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Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowden, Deputy Colonel in Chief.
A portrait commissioned By The Officers Of The 3rd Battalion.

Painted by Richard Stone.



1st Battalion
(Norfolk, Suffolk and
Cambridgeshire)



2nd Battalion
(Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and
Northamptonshire)



3rd Battalion
(Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire
and Essex)

Castle

The Journal of The Royal Anglian Regiment

1982

Vol. 7 No. 1

Contents

Page
2 Regimental Appointments
4 Private Angle
11 Allied Regiments
12 Mainly About People
16 1st Battalion
24 The Poachers
36 The Pompadours
42 5th Battalion
45 6th Battalion
49 7th Battalion
54 Depot, The Queen's Division
56 Exercise Monte Bianco
58 The Regimental Association
60 Around The Branches
70 Army Cadet Force
74 Obituaries
80 The Regimental Shop
81 Journal Order Form

Editor:

Colonel P. D. Blyth. CBE
(retired)

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Our Cover

Reproduced from the original painting by Charles C. Stadden
of a Regimental Drummer against a background of the Abbey
Gate, Bury St. Edmunds.



Colonel-in-Chief:
HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

Deputy Colonels-in-Chief:
Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon
Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

Colonel of The Regiment:
Major-General J. B. Dye, CBE, MC, DL

Deputy Colonels of The Regiment
Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire: Major-General D. C. Thorne, CBE.
Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire: Major-General J. B. Akehurst, CBE
Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex: Major-General J. A. Ward-Booth, OBE

Deputy Honorary Colonels TA
Norfolk: Lieutenant Colonel A. W. J. Turnbull, MC.
Suffolk: Colonel C. C. Wells, TD, MA, DL.
Cambridgeshire: Colonel F. G. Barber, OBE, TD, DL.
Lincolnshire: Major-General D. A. H. Toler, OBE, MC, MA.
Leicestershire: Colonel R. G. Wilkes, OBE, TD, DL.
Northamptonshire: Colonel R. C. Jeffery, TD, DL.
Bedfordshire: Lieutenant Colonel C. R. Randall, OBE, TD, DL.
Hertfordshire: Major D. W. F. Willard, TD, JP.
Essex: Colonel G. C. P. Morgan.

ALLIED REGIMENTS

Canada
The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment
The Sherbrooke Hussars
The Lincoln and Welland Regiment
The Essex and Kent Scottish

Pakistan
5th Bn. The Frontier Regiment
Malaysia
1st Bn. The Royal Malay Regiment

Australia
The Royal Tasmania Regiment

Commonwealth Forces
The Barbados Regiment
The Bermuda Regiment
The Gibraltar Regiment

New Zealand
3rd Bn. (Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland)
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

REGIMENTAL LOCATIONS

Regimental Headquarters:

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. (0284-2394)

Regimental Secretary: Colonel P. D. Blyth CBE

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major A. G. B. Cobbold

Norfolk:

Britannia Barracks, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 4HJ. (0603-28455)

Area Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel A. W. J. Turnbull, MC.

Suffolk & Cambridgeshire:

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. (0284-5371)

Area Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel H. S. R. Case, MBE.

Lincolnshire:

Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY. (0522-25444)

Area Secretary: Captain A. Smith.

Northamptonshire:

Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton NN1 3RE. (0604-35412)

Area Secretary: Major E. P. Kelly, DCM.

Essex:

Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Essex CM13 3BN. (0277-213051)

Area Secretary: Major D. B. Riches

Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire:

24 Marlborough Park, Kempston, Bedford MK42 8AJ. (0234-43319)

Area Secretary: Major J. A. Girdwood.

Leicestershire:

Ulverscroft Road, Leicester LE4 6BY. (0533-22749)

Area Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel J. L. Wilson.

Regimental Careers Officer and Regimental Information Team:

Depot, The Queens Division, Bassingbourn. (0763-42271)

BATTALION AND DEPOT LOCATIONS

1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk & Cambridgeshire),
CELLE, BFPO 23 (Oakington Apr. 82)

Lieutenant Colonel J. R. Hart, MBE.
(Lieutenant Colonel A. J. K. Calder in
May 82)

2nd Battalion (Lincolnshire
Leicestershire & Northamptonshire),
Londonderry, BFPO 807

Lieutenant Colonel R. Howe, MBE
(Major D. J. W. Browne, MBE in
Oct. 82).

3rd Battalion (Bedfordshire,
Hertfordshire & Essex)
Meeanee Barracks, Colchester.

Lieutenant Colonel A. E. Thompson,
MBE, MC.

5th Battalion,
TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough

Lieutenant Colonel J. T. Wreford,
TD. (Major P. B. D. Long in Sept.
82)

6th Battalion,
TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds

Lieutenant Colonel D. W. James

7th Battalion,
TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester

Lieutenant Colonel D. R. Baily MBE
(Major H. W. Lambert in Apr. 82).

Depot The Queens Division,
Bassingbourn Barracks, Royston,
Hertfordshire, SG8 5LX.

Lieutenant Colonel
I. G. Baillie, Queens.

Private Angle

On Regimental Functions

Massed Bands on The Horseguards. On 9, 10 and 11 June the Massed Bands and Drums of the Queens Division, together with those of our affiliated Regiments, 5 and 10 UDR, paraded on the Horseguards. We sponsored the performance on 11 June and followed the parade with a highly successful Regimental Reception in the magnificent setting of the Banqueting Chamber, attended by over 800 guests and members of the Regiment or their forbears. Our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, honoured us by attending the parade and reception where our guests included Mr Phillip Goodhart, the VCGS, Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Morony, and the Headmasters of many of our affiliated schools. Our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief subsequently wrote to the Colonel of the Regiment saying that she had greatly enjoyed attending this memorable Regimental occasion at which "the presence and bearing

of all on parade was of the highest order and the quality of the musical programme was quite superb". As a result of the three performances over £15,000 has been contributed to the Army Benevolent Fund and to the Regimental Charities of those regiments taking part.



The Arrival of Our Deputy Colonel in Chief.



The Bands and Drums of The Queens Division.



The Bandmasters and Drum Majors of The Royal Anglian Regiment.

On Laying Up of Colours

On Sunday 21 June the TA Colours of the 4th and 5th Battalions of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment were laid up in Leicester Cathedral in the presence of the Chairman of the City Council, The Lord Mayor of Leicester, The Lieutenant of Leicester and the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire. The Colour Parties were drawn from HQ and B Companies of the 7th Battalion; B Company having moved to Leicester overnight after taking part in the Freedom of Boston Ceremony. The Senior ensign to the 4th Battalion Colours was Captain Tony Amos, an ex-Leicester, and for the 5th Battalion Colours, Lieutenant Alan Hemmings, an ex-Pompadour. With the presence of the 2nd Battalion Band, the Laying Up had a Regimental flavour, incorporating representatives from all Battalions, while for all those ex-Royal Leicesters in the Cathedral, the Laying Up of their TA Colours was the high spot of the Tigers' Weekend and a day to remember. The Colours are now kept in the 7th Battalion Officers Mess.

