently introduced draught beer.

And so to our departments:—

And so to our departments:— (Nothing sent —Ed.)

* * *

In dead of night the barracks slowly emptied as the "Desert Rats" went to wage war once again in Libya; yet at 0815 hours the Minden

Square seemed to be full—the Rear Party had assembled! Let it be said now that most would much rather have been in Libya. However, someone had to look after barracks and wage the paper war and well! we did hear that conditions in the desert were not all that comfortable and, heaven forbid, the beer warm! As the stories came back our cheerfulness increased and our disappointment was soon forgotten.

Apart from the prevailing quietness life went on much as usual. We played sport and except for a horrible performance in a snowstorm, managed to force our football opponents to drawn matches.

As the weeks went by more and more people were asking when "the men" were coming home, but the news was all "hush-hush" and no one would tell. The day prior to the appointed day all was ready for the welcome home when a spokesman from a senior H.Q. told us that we could not expect to see them for at least another week. The wives looked at their "fatted calves", the cook sergeant at his full larder and the MTO at his fleet of buses; it looked as if all our efforts were to be in vain. But we had reckoned without the RAF. "Lay it all on again," came the cry, and sure enough, to the day and almost to the time, the men came back home. (Did your Daddy bring you a tortoise?).

* * *

The Band report that they plough onwards leaving a trail of successful engagements in their wake.

L/Cpl. Jim Dodson who has gone to enlarge the civilian population and Cpl. Christie has managed to get himself on the establishment of the Junior Soldiers Wing. Into the breach has stepped Bds. Davison and Hunter, home again after the arduous spell at Kneller Hall, and from the Junior Soldiers Wing, Bds. Ford and Coleman.

December is best remembered for the rather lavish engagement that we contracted to do in a country little visited by Military Bands, the place in question being Switzerland. The occasion was the Premier of the film "Khartoum" and the work we did was certainly overshadowed by the cordiality and entertainment that was showered on us. We began to wonder whether we had been sent to entertain or be entertained. We were inevitably caught up in the Christmas festivities, concerts, programmes, carol services and the like all of which serve to justify our existence.

Advance to Libya

I believe it was on Christmas Eve when I was told. But I can't be sure. The events of that traditionally hazy season are more than usually clouded by the events which immediately followed.

'A nice quiet sea cruise' they called it. 'You lucky fellow' they added. Certain other expressions were used. 'Wish I was going myself' occurred frequently—so frequently that I began to wonder if I was indeed undeservedly fortunate. The day was not far off when I should be sending postcards 'wish you were here' and cursing as I wrote.

The advance party to Libya was our lot and, indeed, the itinerary would have done justice to the programming genius of Messrs Luxury Tours Ltd. By air to Malta stopping only at Nice to drink a Campari and ogle the Mademoiselles on the Promenade des Anglais. A couple of days including New Years Eve in which to sample the vaunted tourist attractions of this jewel of the Mediterranean. Then by ship to Cyprus where, after a short but delightful few days on this sunny island, we once again answer the call of the sea and em-

Mortar Team, C Company.



"Surely it doesn't mean straight up?" Ptes. Berry, Tyre, Hornby, A Company.

bark for the sandy shores of Cyrenaica.

On 28th December we duly assembled in the gymnasium under the watchful eye of that air movement expert, Lieut. Tim Waugh, our semi-detached Royal Signals officer. Thanks to his monumental efforts, we encoached for Gutersloh. All 50 of us. Or was it 49? There appeared to be some doubt on this point. The third recount finally convinced us that we were 49. But the manifest say 50. But everyone has answered his name. Re-check. 49. Re-check manifests. Isn't there a number between 30 and 32? Send for unit education Officer. Lt. Waugh is the UEO. He confirms there is such a number as 31. Send for reserve, Pte. Mulley. Now we are 50. Let's go.

Many hours, or so it seems, later, we arrive at Gutersloh. 5 Regt. RA are our hosts for the night and look after us most kindly and well. Thank you 5 RA. We are a mixed bunch. You could even call us representative. RAC, Sappers, RCT, REME, RAMC—you name it, we had it. Such a variety had its complications.

For instance, there was the unit which failed to send its baggage in time to catch our load-

ing party. Sgt. Ferrier met us at Gutersloh. He looked jaded. He was jaded. Yes, all the baggage was loaded. No, it had not been easy. The aircrew had been very careful. Everything had to be stowed just so. No, there was no more room. Sgt. Ferrier was looking forward to a rapid dissolution of his not inconsiderable thirst.

We had news for Sgt. Ferrier. We went to the airfield. It was late. We wandered round the aircraft. It was deserted. We found a telephone. Eventually we found the aircraft Captain the other end of the telephone. 'A couple of bags? Sure go ahead and sling them on'. We sweated and grunted for some time and eventually got the late baggage loaded. Cases were jammed in impossible crevices and kit bags slung on any old how. This by torchlight. We were reluctant to pull too many knobs in the control cabin—after all you never know.

Early the following morning saw the whole party at the airfield. Everything went like clockwork and, in record time, all were sitting in the Argosy waiting for take off. All except me. I was sitting in the lounge waiting for the gentleman who was to change our money into sterling. A little later both he and I were sitting in his office waiting for the safe key. They say time is money. That day I spent a lot of the one trying to get the other.

Finally we were off. It was a pleasant trip, but slow. Nice was nice (no pun intended) but all we saw was the airport lounge. The only madamoiselle we saw struck no amorous spark from our party. 'If she's the one from Armentiere I don't know what all that singing was about' was the remark that summed up most of our reactions.

Luqa airport saw the start of a memorable stay in Malta which for some of us proved longer than expected. Finally on the credit side was the reception and tremendous hospitality we received from our 4th Battalion including a conducted coach tour of the island and New Years Eve parties. It will be a long time before any of us on that advance party forget their kindness and assistance.

The LST "Charles Macleod" provided us with beds for the night and in her we were to sail at noon on 1st January arriving off Fama-gusta on 4th January. Did I say beds for the night? Arriving back on board in the very early hours, I was amused to find that the Yale lock on my cabin door had clicked shut.

It was less amusing to discover that I had no key. If ever you feel an inclination to force a porthole, subdue it. Short of oxy-acetylene equipment it can't be done. The little there was left of the night, I spent reclining on a convenient seat. A couple of hours later, I awoke surrounded by a trio of grinning Chinese who seemed to find the whole situation a matter for extreme mirth. Since their command of the English tongue was limited to 'Gooda Mornink', communications were difficult. Eventually a key was produced.

After breakfast, the Captain came aboard and affairs flourished. Making conversation one asked him casually what time on 4th January we could expect to dock. I was regarded as one mad. It was explained to me as to a small child that—

- a. The LST "Charles Macleod" was not a destroyer.
- b. A considerable expanse of liquid element lay between Malta and Cyprus.
- c. Going flat out (9½ knots) we would be damned lucky to get there before 6th January.
- d. If those things I was waving under his nose were my movement instructions I could put them where Fanny kept her geegaws because facts were facts.

This was bad. Could the Captain put forward the sailing date by a day? The Captain would try. It is New Year's Eve and suddenly one feels one has contracted leprosy. Ashore to Movements. Essential some of the party at least get to Cyprus soonest. Movements are sympathetic and helpful, though somewhat pre-occupied with the urgent problems of transporting the General's budgerigar to U.K. There is a possibility of flights for six on 1st or 3rd January. Send signals. Back to ship to wait replies. Find "Charles Macleod" has water in her oil storage tanks. She cannot sail today. Nor can he! Back to Movements. Stupified to learn that the Argosy which brought us to Malta went on to Cyprus empty at 0800 hours this morning! Everyone trying to help. "Charles Macleod" agrees to sail at 0700 hours the following morning.

It is getting late and the revellers depart for their various parties. I stay on board with the duty officer and a bottle of gin. Still awaiting replies to signals. They don't come. Midnight, ring out the old etc. We go on deck to sound off on the ship's siren. No steam in the siren

so we content ourselves with the ship's bell and shout insults at the US Navy Depot ship anchored nearby. We go below again feeling better.

We sailed at 0700 in 1967 leaving six of our number with 4th Battalion. Will we ever see them more? Still no reply to our signals. We sailed into a force 7 wind. The ship's officers proudly claim that LSTs have been known to roll badly in dew. We believe them. Many of us not feeling too good. Scandalous waste of good food. After a day or so the wind abated and the sun shone. Dolphins gambolled about our bows and all was right with the world. Pale faces emerged from the bowels of the ship and assumed their unaccustomed places at meal time.

The sad history of Sgt. Russell must here be related. He was one of the unfortunates who succumbed early and horribly to mal de mer. One lunch time, recovered but uncertain, he appeared at the dinner table. It was in the highest degree unfortunate that he should break a tooth during this repast and be sentenced to spend the remainder of the voyage in agony of toothache.

We arrived in some trepidation at Famagusta but were relieved to find that our air party from Malta had indeed got there before us. It was even more gratifying to find that, with considerable help from our 2nd Battalion a large part of the work had already been done.

Three cheers for the large Regiment

In both Malta and Cyprus we were made to feel at home and among friends and the help and support we received was tremendous.

The "Charles Macleod" was loaded and set sail for Torbruk the same day and we set to work to complete the tasks of preparing vehicles and stores for loading on the LST "Empire Tern" on 8th January and on the "Macleod" on 11th January.

On 8th January we went confidently down to the docks to watch the "Empire Tern" dock. I suppose we should have known better. Everyone was most kind. They explained there could never have been any possibility of her arriving before 10th January. No one looked at me. It is embarrassing to see a grown man cry.

On 9th January the "Empire Tern" docked. At 1000 hours we were ready and waiting. At 1200 hours we were still waiting. In reply to my query, I was informed that Famagusta boasted a house of many delights much favoured by the Chinese crew who were consequently staging a 'go slow' to avoid sailing again that day. Fortunately, we loaded in good time and set sail for Torbruk before dusk leaving behind a party to load the "Macleod" on 11th January and cross in her.

We arrived off Tobruk at dawn on 12 January. We were still lying off Tobruk at midday. The breeze was blowing in the wrong direction and we could not enter port until it changed. Looking at the harbour, something caught my eye. I raised my glasses and studied a familiar shape. There she was. The LST "Charles Macleod", stormbound in Tobruk by that same gentle zephyr that was keeping us out. I think it was then we started to laugh. There comes a time you know. We thought vaguely of the Battalion arriving in a few short days and it didn't seem to matter. In fact it was rather funny. Everything seemed funny.