On The Regimental Reunion

The Regimental Reunion for 1982 will be held at Colchester on 5 June and will be sponsored by the 3rd Battalion.

On Regimental Headquarters

Currently our Royal Anglian Regimental Headquarters is at Bury St Edmunds, with seven Royal Anglian outstations at Norwich, Bury St Edmunds, Lincoln, Leicester, Northampton, Bedford and Warley which co-ordinate both Royal Anglian and former Regiments affairs in their areas. Sadly, the economies being demanded of the Services have led to a reduction from seven outstations to three, one in each of our regular battalion areas, with the result that over the next three years we will consolidate our Regimental outstations so that:

From March 1982 one outstation at Norwich will manage regimental matters in Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

From March 1983 one outstation at Warley will look after Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex.

From March 1984 one outstation will be responsible for Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire.

Regretably such a reduction in staff must affect the way our affairs are run, but throughout this reorganisation the interests of the various Regimental Associations of our Royal Anglian forbears will be a major consideration and everything possible will be done to assist with their continued smooth functioning and to create a secure base for the development of our Royal Anglian Association.



Salamanca Day. 169 years after its capture our eagle standard is carried through the ranks by CSgt Luckman.

On Salamanca Day

On 22 July The Pompadours celebrated Salamanca Day as is reported elsewhere in this issue. Unfortunately our Colonel-in-Chief was at the last minute prevented from attending by illness and so missed what promises to become a tradition—the trooping by Assault Pioneer CSgt Luckman of the original Eagle Standard of the French 62nd Regiment captured at Salamanca 169 years earlier. We were delighted to hear that Her Majesty made a rapid recovery and to receive the following telegram:

“I am so very sad that I cannot be with the 3rd Battalion of my Regiment today, an anniversary of such significance to all Pompadours. I know well how much trouble had been taken over the preparations for my visit and for this I am truly grateful. Please convey my warmest greetings to the Commanding Officer and to all ranks of the Battalion and my best wishes for a happy and successful Salamanca Day”.

On The Freedom of The Borough of Boston

On 20th June, The Borough of Boston presented the Freedom of The Borough to the 2nd Battalion in the presence of our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester. The parade was held in the Central Park and was followed by a march through the town with bands playing, Colours flying and bayonets fixed with the Salute being taken by the Mayor of Boston, Councillor C. Fovargue. The parade was followed by a Civic Luncheon and by those on parade being entertained in the local TA Centre.

The highlight of the day for all concerned was the presence of our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief and we are all grateful that Her Royal Highness was able to join us. Amongst those attending were the Colonel of the Regiment, GOC Eastern District, Major General R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright, The Deputy Honorary



The Deputy Colonel in Chief inspects the 7th Battalion Guard of Honour at Freedom of Boston.

Colonel TA Lincolnshire, Major General D. A. H. Toler, and Major General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, President of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association. Lord and Lady Yarborough also attended as representatives of the T & AVR Association, Lincolnshire.

Unfortunately the 2nd Battalion were unable to be present in force due to operational commitments, however they were represented by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel R. Howe, the Colour Party (Lieutenant R. Harrold, Queen's Colour, Second Lieutenant S. Brunt, Regimental Colour, WO2 Halewood, CSgt Pearman and CSgt Moore) and the Band. The RSM, WO1 Underwood MM, was also present just to keep an eye on things! The Guard of Honour from A and B Companies of the 7th Battalion (Major P. Moseling) gave a first class display and are to be congratulated on their drill and turnout.

On The Regimental Dinner

After wide consultation, The Regimental Council have decided that the Regimental Dinner will continue to be held in London annually on the first Friday in October. The next dinner will be at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly on 1 October, 1982.

On Regimental Sport

CRICKET

During 1981 five matches were played with Major Guy Hipkin making the arrangements. The match against the Gentlemen of Suffolk was drawn, the Gentlemen making 227 for 7 declared while the Regiment made 215 for 7. The Regiment beat the West Norfolk Cricket Club by 8 wickets with the WNCC 77 all out and the Regiment 79 for 2. A successful innovation in 1981 were the enjoyable matches arranged between the 3rd Battalion and Banbrofts, Haileybury and Felstead.

1982 will see the formation of a formal Regimental Cricket Club which is being set up by Maj Gen David Thorne and Maj Julian Browne. The aim is to build on our annual fixtures with the Gentlemen of Suffolk (4 June) and WNCC (5 June) by arranging matches with affiliated schools and clubs in our Regimental Area. Anyone interested in joining the Club should contact Maj D. J. W. Browne MBE with the 3rd Battalion.

GOLF

The Regimental Golfing Society played the annual match against The Flempton Golf Club on 19 September and although we held our own until lunch time, at the close of play we had to hand over the shield to their Cap-

tain. Two teams were entered for the Argyll & Sutherland Bowl at this years Army Officer Golfing Society meeting but sadly we did not come away with any prizes.

On The Regimental Journal

A major criticism of The Journal has been that the news it contains is dated by the time you read it. To overcome this it has been decided to publish two issues a year, in April and October, with, when possible, Battalion magazines in the alternate quarters. While maintaining the Journal as a record of the Regiment's life, more pictorial articles will be introduced and more news of individuals. The next Journal will be published in October.

Regrettably the Castle in its present form can now only be produced and posted at a cost of £1.50, a price which compares favourably with that of other Journals with a similar circulation and format, and two issues a year will raise the annual subscription from 50p to £3 at current prices. In an attempt to cut costs and to make the Journal more topical, the October 1982 issue will be in tabloid form on a trial basis. Serving regular members of the Regiment will receive their copy in the normal way. However, subscribers who are not still serving with the regular army, and who would like a copy, should complete the form on Page 81 as their existing annual subscription has been more than used up in paying for this final Castle at its old price. Details of subscriptions for 1983 will be circulated in due course with Standing Order Forms.