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Men of 4/6 Royal Lincolns (TA), future members of 2 Company 5 Royal Anglian, being briefed by WOII Morriss prior to Exercise "Snowballs".

4th/6th Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (TA)

After almost a hundred years association with the town of Stamford the A Company Drill Hall closed in January and the men of the Company continuing to serve dispersed either to Peterborough or Boston for service with the AVR. The Mayor of Stamford gave a reception to mark the handing over to the Borough, on loan, of three pieces of silver for display with the town plate.

Our historic connection with Grimsby and Grantham has also now been severed.

The final Battalion Exercise took place on 8-9th October and a formidable affair

it was. 863 (Mov. Lt.) Sqn. RE (TA), the Lincolnshire County Constabulary and contingents of CCF and ACF took part. Under the name "Running Poacher" the Exercise represented the Battalion as a unit living in enemy occupied territory which had dispersed to their homes.

In order to rendezvous with friendly Guerrillas, to mount an offensive operation, 4 6 R Lincolns moved in small groups to a concentration area in Sherwood Forest. This involved movement on foot amounting to twenty miles and crossing the River Trent by assault boats.

The final stages between 1 and 5 a.m. across the rougher stretches of the Proteus training area produced some very weary warriors indeed.

In November three teams took part in the Northern Command Night March Competition and so heavy was the rain that when two water logged members of his team collapsed OC C Company was heard debating whether a military or naval funeral would be more appropriate.

The Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brig. P. W. P. Green visited Lincoln for the Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service at the Cathedral. The Band and Corps of Drums played, both during the Service and for the march past afterwards. The Queen's colour was carried by 2/Lt. G. B. Sykes and the Guard was commanded by Major J. W. Hayton.

The Christmas festivities included the traditional and celebrated Gainsborough Christmas Shot. Everyone won a prize of some description and Major Henry Marshall (retired) carried out his hereditary duties as Range Warden.

A very small but distinguished party spent a

week at the Rothiemurchus Hut in the Cairngorms on 'Winter Warfare Training'. Sgt. Platt, PSI, as chief Ski Instructor organised reveille earlier than the first sheep bleat.

With effect from 1 April, 1967, the locations state will be as follows:—

5 (V) Royal Anglian.

2 Company—Lincoln.

Royal Lincolns (T).

Battalion HQ and A Company—Lincoln.

B Company—Gainsborough.

C Company—Boston.

Lt.-Colonel Moore leaves us in March after eighteen months to assume command of 5 (V) Royal Anglian.

Congratulations to Major B. S. Foster who is to be promoted to command The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (Territorial).

Of the longer serving members of 4/6 Royal Lincolns, ORQMS Ward is to join the permanent staff of the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry, and RQMS Toyne is to continue to serve with Royal Lincolns (T).

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Lt. Scott-Jupp searching 'dissidents' after a local cordon and search operation at East Dereham.

4 Royal Norfolk try out a new role

There are a few changes in the deployment of the new Unit. Battalion Headquarters will move from the traditional home of The Royal Norfolk Regiment at Britannia Barracks, to the modern Training Centre (TC) at Aylsham Road, Norwich.

For the traditionally minded this is considered to be a sad loss and severance with all the historic memories connected with Britannia Barracks. However, the TC Aylsham Road is centrally heated, is well-equipped for training and recreation and affords much that the old barracks could never offer. Located with Bn. HQ will be A Company and two Specialist Platoons, The Signal Platoon and Assault Pioneer Platoon.

The TC at Great Yarmouth continues and will contain a detachment of A Company and the Battalion Reconnaissance Platoon. The TC at East Dereham continues and B Company will be deployed there, the TC at King's Lynn will have no Regimental representation and is to be given up to the Norfolk A.C.F. who will continue to use the facilities at the TC.

The Command of the new Unit will be undertaken by our present Second-in-Command, Major C. B. Grant, MC, TD. A very well-deserved appointment too.

The following are the principal appointments from 1st April 1967:

Commanding Officer—Major C. B. Grant, MC, TD.

2 i/c—Major P. W. Raywood, TD.

RSM—WO I W. Simons.

OC A Company—Major E. R. Cousins.

2 i/c A Company—Capt. (QM) F. Ayers.

CSM—WO II W. Banthorpe.

CQMS—C/Sgt. L. Hudson.

OC B Company—Major J. B. Salter, TD.

2 i/c—B Company—Capt. R. M. Weatherhogg.

CSM—WO II C. Snowling.

CQMS—C/Sgt. R. Ransom.

The Administrative Officer who will replace the present Adjutant and Quartermaster on reorganisation will be Capt. T. W. Chatting. He is already well known to the Battalion as



Lt.-Colonel A. W. J. Turnbull and Major C. B. Grant (CO designate) briefing officers taking part in the Exercise.

he has previously served with us as Quartermaster and MTO in the 4th Battalion.

The new role of the Unit will be broadly, duties in aid of the Civil authorities. The duties will range from support in the event of national disaster, to local support that requires the assistance of disciplined manpower that can be mobilised quickly to give help where it is required.

The first exercise based upon our new role took place on 25/26 February 1967. It was a Joint exercise involving the Norfolk Civil Defence and The Norfolk County Constabulary. The exercise aim was for sub unit Commanders to work in co-operation with the Police and Civil Defence at the appropriate levels, to establish Joint Headquarters to command and control various parts of Norfolk that had been affected by nuclear attacks. On the Saturday night two Rifle Companies were required to mount cordon and search operations, set up road blocks and establish vulnerable point guards. This part of the operation was carried out in the King's Lynn and Dereham areas. In the early hours of Sunday morning the Companies were moved into the Stanford Practical Training Area where local dissidents were causing further trouble. On the Sunday

morning the Battalion was used to evacuate civilians from various villages in the Battle Area which were lying in the 'Z' Zone fall-out area of a Nuclear Strike. During this Exercise the Norfolk ACF provided enemy forces and also represented the civilian population for the 'Z' Zone clearance. Battalion Headquarters was established at Watton Police Station which provided good communications and made an ideal CP.

The Battalion is now in the process of moving to the Training Centre at Aylsham Road, Norwich and already preparations are being made for Annual Camp. This year we are to spend eight days from 24 June-1 July, 1967, at St. Martin's Plain, Folkestone. For once we have been allocated a hutted Camp which will be an improvement over recent years. One member who will not be coming to Camp this year is C/Sgt. Turner who has served with the Battalion for many years. We wish him every success for the future. We are however, hoping to take several new members to Camp with us particularly those who have transferred to us from 251 Fd. Pk. Sqn. RE (TA). To Captain R. M. Weatherhogg and Sgt. Sexton together with the others a very warm welcome is extended.

THE BULLET PUSHING POACHERS



B Company Team, winners of the Falling Plate Competition.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was designed to give practice to our teams for the District Rifle Meeting. It was highly successful and, *mirabile dictu*, ran exactly to time.

Companies practiced long and hard both day and night. C Company fired so much by night that they became incapable of shooting with accuracy by day. All the background music to the shooting competition could be heard during the rifle meeting. There were protests, objections, queries and rechecks; the rules were read and re-read, interpreted this way and that and the whole concerto reached its 'finale' when

OC C Company objected to a B Company infringement which, unknown to him, had been perpetrated by his own Company as well. B Company and Trg. Company tied for first place but B Company were adjudged the winners in accordance with the rules. The Champion Platoon was 5 Platoon and the runners up were the Recce Platoon.

In the District Meeting, the Battalion put up a united front and very thoroughly beat I Y and L in the Inter-Battalion Competition and obtained eight out of the first twelve Platoon

L/Cpl. Kelly receiving a medal for reaching the "Cyprus 24". His father will be pleased with "the chip off the old block".



placings. Every match entered by the Battalion teams was won on aggregate. The SMG Competition, and the Falling Plate Competition open to all units, were won by the Battalion teams.

Champion Platoon—Capt. Winckley, Cpl. Dalton, L/Cpl. Barber, Cpl. Graves, L/Cpl. Kelly and Pte. Wall.

SMG Competition—Major Paul, Major Taylor, Cpl. Simpson, Cpl. Matthews, L/Cpl. Travis and Pte. Twohig.

Falling Plate—WOII McColgan, Lt. Brett, L/Cpl. Taylor, Cpl. Bloor, Cpl. Beeby, and Sgt. Norton.

Capt. Winckley, Sgt. Greenfield, L/Cpl. Barber and Pte. Salter all won individual match prizes. Nine of our team members took places in the Cyprus 24.

Capt. Winkley 4th; Pte. Salter 5th; WOII McColgan 7th; Sgt. Norton 10th, Pte. Carritt 13th; L/Cpl. Gomershall 16th; Cpl. Dalton 18th; L/Cpl. Taylor 19th; Sgt. Gridley 24th.



Pte. Salter collecting his trophy as winner of the Deliberate Shoot.



Pictured left to right: L/Cpl. Brian Fox a production worker, Cpl. Brian Green who is usually a lorry driver, and I./Cpl. Eric Rogers a local government officer. They are taking part in the annual inter-Battalion competition of 161 Infantry Brigade (TA).

Brigade Competitions fog-bound as reported by **I Beds/Herts TA**

In late August, with our new Commanding Officer firmly at the helm, our thoughts turned to the autumn competitions. The battalion shooting team spent many pleasant days on the range while the Regimental Band seized every opportunity to prepare themselves for their competition. The remainder of the battalion were engaged in practice for the Brigade Competitions. The chosen day for the battalion competitions arrived and with it quite the worst weather in September.

RIFLE MEETING SUCCESS

We achieved our major success of the year at the Divisional Rifle Meeting where we finished third. The 161 Inf. Bde. competition was run in conjunction with the main meeting and this we won. We finished off the week-end with numerous other prizes and as the sun was sinking, both our A and B teams were seen

firing in the semi-final of the falling plate. Much credit for our success must go to RSM Charlesworth who, as non-firing captain, was a tower of strength.