Regular contributors will receive instructions on the requirements for the October issue. **However, we would like to hear from individuals who have anything of general Regimental interest for inclusion in the Journal:** good black and white photographs accompanied by a descriptive paragraph would be particularly welcome. We hope that the excellent contribution by Private Learwell of The Poachers on Page 56 will set an example! Finally, does a new format justify a new name? A £10 prize is offered for the first suggestion to reach the Editor which is adopted. Contributions and suggestions should be sent to "The Castle", RHQ, The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

On The Last Decade— 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regiment

Nearly 22 years ago The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment amalgamated with the Northamptonshire Regiment to form the 2nd East Anglian Regiment, the fore runner of the 2nd Battalion. The 10th had published a Regimental History but had not covered the ten years from 1950-60. Major Geoffrey Moore was given the task of producing a final volume and, working under financial restraints, has written a most readable history which follows the Regiment from the Canal Zone to West Germany, Berlin, Malaya, BAOR, and Watchet. The book is of special value to medal collectors as it lists all the decorations and campaign medals awarded to the Regiment during its last ten years. Copies may be ordered from RHQ Royal Anglian, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln at £2.50 a copy plus 20p postage.

On Royal Anglians in Gibraltar again

"All the Grenadiers and Light Infantry of the Garrison and all the Men of the 12th and Hardenberg's Regiments, officers and NCOs now on duty to be immediately relieved and join their Regiments, to form a detachment consisting of the 12th and Hardenberg's Regiments complete, the Grenadiers and Light Infantry of all other regiments.

Each man to have thirty-six rounds of ammunition with a good flint in his piece and another in his pocket. No drums to go out excepting two with each of the Regiments. No volunteers will be allowed.

The whole is to be commanded by Brigadier-General Ross and to assemble on the Red Sands at twelve o'clock to make a Sortie upon the enemy's batteries.

The 39th and 58th Regiments to parade at the same hour on the Grand Parade under the command of Brigadier-General Picton to sustain the Sortie if necessary."

With these simple orders General Elliott, the Governor of Gibraltar during the siege of



3rd Battalion Colour Party in Gibraltar: 2 Lt Clements, Sgt Nunn and Sgt Wyatt.

1779-84, launched a night attack on the Spanish batteries which had been creeping dangerously closer to the Rock and were beneath the maximum depression of Gibraltar's guns. The attack was entirely successful and, in the words of the General on the following day, "the bravery and conduct of the whole detachment surpassed the Governor's utmost acknowledgement".

On its 200th anniversary it was decided to hold a parade to celebrate the Great Sortie, as it came to be known, and in addition to units resident on the Rock, regiments or their forbears who had served during the Siege were invited to send their Regimental Colours, suitably escorted, to take part.

As may readily be seen from its badge and the title of its journal, The Royal Anglian Regiment has many close associations with Gibraltar. Virtually all former regiments have served there at one time or another and no less than three, 12th, 56th and 58th were there during the Siege, a fact commemorated in their Battle Honours and in their cap badges. The longest tour since the war has been by the 2nd Battalion who served an emergency tour of nine months in 1968/69. While they were there the Poachers cemented the Regiment's alliance with the Gibraltar Regiment and



Dinner in St Georges Hall—Maj Gen Akehurst extreme right.

cleared a scenic pathway on the Upper Rock, recorded now on every local map as Royal Anglican Way and especially recommended to tourists.

As anyone who has been there will know, Gibraltar reeks of British Military history and the names and numbers of our Regiments and their antecedents may be found in many a gallery, a graveyard, a tablet in a chapel or church, and from 1968 even in a soldier in No 2 Dress on a postage stamp.

To mark all of this, 2Lt Richard Clements and Sgts Nunn and Wyatt escorted the Regimental Colour of the 3rd Battalion on the Sortie Parade and Major General and Mrs John Akehurst represented the Colonel of the Regiment amongst the spectators.

The military and civilian inhabitants of the Rock could not have been more hospitable. The parade itself was held in perfect Autumn weather and went impressively well and was supported by a week of entertainment which, despite being wearing to the constitution, offered one delight after another. Balls were given by the Governor, General Sir William Jackson, and by the Fortress Sergeants' Mess and there were a number of private functions. Tours of the thirty-four miles of tunnels and potholing down into the amazing caverns of stalactites and stalagmites offered a bit of exercise, as did walking along the Main Street ostensibly for shopping but in effect mostly to meet and chat with many friends and acquaintances, and to stop off to inspect the mosaics of the Suffolk, Essex and Northamptonshire regimental cap badges in the Piazza.

One of the highlights was a Dinner held in St George's Hall in the Upper Galleries attended by the Governor, the Chief Minister, and Gibraltar's hierarchy and their guests. The thirty-one diners were attended by waiters wearing uniform of 1781 and were warned to expect a menu appropriate to the time. Gibraltar having been under siege for two and a half years by November 1781, and not having received supplies of any kind for eight months one wondered what might be in store. Gibraltar Regiment cooks worked marvels with Vegetable and Herb Soup, Mediterranean (sic) Cod, Marinated Rabbit and Crepes Suzettes and all was well.

The outstanding impressions of a memorable visit were of the hospitality and welcome by so many people who have so cheerfully endured restrictions imposed by

more than a decade of the current siege. One hopes it may soon end.

Postscript: The Deputy Colonel, interviewed by a charming and pretty Forces Broadcasting reporter, much enjoyed taking her to task, on the air, for introducing him as a member of the Royal Anglican Regiment!



Royal Naval and Sortie
Regiment Colour Parties.

Dates for the Diary

January

6 1st Battalion return to BOAR.

March

3 Lord Mayor of Leicester's Dinner.

April

2 Regimental Golf Spring Meeting, Flempton.

5-8 1st Battalion Advance Party to Oakington.

23 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club Cocktail Party, London.

May

4-7 1st Battalion move to Oakington.

June

4 Regimental Cricket against Gentleman of Suffolk, Bury St. Edmunds.

- 4 Regimental Golf Match against Worlington Golf Club.
- 4 Royal Norfolk Dinner Club Dinner, Norwich.
- 5 Royal Norfolk Dinner Club Luncheon, Norwich.
- 5 Regimental Cricket against WNCC, Colchester.
- 5 Regimental Weekend sponsored by 3rd Battalion, Colchester.
- 27 Essex Reunion and Service of Remembrance, Warley.

July

- 3-17 6th Battalion Annual Camp.
- 10 Queen's Division "At Home", Bassingbourn from 1200-1800 hrs.
- 31 Suffolk Officers' Dinner Club Party, Bury St. Edmunds.
- 31 Bury St. Edmunds Branch OCA Minden Dance.

August

- 1 Suffolk Minden Day Reunion, Bury St. Edmunds.
- 1-8 Colchester Tattoo.

September

- 10 Autumn Regimental Golf Match, Flempton.
- 11 Autumn Regimental Golf Match against Flempton GC.
- 18 R. LINCOLN Reunion, Cleethorpes.
- 24 Sept.—10 Oct.
7th Battalion to BAOR EX KEYSTONE.
- 25 R. NORFOLK Association Reunion Dinner, Norwich.

October

- 1 Regimental Dinner, Naval & Military Club, Piccadilly.
- 9-23 5th Battalion to BAOR EX KEYSTONE.