The Band were rewarded by coming third in the Divisional competition at the Duke of York's Headquarters. Unfortunately there was no competition for the Corps of Drums, which we all thought somewhat marred the occasion, especially as it was the last competition before reorganisation.

October duly arrived "together with fog and the Brigade Competitions". The week-end was a memorable one. Despite tremendous efforts from DS and competitors alike the competitions could not be finalised and the Mortar Shoot was eventually held in November. Thanks to a keen section and help from WOII Holland from 4 Royal Norfolk, during annual camp, we were able to substantiate our third position.

"FLY BY NIGHT"

As usual No. 1 Company sent a team to the Middlesex Tough Training Competition and although they did not retain their visitor's cup, they acquitted themselves well. Our own competition based on an escape and evasion setting was held in mid-November. This started four years ago on a small company/battalion exercise based on No. 4 Company at Bedford. This year, on its final occasion, Exercise Fly by Night V, had 370 competitors drawn from units throughout Eastern Command. For those of us who ran it, it was a most enjoyable exercise, and we hope all those who took part benefited from it in some way.

With the last of our major training commitments for 1966 behind us our thoughts turn very much to the re-organisation and to forming our new AVR III unit. We were very lucky to arrive at a working agreement with the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Yeomanry at an early stage and this has helped all concerned to get down to the meat of things.

On the 1st January our Companies formed up in their new locations which are now to be:
No. 1 Company, Signal Platoon, Recce

Platoon and Bn. HQ at Hertford.

No. 2 (Hertfordshire Yeomanry) Company at Hemel Hempstead.

No. 3 (Bedfordshire Yeomanry) Company at Luton.

No. 4 Company and the Assault Pioneers at Bedford.

Elements of the Yeomanry and 248 Field Squadron RE have joined us in training.

Before the re-organisation on the 31st March we had hoped to finish off on a happy note by Laying up the 1st Hertfordshire Regiment Colours in Hertford in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. Unfortunately, owing to ill-health, this could not take place, and the honour and privilege has now been bestowed on the new unit and preparation is already well under way. We all hope that the keenness at present being shown will continue and that the parade in July next will be a resounding success.

Lt.-Colonel J. V. Miseroy and all the Permanent Staff who have had the privilege of serving with the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment during the past few years wish its successor every good fortune in the years to come.

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L/Cpl. Dodds and Pte. Keech of the Orderly Room with the charming Virginia Graham of the CSE show, "Starlight Rendezvous".

SPORTS REPORT

*This 'Sport' is more in our
line (Late Editor)*

FROM BURY

The Depot Football team continue to have an unbeaten record in Army games as they did last season.

They are top of the District League and are already in the District Final of the Eastern Command Cup Competition.

With the increased pressure in Army football, they have no time for civilian mid-week football, but a number of the team play for local clubs at weekends.

Of the players, L/Cpl. Farnham has played for the Army; Cpl. Holmes has made an enthusiastic job of Captain and we are sorry that he is leaving shortly. S.I. Baxter has arrived to take over the Gym and the words "Football training" are often heard, though not heeded through lack of time. Cpls. Missen and McDonnell are sunning themselves in Bermuda just now but we hope to have them back for the end of the season finals.

The 1st round of the Army Cup Hockey was lost 5-3 against 19 Regt. R.A. Considering this was major unit v. minor it was a fair

performance. On the whole the hockey team has not fared too well. Stalwarts of the side have been RSM Cotter, WO1 Kinson and CSM1 Tarpley, and some sound (and helpful) umpiring from WO11 Collison.

CROSS COUNTRY WITH THE 4th

After a most successful season last year we were anxious to maintain our hard earned reputation untarnished. Training commenced in early November, building up to the Inter Company Championship which was held on 5th January. The race was run over, 4½ miles at St. Patricks and 70 runners took part.

The race was won by last year's winner, Sgt. Patrick of A Company, with Pte. Chapman (HQ) second and Pte. Peacock (B Company) third. The winning team, A Company, were the holders with B Company second.

In order to widen the experience of the team a trip to Cyprus was arranged and we took part in the Cyprus Championships held at Dhekelia on Saturday, 21st January, 1967. The course was somewhat larger than our accustomed distance. It was 7 miles and with many



Why watch wrestling on tele when you can have the real thing with the 2nd Bn.—grunts and groans included! The referee is Sgt. Gordon, the wrestlers are incognito.

more hills than one encounters in Malta. We did not disgrace ourselves, finishing a good second to 2 Royal Anglian in the team event. Individually, Sgt. Patrick had a particularly fine run finishing a close second to Sgt. Burt of 9 Signal Regiment.

The experience and intensive training which we put in both during and subsequent to the Cyprus trip was to pay great dividends very

soon.

The Malta Garrison Championships were held on Friday, 27th January, at RAF SAFI the main contestants being 4 Royal Anglian and 1 Loyals. Both Battalions entered two teams, some 32 runners thus faced the starter. The result was an overwhelming success for us as we filled the first 16 places. Our A team came first with 21 points and our B team



Left to right: Cpl. B. Harman, L/Cpl. Waqairoba, Sgt. T. Elliott, L/Cpl. C. Dutton, Lt. R. Howe, Capt. P. B. J. Carr, playing for the Army Rugby side against the Navy in Malta, 1967.

second with 65 points. The individual title went to Sgt. Patrick the holder, Pte Peacock was second and Pte. O'Sullivan of T Company third.

Eight of our team were picked to run in the Inter Services Championships for the Army, but on the day of the race one dropped out with 'flu and was replaced by a signaller. This race, held on 22nd February, was an outstanding success for the Army who had their eight runners home in the first nine places, the odd man out being a sailor. The individual winner was Pte. Kennerley (B Company) with Sgt Patrick second.

The latest success of the Battalion team was to win the Malta Amateur Athletics Association Championships. Lord Burleigh the Olympic hurdler was visiting the island and presented the prizes.

POMPADOUR ATHLETES DO WELL

As the only Infantry Battalion to enter the Middle East Athletic Championships, the team came second to the QDG putting up a spirited fight. Considering the fact that the vast

majority of the training was done in spare time, it was an excellent result.

Pte. Jardine won the 220 yards in a new record time of 22.4 seconds. L/Cpl. George won both the 120 and 440 yards hurdle events, and Pte. de Cunha won the long jump and triple jump. Lt. Shervington, 2/Lt. Johnson and Pte. Chalk also reported to the prizewinners' table.

The athletes must, however, accept one very black mark.

At 1830 one evening there was a report made by Check Point Charlie that a strange post had appeared on the beach. There were also footmarks in the area.

The IS Company Command was ordered to investigate. Motoring down the beach they came to a lone SWB Landrover which shone its lights onto the offending object. It was a strange white post set in the beach below the high water mark.

The SWB sergeant looked puzzled. The Company Comd. approached cautiously and told the pioneers to get ready for mine detecting. He also ordered his orderly to get out the

2nd Battalion undefeated at basketball.



wire carried to pull strange objects from a safe distance.

From the rear vehicle of the command group a voice suddenly called out 'I know what it is'. A long lean athletic figure approached. Walking up to the strange post he kicked it out of the ground and laughed.

'It's the marker we used for athletics training this afternoon'.

The sergeant of the SWB looked crestfallen. The Company Commander muttered something about athletes into his beard before explaining to the sergeant that he had indeed done the right thing in reporting it.

Honour was salvaged and another 'incident' finalised.

Despite the pressure under which the Battalion is working we have tried to enter for at least some of the sports. We do not get as much opportunity for football as we would have liked, but we do manage the odd game. We entered two knockout competitions. In the

Not the 'Bafut Beagles' but the Dhekelia Drag Hunt meeting outside the Officers Mess. The CO and the one time puppy he walked. The Master (our Brigadier) looks on.



first we lost 1-0 to the eventual winners after extra time and the second is still being played.

Cpls. Musicka and Taylor, and Ptes. Peck and March, have a regular position in the Brigade team which plays in the Aden Joint Services Floodlight League.

CYPRUS A SPORTING PARADISE?

BASKETBALL

S/Sgt. Jones (APCT) is to be congratulated on training a Basketball team that was undefeated throughout the season.

League matches, won by convincing margins, were the prelude to the winning of the Major Units Cup. The semi-final was won by 32 points, and the final by 21. A clear indication of superiority.

S/Sgt. Jones and Sgt. Baker formed the spearhead of a well-balanced, co-ordinated team which should soon be showing its paces in UK competitions.

CROSS COUNTRY

All competitions entered were comfortably won, including the Major Units Cup Competition.

Pte. Gray ran consistently well, taking third place in Cyprus District Individual Championships.

The Poachers were represented in the Army team by Capt. Spacie, L/Cpl. Halewood, Ptes. Birkett, Lonergan, Gray, Woods and Marlow. This majority representation helped the Army A and B teams to win the Inter-Services Championship.

SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sixteen trophies were won by five members of the Poachers Ski team in an Army meeting. It was dominated by the Regimental side to such an extent that the Army side, which won the Inter-Services competition, was in fact the 2nd Battalion team.

This meeting was a personal triumph for L/Cpl. Hardy, Army Champion and winner of the Downhill Slalom and Combined Alpine events, besides excellent performances in all team events.

In addition to L/Cpl. Hardy's achievements, the following results indicate the Regimental success:

Army Team Championship

1st—2 Royal Anglian A Team.
Cpl. Galpin, L/Cpl. Hardy, L/Cpl. Burns,
Pte. Carritt.
3rd—2 Royal Anglian "B" Team".
Cpl. Garside, L/Cpl. Arnold, Bds. m.
McCune, Capt. Houchin.

The "A" Team plus Cpl. Garside, formed the Army Team in the Inter-Services Championships.

Downhill

2nd—Pte. Carritt.
4th—Cpl. Galpin.
7th—Cpl. Garside.
8th—L/Cpl. Burns.

Slalom

8th—Pte. Carritt. ()
10th—L/Cpl. Burns.

Army Championship

2nd—Pte. Carritt.

SWIMMING

The main effort was concentrated on Life-Saving Awards. Having won the Cyprus and World Wide Competitions in 1965, we are again the Cyprus Champions. World Wide results are still awaited.

Cpls. Rawes, Doyle, Cook, gained the RLSS distinction award, and 178 other awards were gained within the Battalion.

SQUASH

The Rifle Companies Team is running level at the top of the Minor Units League, with two games to play.