Giving News of Our Allied Regiments

3rd Battalion (Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment.

We were delighted to be visited at RHQ by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel David Ives, who presented the Association with a plaque which is now in the Club House in Bury St. Edmunds. Lieutenant Colonel W. S. Bevan is paying a reciprocal visit on our behalf while in New Zealand on holiday and

will make a small presentation on 31 January when he visits the 3rd Battalion in Camp.

The Barbados Regiment

In April 1981, Colonel R. E. C. Lewis, Chief of Staff Barbados Armed Forces, accompanied the Prime Minister on a visit to the United Kingdom. The Colonel of The Regiment took the opportunity to present a cup to our affiliated Regiment to be competed for in an annual March and Shoot Competition. The presentation took place at a formal ceremony in conjunction with the launching of their new ship "Trident".

The Lincoln and Welland Regiment

We were pleased to receive a copy of a recording made by The Lincoln and Welland Regiment Band. The Bandmaster, CWO W. E. Higgins CD, would be pleased to make contact with our Bandmasters. His address is Lake Street Armoury, St Catherine's, Ontario. The Band now wear our stable belt as part of their summer ceremonial uniform.

The Bermuda Regiment

Currently we have five members of the Regiment serving with the Bermuda Regiment, Major John Drinkwater, Capt Dick Gould, W02 Roy Smith, W02 Tom Norton, W02 Sweeney and W02 Willie King. Capt Fraser Macdonald from the 3rd Battalion spent a few weeks in Carolina, USA, with the Regiment, who were there on Exercise Carolina Capers.

The Gibraltar Regiment

Currently Lt Brancato is serving as 2IC A Company of the 3rd Battalion in Colchester and accompanied them on their tour in Cyprus where he was awarded the UN medal. Our main connection has been the visit to Gibraltar by Major General J. B. Akehurst and a Colour Party from the 3rd Battalion in connection with the Anniversary of the Sortie, which is reported elsewhere.

5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment

We hear from Brigadier Bill Deller that he has not yet been able to visit 5FF, but hopes to do so shortly when they return from a posting in Baluchistan.

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Honours and Awards

We congratulate the following on their honours and awards:

Northern Ireland

Mentioned in Despatches:

Maj P. F. Shervington, MBE.
Capt K. M. Ryan
Capt P. F. Wells.
Sgt. D. G. Goude

Birthday Honours 1981

MBE—Maj R. J. Gresty MVO
MBE—Maj A. C. Downes.

New Year Honours 1982

MBE Maj. J. H. Holl, TD.

Territorial Army Awards

TD

Majs I. P. Arnold, A. E. Elsey, M. Shaw,
D. R. Haslam, Cpts C. A. F. Alexander,
P. Clarke.

TEM

CSgts Berresford, Boam.
W02 Lee
Sgts Hardy, Plummer, Burnett, Burrows,
Poole, Crispin, King. Cpls Overall, Turner
Lcpl Bullen, Pte Dyer.

1st Clasp to TEM

CSgt Sadd,
Sgts Jones, Perry, Marshall,
Cpl Crowson,
Lcpl Meeks.

Senior Appointments

General Sir Timothy Creasey KCB OBE WO—Chief of Defence Staff and Chief of Operations, Sultanate of Oman, Aug 81.

Maj Gen J. B. Akehurst CBE—Commandant Staff College, Jan 82.

Maj Gen R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright CBE—DTA and C, May 82.

Promotions

To Brigadier: Col M. A. Aris to command 15 Bde, Jan 82.

To Colonel: Lt Col R. H. Robinson OBE, Lt Col P. P. D. Stone OBE.

To Lieutenant Colonel: Maj D. J. W. Browne MBE, Maj P. B. D. Long, Maj P. F. Shervington MBE, Maj M. J. D. Walker.

Command Appointments: 1st Bn May 82: Lt Col. A. J. K. Calder, 2nd Bn Oct 82: Maj D. J. W. Browne MBE, 5th Bn Sep 82: Maj P. B. D. Long, 7th Bn Apr 82: Maj H. W. Lambert, 1 RRF Oct 82 Maj P. F. Shervington MBE.

Commissions:

We congratulate and welcome the following officers commissioned into the Regiment in 1981:

Regular:

2Lt S. H. Bowns
2Lt A. C. A. Miles
2Lt R. J. Ladley
2Lt P. D. Jones.

Special Regular Commission

2Lt R. A. Knox
2Lt A. G. W. Ward

Short Service

Lt D. N. Pryce, 2Lt D. D. Lynch, 2Lt A. R. Duffield, 2Lt D. M. E. Moorat, 2Lt W. P. A. G. Pollard, 2LT A. J. C. Wild, 2Lt T. D. G. Townley, 2Lt N. Spinks, 2Lt S. P. Rees, 2Lt S. P. M. Wedd, 2Lt N. G. Burrell.

SSLC

2Lt W. B. Kendall.

Transfers

Maj M. H. Turner to RAOC May 81.
Capt P. F. Wells to RAEC Oct 81.

Retirements

We wish a happy retirement and success in new ventures to:

Lt Cols J. L. Wilson, C. M. F. Randall.
Majs P. Thain MBE,
R. J. Gresty MVO MBE,
K. C. G. Lywood.
Capt P. Zmitrowicz.
Lts R. G. Fryer, A. A. P. Simpkin,
C. G. Russell.
2Lt J. A. Fell.

Snippets of News

Lt Col **Charles Baggot** was unable to attend the Regimental Dinner but sent his best wishes to all his friends, as did Lt Col **Bertie Bevan** who pleaded that he is too long in the tooth to attend, but is currently visiting New Zealand! Lt Col **Tom Dean** and Majors **Mike Boocock** and **Pat King** sent greetings from Sennelager, while Maj **Hugh Bradshaw** is enjoying the international atmosphere and amateur dramatics of AFC NATO.

Capt Peter Ferrary writes from the Spanish Staff College (Apartment 5a/D, 14 San Martin de Parres, Madrid 35) encouraging visitors and asking if any 14-15 year old son would like an exchange with a Spanish Military family.

Capt Peter Holme, son of Maj Gen **Mike Holme**, was married in September to Miss **Blair Miseroy**, daughter of Col **John Miseroy**, late the **Pompadours**. The wedding was in Florida with **Capt Roger Brunt** of the **Poachers** as best man, supported by the bridegroom's brother-in-law Maj **Mike Walker**. Several members of the Regiment were present including Lt Col **Alaister Veitch** who drove down from Washington with his family. Four members of the 10th Foot in America travelled from Boston: we look forward to seeing them over here during our Tercentenary Year of 1985.

Paul Hawkins MP, was at a European Council Meeting instead of the Dinner, but we were pleased to see him at the Horse Guards in June.

Several sons followed their fathers into the Regiment in 1981: 2Lt **Piers Pollard** joined the 1st Battalion, 2Lt **Robert Knox** the **Poachers** and 2Lt **Roland Ladley** the **Pompadours**. We are pleased to say that there are more in the pipeline!

Lt Col Tony Winton, now serving with the RAOC, is with the BMM to the Saudi Arabian National Guard in Jeddah where he periodically sees **Maj Mike Duffie** who visits on business. **Maj Richard Gresty** retired in October but is staying on in the MOD as MA to the Defence Service Secretary in an RO capacity.

Maj PADDY FORD, at present on the Staff of the Defence Attache is in the Sudan, sees **Lt Col Dick Holman** periodically who also lives and works in Khartoum. He seems to be missing "Fortnums" and "Harrods", but otherwise both he and Cynthia are thoroughly enjoying their posting.

Maj Ernie Morgan writes from Renmark, Australia, hoping that all his friends are well and surviving the recession.

Triplets for Poachers

Cpl Nigel Briers gives his wife Jenny and their two year old daughter Paula a hand with the latest additions—to the family.

Jenny gave birth to Stephen, Anthony and Laura on 29 April 1981 in the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast. She spent several long and lonely weeks of pregnancy in the RVH, Belfast whilst Cpl Briers was kept busy in Londonderry by the demonstrations and riots of the hunger strike supporters. Like so many of the Poachers wives, Jenny took it all in her stride and left her husband free to get on with his job.



The Briers family

Army Boxing Champion

Congratulations to **LCpl Hurd** on retaining his Army Welterweight Championship. He is seen here with **Pte. Lucky**, Rodent Exterminator, in A Company, 1st Battalion VCP at Wattle Bridge.



BEM for CSgt Lenton.

An Appreciation—

Colonel M. Moore MC,TD,DL.

Colonel Mike Moore has just retired as Deputy Honorary Colonel for Leicestershire, having completed 47 years service with the Territorial Army. He was commissioned into 5th Bn. The Leicestershire Regt. in 1934 with whom he saw service in France in 1940 and later in N Africa and Italy with 2/5th Bn. He was awarded the MC in Italy in 1943. After the war he re-joined the 5th Bn which he commanded from 1952 to 1956; shortly after this he was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant. Other contributions to the TA and the Regiment during his long career include membership of the Leicestershire TAVR Committee and Chairmanship of the Royal Tigers Association.

All members of the Regiment, particularly those from Leicestershire, would wish to record their appreciation and thanks to Mike Moore for his many years of distinctive ser-

vice to both the Regiment and the Territorial Army.

Sgt Ken Bodger

Sergeant Ken Bodger learnt to throw the hammer in 1967 whilst a Junior Leader at Oswestry and was fortunate to have a patron and fellow hammer thrower in Colonel Tony Pollard when the latter was OC B Coy and 2IC. Under his guidance Sgt Bodger became Cyprus Champion at Arms in 1973. When Colonel Tony reappeared to command the 1st Battalion, Sgt Bodger's hammer throwing was given new impetus and he became runner-up in the Army Championships in 1977 and won the Army title in 1978, 1980 and 1981. This summer he had the distinction of becoming Combined Services Champion having been runner-up the previous four seasons. He has recently been awarded the Army Field Events Trophy for the 1981 season. When not throwing the hammer Sgt Bodger is a Mortar Fire Controller.



Sgt Bodger swinging into action.



1st Battalion

A Company

The Big Red 'A' is now manning outposts in SE Fermanagh which, in appearance, resemble World War I dug outs and in role are similar to the OPs of the Khyber Pass. BAOR now seems an incredibly long way away and memories of tracked, mobile homes are fading fast.

The Company has had a changeable year. In November Major George Tomlin took over command from Major Tony Domeisen followed by a large influx of officers. Lts 'Max' Marriner, Julian Dean and 'Daggers' Dalglish joined as platoon commanders and more recently we welcomed Capt Tim Wilkes and Lt Richard Greathead RAOC. There cannot be many companies which can boast such a large officer corps. Quite a headache for CSM WO2 Bob Bowden, but for the most part the company does make it to the right place at the right time intact!



Just to prove we did get mechanised—A Coy on Ex Prairie Reminder.



Ptes Chamberlain, Ball and Jefferies of 1 PI in the "dining room" at Kilturk VCP.

It has been a changeable year, in that faced with the moratorium, we began the year as infantry soldiers with our feet firmly placed on the ground, (or snow as it was during Ex ABOMINABLE VIKING) became mechanised for Ex PRAIRE REMINDER, only to find ourselves back on our feet again for our present role amongst the marshes of Fermanagh.

We are now half way through OP BANNER and are finding it very different from



previous tours, spending a great deal of our time in the manning of Vehicle Check Points along the border of SE Fermanagh. A large effort had to be put in to make the VCPs more comfortable and defensible and they now give the impression of impregnable fortresses built from thousands of sandbags and tons of sand. The building of sand castles will never be the same again!

Our Company strength has increased by the addition of one Pte 'Lucky' who joined us on the pretext of being an expert rodent despatcher. For want of a better description he can best be described as a Jack Russell Terrier who spends most of his day chasing cars and helicopters. He can claim little credit for the demise of the rats at WATTLE BRIDGE but he does provide company and entertainment during the long hours on VCP duties.

Clonatty Bridge VCP receives a visitor: Left to right: Ptes Gooderson, Woods, Barrow, Webb, Edwards, Miss Angela Webber, Sgt Threadwell. Kneeling: Cpl Arter, Pte Kirk.

**A patrol with a difference—
A Coy on Lough Erne.**



B Company

B Company ended 1980 on a very high note having completed BATUS training and Ex SPEARPOINT. How the rest and recuperation phase was spent was plainly obvious by the baby boom between April and August when 12 out of 23 families and one bachelor hit the jackpot.

Lt Robert Goodin, CSGT Pete Drewry, SGT Kevin Bacon, LCPL Leslie Bassett and Malvin Lemon all received well deserved promotion and we welcomed CSGT Colin Scoles back from the 6th Battalion to command 7 platoon, taking over from CSGT Russ Turner. Lt Frank Froud could stand the cold war no longer and disappeared off to Zimbabwe for 6 months.