The Battalion team fought their way into the Major Units Final, but lost to a very strong RAPC side after a close and exciting match.

SOCCER

The Soccer team started badly, with rather embarrassing results. However, a strict training programme was operated under the eagle eye of CSM Smith and S/Sgt. Jones (APTC). We are not yet world-beaters, but a steady improvement is evident and we have the nucleus of a good side for next season.

The Battalion reached the semi-final of the Army Cup, losing by the only goal of the game.

The team has been moulded around four stalwarts in Pte. Shoot, L/Cpl. Cranmer, Pte. Carter and Pte. Lindsey, whose play and enthusiasm never flagged, in spite of their many partners.

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obituaries

CPL. HERBERT

Cpl. Herbert who was aged 20 and came from Luton, died on 3rd March, 1967 as a result of injuries received in a traffic accident in Aden two days before. He joined the Army as a boy in April, 1962 and was trained at the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion. In July, 1964 he was posted to the 3rd Battalion in Berlin and had remained with the Battalion since that time. He was appointed L/Cpl. in July, 1965 and promoted substantive Cpl. in May, 1966, when still only 19. Cpl. Herbert was a most promising NCO and a popular and loyal member of the Regiment whose death has left a sad gap in our midst.

PTE. RODGERS

Pte. Rodgers whose home was in Barnsley died in Aden from natural causes on 4th March, 1967. He was aged 33. Rodgers had been with the Regiment for 11 years having first joined the 1st Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment in May, 1956. He saw service with 1 Royal Lincolns and 2 East Anglian in Malaya, BAOR and UK and was a very well known member of the Battalion MT and well liked by all with whom he came into contact. He gave continuous loyal service to the Regiment, and he could always be relied upon to do his job well. He will long be remembered and missed.

CPL. RICHARD WATSON

Corporal Watson enlisted in the Regiment in 1962 and in the 3rd Bn. proved a keen and

able soldier. He was promoted to L/Cpl. early in his career and served as B Company NCO in both Ireland and Berlin. During his period of service in Berlin he married Miss Patricia Mary Walkdon. Shortly after his marriage in 1965 he was promoted to Corporal, and he transferred from B Company to the Recce Platoon just before the Battalion left Berlin.

He moved to Aden with the Advance Party of the Battalion on the 12th October, 1966 and was mortally wounded in a patrol clash and died on 24th October. He was a popular member of the Battalion and is sadly missed. To his wife and baby daughter we offer our sincere condolences.

JOSEPH JOHN WAINWRIGHT

Pensioner, Sergeant Joseph John Wainwright joined The Northamptonshire Regiment on 5th August, 1913, one month after his eighteenth birthday. He went to France with the Regiment and served with it until transferring to the Machine Gun Corps in 1916. He served with them until 1921 when he rejoined The Northamptonshire Regiment and completed his engagement of twenty-one years on 4th August, 1934.

He lived in Huntingdon until 16th September, 1957 when he was admitted to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, as an In-Pensioner. He remained at Chelsea for just over nine years and died on 28th December, 1966 in the Infirmary at the age of 71 years.

MAJOR (QM) A. A. PILGRIM, MBE, MM

Alfred Pilgrim enlisted as a private soldier into the Northamptonshire Regiment in January, 1929. Before the war he saw service with both the 1st and 2nd Battalions, and it was while serving with the latter in Northern Ireland that he met his future wife.

During the war he served with the 2nd Battalion in Madagascar, Syria and Italy. In 1942 he was appointed RSM of the Battalion. He was mentioned in despatches after the Sicily invasion and won the Military Medal in the Anzio beachhead. When the 1st and 2nd Battalions amalgamated he remained RSM and assumed the same appointment when he was posted to the 5th Battalion TA in 1948. Two years later he retired and was commissioned

QM on Consolidated rates. In 1959 he was awarded the MBE, and in 1963, he became Adjutant to the 4th/5th Battalion. He continued in this position until his untimely death at the age of 55.

Alfred was a real stalwart of the 5th Battalion. He did an enormous amount of work, and covered a wide field of activities. He was always cheerful and had a friendly word for everyone, and was consequently popular, not only in the Battalion but throughout Peterborough, where he was well known. He was always willing to give up his spare time to extra-mural activities, in particular coaching the shooting team with marked success. He himself was a first class shot and, in his palmier days, a good sportsman and a particularly good hockey player. He was very active in fostering the social side of Battalion life and took a personal interest in running the Officers Mess and the TA Club.

It is hard to imagine the 4th/5th Battalion without Alfred at the centre of things, and it will be even harder to find a man of the calibre required to replace him. Our deepest sympathy goes to Isabel and the family in their great loss.

RQMS F. C. LOVESEY

Fred Lovesey gave a period of long and loyal service in the 10th Foot, noted for efficiency in Q matters and was one of the stalwarts who worked in the "Keep".

For 15 years he was Chairman of the Lincoln Branch of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association, and died in office. His quiet manner, good humour, and devotion to the Branch, of which he was so proud, brought to him the affection his service warranted.

On leaving the Army he became Assistant Registrar of the Lincoln County Hospital, a post he held at the time of his death. Representatives of all the hospitals in or near Lincoln were present at his funeral service.