Most of our energy was directed towards Northern Ireland from April onwards. At the end of August the Company took over at Aughnacloy, some miles East of the remainder of the Battalion. The changing scene here has been exemplified by the fact that we started under command 1 A and SH, changed to QDG for 2 months, are now under 8 UDR for 1 month and will finish up by moving completely to come under battalion command at St Angelo. Our main task has been the Permanent Vehicle Check Point (PVCP) and Intermediate Search Centre (ISC) at Aughnacloy where we have encountered some

fairly senior hoods. The Intelligence Cell have been busy collating a great deal of information and photographs and our sighting lists are well received by RUC and Special Branch, being over 500 per cent up on previous records. However it all boils down to the soldier and JNCO on the ground dealing with people. LCPL George Courcy, for example, having carried out the documents and bonnet check on a car asked the driver "Could I check your boot, Sir?" with the reply "To be sure, I'm wearing shoes today". SGT Alec Richardson of 7 Platoon earned praise from the Brigade Commander when he gave a textbook demonstration of how to handle an incident control situation following the culvert mine that killed two RUC Constables. Chat procedure reached a new dimension when CPL Nigel Dowd called at the house of a Mrs Rafferty whose husband had been lifted a few days earlier in connection with the culvert mine. After receiving a very unfriendly reception he accurately weighed up the situation "I suppose that ruins my chance of a cup of tea, Mrs Rafferty." At least she saw the funny side. PTE Ricky Woodcroft whilst at Tartan VCP had spelling problems, he thought PTE Dennis Emeny was enemy and scored a runner. Search operations have been well organised by WO2 Fee Taylor and he has produced a good supply of fresh mushrooms.



Sgt Bacon and his multiple from BCoy after a 6 day patrol.

C Company

November 1980 saw the members of Champion Company on Ex VIKING CER-VIVOR, a battlefield survival course run by Cpls Garry Long and Spar Rutland. The course was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part, except the two live chickens used in the cooking exercise. The highlight of the month was the Company's victory in the Novices Boxing. The following went forward to be members of the Battalion Boxing squad; Privates Maurice Page, Rocky Crowley, Pete Barrs and Eddy Davies, Lance Corporals Robin Jones and Anthony Rowney, all under the guidance of Sgt. Bob George.

December brought well earned Christmas leave, only to return early for our annual January activity, 'Site Guard'. January and February were spent warming up for the Brigade CPX and Battalion FTX in March. Even after diligent and caring work by the crew and mechanics, call sign 3B failed to complete the course on each exercise, thus managing to maintain a 100% failure rate over the past 3 years!

Our arrival in Soltau coincided with the end of the local monsoon period and the good



Cpl Bowden and Ptes Peel and Williams are really very fond of Mullaghbrady VCP!

weather encouraged all to drive with enthusiasm and gusto. The result was a very constructive and enjoyable training period. We were pleased to entertain a party of Junior Soldiers from JSB Taunton who were flown in as reinforcements in the middle of our defence exercise and quickly got used to the Haig Variants. During this period we managed to fend off the assault by the rest of the Battalion in the Inter Company Cross Country Cup.

The beginning of May saw us at Senelager, a place we became very used to during subsequent months as we fired all our weapons bar the Turret Mounted GPMG. The rest of May and the beginning of June were spent between England, the Cote D'Azur, Italy or Denmark as all enjoyed their pre Op BANNER leave. A fit rejuvenated Company returned for Northern Ireland Training and in the subsequent months the abysmal weather only slightly helped to prepare us for the reality of Fermanagh, where 75% of the area is water, 20% is water hidden 2 inches under the ground and 5% is road (and we have cleared them all!).



OC and CSM C Coy at the scene of their first incident (Maj Goldschmidt, WO2 Ludbrook).

D Company

The closing months of 1980 saw the Company dressed in coveralls clambering over our 'dormant' APC's in preparation for the annual inspection. The hard work under the direction of Cpl Sedgewick was well rewarded with even the ASM paying us some compliments. Christmas gave many of our potential Oscar candidates a chance to 'volunteer' for the company sketch in the Viking Star Show. Cpl Win Davies is still fighting off suitors after his/her stunning performance.

We got off to a good start in 1981 by winning the Inter Company Orienteering competition, even if the CSM WO2 Colin Hill did set the course. We were well represented in Battalion teams, including Cpl Jamo James and LCpl Dean Stefanetti in the Boxing. The latter had to be locked up in the guard room the night before a fight to ensure his correct weight! The less said however about Lt Aiden Beck's rugby team the better.

Major Willie Heal and muttli left in March and we wish them well in Colchester. Major Kit Stallard suddenly changed hats during our Northern Ireland Training by relinquishing the 'cushy' Public Relations spot for the 'Hot Seat' at D Company. Our urban training unfortunately coincided with Minden Day and our first patrol, with roses in their berets, skirmished through a screen of red and yellow smoke.

The Northern Ireland ORBAT caused a major reshuffle in the Company. We lost a lot of our expertise to the Close Observation platoon but we gained CSgt Tony Jones' tank busters instead. There are not many T72s here in Fermanagh at the moment but you never know! The Drums Platoon, who were given time off to prepare for their very professional performance on Horse Guards, have now rejoined the Battalion in Fermanagh as reinforcements during the R & R period.

The Company is now based in NW and SW Fermanagh. We control the largest area with 125 km of border to patrol and are responsible for 6 out-stations. The hours are long, the weather is wet, but somehow everyone retains their sense of humour.

Capt Jeremy Prescott is destined for Soltau in November and marriage to our Doctor. So that's why he always walks around with a smile on his face! Lt Max Marriner is welcomed back in his place.



Maj Stallard keeps himself dry whilst the Colonel of The Regiment chats to Pte Lawrence.



Pte Gardener of 15 Pl eating his lunch while the Padre, Capt Crossley, looks on hopefully.

Milan Platoon

In November 1980 the platoon started its third year equipped with the MILAN Anti-Tank Guided Weapon System with a three week cadre for fourteen rifle company soldiers, eleven of whom passed into the platoon with Pte Simon Soanes (Ex B Coy) taking the prize for the best student. While the platoon was reforming in late November, a two week Recognition Cadre run by CSgt Tony Jones and Sgt Chris Bonnett for the rifle Companies was such a success that it was repeated for officers and SNCOs in March.

Meanwhile the platoon won the Inter Platoon Orienteering, came second in the Inter Platoon Cross Country and provided the backbone of the Support Company Team in the Inter Company Boxing. CSgt Tony Jones and Sgt Chris Bonnett are to be congratulated for their part in the Orienteering win and Pte Steve Davis, Cpl Mick Morris and Pte Gary Collins for their hard work in the cross country. Sgt Stan Davis did extremely well to win the Inter Company Novices Boxing contest at Middleweight.

After Christmas leave the platoon commenced its work-up training in preparation for live firing on 11 May at Sennelager. The platoon spent the previous two days in an OP Exercise and targets were engaged from within a defensive position manned by 11 Platoon C Company with each Detachment having four targets to engage. This was followed by a live night Battle Handling Exercise completed with the help of the Mortar Platoon. However this had to be aborted early as the first two firers destroyed the only two remaining targets! W02 Pete Cookson, the platoon 21C, ran the range and, much to his and the platoon's credit, an 89% hit rate was achieved—the highest in BAOR in the 1980-1981 season.