He died suddenly, a widower, at Lincoln on 1st March, aged 63 years.

MAJOR (QM) F. W. WHITTINGHAM

'Dick' as he was commonly called, served in the ranks, and after reaching the rank of RQMS was commissioned as QM on 25th

August, 1932, to serve as such in the Lincolnshire Regiment until 27th September, 1947, when he retired to live a quiet life in Luton.

A well loved and most efficient officer, whose word was his bond. His fatherly advice was readily available to young subalterns on their joining the Regiment. In addition to his soldierly qualities, he was an exponent at billiards, bridge player and picking winners of race-horses, the latter pastime he enjoyed. He served in both World Wars I and II and left the Regiment a fit man with a distinguished record 'second to none'. He died, aged 74, at Luton on 14th March.

C/SGT. R. P. "CHIRPY" DAY

Served in the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment for a period of 28 years, 1932-1960. On leaving the service he became "mine host" of the Marquis of Granby Inn at Binbrook, and later of the Blue Bell Inn, East Cottingham, Yorkshire.

An old soldier of the finest type, who never lost his enthusiasm or zest for life. His loyalty, zeal and honesty was beyond question. Always taking a full part in all Regimental activities professional, sporting and social, he possessed an unflinching sense of humour which made for him a host of friends. His service in the band made him a clarinettist and saxophone player of high standing and gained for him the rank of Band Sergeant.

He died on 15th March, aged 49.

CARVOSSA WEST

Ex Private Carvossa (Chuff) West died at the Royal Hospital on 17th December, 1966, aged 75. Mr. West's military service commenced with the Northamptonshire Regiment in January, 1909, and he was transferred to the Essex Regiment in 1916, remaining with them until 1930. He served during the second World War with first the Dorsets, and finally the CMP until his discharge in August 1945.

A wonderful character, Chuff West, became an In Pensioner at Chelsea in 1962 and within the space of 18 months had first one, and then his second leg amputated. These setbacks did not daunt his spirit and he "got around" extremely well. He always attended the Warley Reunions and was with us again last year.

His funeral at Brookwood was attended by a very strong muster of Regimental Comrades.

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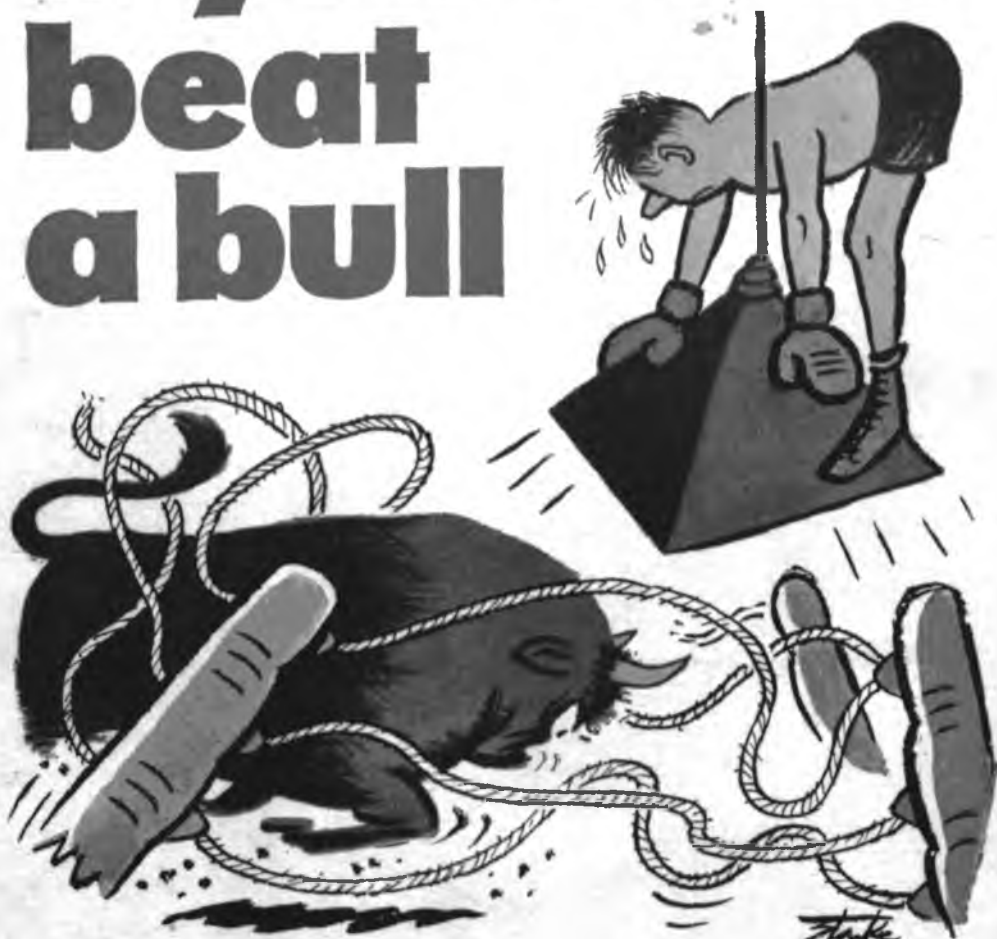


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