In April the platoon took part in the mechanised training at Soltau and then changed roles into a Rifle Platoon for the Op BANNER period: we are currently attached to D Company in the South West of Fermanagh.

Mortar Platoon

After Exercise CRUSADER the platoon turned its attention to training new mortar numbers. Several new men passed the cadre,

which was concluded with a week of live firing at Munsterlager.

After Battalion block leave over Christmas, the platoon concentrated almost exclusively on Mortaring (surprisingly!) which included more live firing during the Divisional Mortar Concentration. The RMO, Capt Vicky Foot came along to find out why we were all a bit on the deaf side. She learnt the hard way!

The Op BANNER tour goes well for the platoon, which is cunningly spread into every nook and cranny in Fermanagh. Mortar Fire Controllers have been selected to man Rosslea and Belleek so that instant corrections can be sent in the event of Mortar attack!

The tubes will reform early next year in preparation for the "hand-held" role that awaits us.

SPORT

Cross Country Notes

The Vikings Cross Country team had a very good season. The team consisted mainly of established runners of the past few years with a sprinkling of new blood, one of the most promising being Pte David Marshall (18) who arrived in August and soon asserted himself as the Battalion's number one runner and a very promising prospect in both Cross Country and Athletics. A number of other promising runners came to the fore namely Ptes Michael Pegg, Paul Foggin, Kevin Shinton and Graham Evans. Lt Julian Dean also became a regular member of the team soon after being posted in. No Cross Country team could be complete without the stalwarts and of course the old and bald, oops bold. Veterans of Tidworth and Celle (and in some cases many other postings) yet again formed the mainstay of the team, Capt John Rourke and CSgt Arthur Plumb (the old and bold), Cpl David Strickland, LCpl David Allen, Ptes Peter Ridgewell and Ralphord Roberts.

The season's tally of successes was: 2nd in the Divisional League and Divisional Championships being beaten in both matches by the current Army Champions; 1st in the Hohne Garrison Championships, for the third year running; Top Infantry Team and 4th overall in the BAOR Championships.



The Shooting Team after the Divisional Rifle Meeting.

Top: LCpl Fleming, Pte Woods, Pte Leffek, LCpl Dawkins, WO1 (RSM) Ross, LCpl Ringer, Pte. Hurren, Pte Graham, Pte Smith.

Bottom: LCpl Dickinson, Cpl Weaire, Cpl Norman, Lt Hare, Lt Col Hart, Lt Zmitrowicz, Sgt Wharton, Cpl Mason, LCpl Stollery.

Shooting

In the Divisional Rifle Meeting at the end of April the Battalion team retained the Major Unit Championships and won the SMG and Rifle Team Matches. Many individuals did well and in the B Class (Under 5 years service) Pte Steven Leffek was first and Pte Graham Smith second. Pte Smith was also the Champion Young Soldier. The winning GPMG Pair was Lt Paul Zmitrowicz and Cpl Marty Weaire. SMG firers also took the first three places, Pte Richard Graham (1st) Cpl Roy Norman (2nd) and Lt Roger Hare (3rd).

The squad then moved to the UK to prepare for Bisley where we started rather slowly and after a few disastrous shoots ended up in 18th place. We came 11th in the Rifle Match, which was the highest for several years for the Battalion Team. Various individuals shot well, with Cpl Weaire (60th) LCpl Dick Dickinson (68th) and Lt Zmitrowicz (70th) making the Army 100. As a result of his good shooting throughout the year Cpl Weaire was selected to shoot for the Army squad.

HQ Company team retained its hold on the non-central Infantry Company Small Bore Match, with Major Bob Day also winning the individual prize.

Boxing

After a very successful inter company novices competition, won by C Company, it was decided to enter a team in the Inter Unit Novices Boxing. This was the first time the Vikings had entered a boxing competition for some years and we were not too sure how things would turn out.

Five teams entered for the Divisional stage of the Competition and in the preliminary round early in December we won a very close match by 14 points to 13. In January we defeated 1 Armed Div and Sig Regt 16 points to 11, having been only one point ahead at the interval. In the Divisional finals at Celle our opponents were 49 Fd Rgt RA and over 1000 spectators from the two units, under the watchful eye of the MC—WO1 (RSM) John Ross—watched another very exciting and



Cpl Boucher about to put away another opponent.

close match. Our first two boxers, LCpl Robin Jones and Pte Maurice Page, both boxed well but lost on points. Then Pte Allan Stewart and LCpl Anthony Rowney both put up really great performances bringing the interval score to six points each. Pte Paul Allen was the first in the ring after the interval when he outboxed his opponent, winning on points by a unanimous decision. Then followed two defeats, of Pte Brian Eales and LCpl Dean Stefanetti, although both boxed extremely well. Our penultimate boxer was Cpl Jamo James who had a convincing win. This made the score even at 12 points each and our hopes were pinned on the ample shoulders of Cpl Paul Boucher, whose very aggressive style soon demolished his opponent.

For the BAOR semifinals in early March

the team for the first time had to compete away from home. The match was at Iserlohn and all available spectators were taken by a fleet of coaches for the three hour journey down the autobahn. They witnessed a very hard and competitive match which the Battalion lost by 3 bouts to 6, the result being much closer than the score suggested, with two majority decisions and an unlucky knockout going against us.

Mention must be made of those who trained the team, WO2 Lou Gorbould and Sgt Bob George, assisted by Pte Shayne Barnum, an intermediate grade boxer, who was a losing finalist in the BAOR individual championships. When he was not training or boxing in the UK, valuable assistance was also given by LCpl Dean Hurd who regained his Army Welterweight title. Finally a word of thanks to the SSI APTC, SSgt Paul Munchenbach for all his hard work during the season.

“Orienteer’s do it in the woods”

Due to keen interest from Battalion Headquarters it was decided that the Vikings would show the other Infantry Battalions the way to the BAOR finals in 1981. Thanks to help and advice from the Army Champions and other experienced orienteers within the Division this was achieved. With experienced runners such as Major Bill Mooring and the Adjutant, Capt David Phipps, the team managed fourth place in the Divisional Championships, which was good enough to reach the BAOR finals where the Battalion fielded a younger, better looking team ably lead by the RSM, WO1 John Ross. For a team in its first season the results of the first day were very good, the Battalion coming 8th in the team cross country event. In the team relay on the second day we were unfortunately disqualified. Investigations by the team Captain, WO2 Colin Hill were diplomatically halted when it was discovered that the culprit was in the ‘B’ leg, which included the RSM!.



THE POACHERS



The Poachers are in Londonderry.

After almost two and a half years in Berlin we handed over to 1 KINGS OWN BORDER on 5 January 1981. At the same time our advance party was starting the takeover in Londonderry from 1 STAFFORDS.

The Battalion move was fraught with potential disaster. The advance party were caught up in the first lightning strike by P & O crews and had to divert to Stranraer—Larne. The main body dispersed on leave throughout the UK and moved via six dif-

ferent airfields, Liverpool docks and Stranraer docks. In spite of further strikes by the seamen and a one—day stoppage at Heathrow, everyone arrived on time.

The Battalion assumed command of RUC Police Division 'N' at 1200 hours on 27 January. N Division is about 400 square miles with 32 miles of border with the Republic, which includes 42 crossing points. The main areas of population are Londonderry, population of 87,000, and Strabane, 16,000. The Battalion is deployed with one company responsible for Londonderry City and one platoon responsible for Strabane. In addition there are two companies of UDR under operational command, mainly responsible for the rural areas, and one company of RMP responsible for permanent VCPs on the approach roads to Londonderry.

A Company, under Major Peregrine Rawlins, were the first company into Londonderry City where they took up residence in Fort George, Rosemount and Masonic RUC Stations early on 27 January.

B Company, under Major Robin Greenham, took on the guards and duties of the Strabane RUC Station and the Hump VCP at Strabane. They had an early start to their first day with a 'suspect package' at the Strabane Telephone Exchange at 0702 hours. It was declared a hoax at 0920 hours.

Both C and D Companies were based in Ebrington Barracks, with C Company under Major Tom Longland as Reserve Company while D Company, under Major Brian Davenport, started their tour as training company, free of operations and duties so that cadres, courses, education and leave could continue through the year. Initially the City Company lived in the City locations for six



Cpls York and Brazier on patrol in Strabane.

weeks while the other three companies changed their tasks every three weeks, but after each company had completed a six week tour, the City tour was reduced to four weeks.

With the anniversary of Bloody Sunday due on 1 February, we were keen to see the last of 1 STAFFORDS so that we could unpack and settle into our latest home. The QMs, CQMSs and storemen were kept very busy unpacking and trying to satisfy the never ending queue at their door.

While the Battalion prepared for the 1st February and Londonderry's first major confrontation of the year, our families were busy setting up home and finding the shops and schools. The married quarters are certainly different from those in Berlin, but most people enjoy having their own front door again and the homeliness of a coal fire and real television. Most of the MQ areas have a thriving community centre which acts as a 'local' for off duty Poachers and their wives. Our centres are run by wives of members of the Battalion and have been renamed—Sobraon, Talavera and Hindoostan.

On Bloody Sunday about 1000 people started the march at the Creggan shops at about 1500 hours but by the time they reached 'Free Derry' corner they had doubled their numbers to about 2000: bands played and speeches were delivered from a flat bed lorry. Most of the crowd dispersed quietly but about 150 youths moved along to the William Street/Rossville Street area for some stone throwing practice and as the evening progressed a bus was hijacked and set alight,

several petrol bombs were thrown, a derelict building and a van were set on fire. The fire spread to a Bakery and the fire services were deployed with C Company in support but everything was quiet again by about 2200 hours. As most of the Battalion had been deployed West of the Foyle in support of the RUC, younger Poachers were given the chance to see Londonderry and some 'minor aggro'.

After the activity of the 1st February we settled into Londonderry's "normal" way of life. Even so our first full month was to be very active and we hardly had time to unpack the "Visitors Book" before our first official visitor arrived. The CLF, Major General CR Huxtable, visited on the 6th and Brigadier WKL Prosser, Commander 8 Infantry Brigade, spent a day meeting the Poachers on the 12th.



The CLF, Maj Gen C. B. Huxtable, and Sgt Goude discussing keeping pigs in the Rosemont base

On the 10th we celebrated our Lincolnshire forefathers' famous victory at Sobraon in 1846. The fact that we had only just taken up residence combined with our operational commitments forced us to limit our celebrations, but we did not let it pass without note. The Commanding Officer presented the Battalion with our new collar badges and, despite operational commitments, each company was represented on parade, albeit that CSGT Kennedy was A Company's sole representative.

On 1 March, Bobby Sands refused his breakfast and signaled the start of the H Block Prisoners hunger strike. McCreesh, Hughes and O'Hara joined him during the

The CO presenting CQMSs with new collar badges for their companies during a heavy snow shower.



Cpl Ablitt and Callaigh 22B waiting for an invitation to join the late night revellers in the city.

month and demonstrations and marches by small crowds in support of the hunger strike became a routine event although they usually passed quietly and without incident. The biggest demonstration was on St. Patrick's Day when some 1500 people gathered in the Guildhall square. Following several speeches most of them dispersed peacefully but about 30 youths produced some minor 'aggro' for two hours in the early evening but the City was quiet by 2000 hours.

The Battalion Skill at Arms Meeting was held at Magilligan Ranges on the 13th, and 14th April. Pte Nigel Scarboro of 8 Platoon was the Champion at Arms and 1 Platoon won the Inter Platoon competition. Good support from 3 Platoon, 5th, and 2 Platoon, 6th, gave A Company a comfortable victory in the Inter Company competition. The final event of the meeting was the Falling Plate competition in which teams from the Officers, Warrant Officers & Sergeants, Corporals and Privates produced some very keen shooting. The Commanding Officer led the Officers to victory against the Warrant Officers & Sergeants and again in the final against the Privates, who had given the Corporals Mess team a shooting lesson. The Brigade Commander, Brigadier Keith Prosser, flew out from Londonderry for the final stages of the meeting and presented the prizes.



The Brigade Commander presents Major Rawlins, OC ACoy, with the Champion Company Shield.

C Company under command of Major Tom Longland moved to Magherafelt on the 14th April to look after RUC 'O' Division



"Right lads, the CSM will be here in five minutes so get the street cleaned up"

while 5 UDR went to England for their annual ten day summer camp.

The marches and demonstrations in support of the H Block hunger strikers continued throughout April. After the H Block 'Day of Action' on the 15th a number of youths began stoning the RUC. This was not unexpected and we were prepared to deal with sporadic stoning, a few hi-jacks and a fire or two which had become the normal post march aggro. We did not expect the eight consecutive nights of organised and at times very determined rioting which followed. During this very active period over 900 petrol bombs, 20 acid bombs and 6 hand grenades were thrown at the RUC and ourselves. 64 vehicles were hi-jacked, 48 of which were burnt and most were used to make barricades. Approximately 400 baton rounds were fired and 11 arrests were made. Our casualty list was surprisingly small.

The GOC, Lieutenant General Sir Richard Lawson, came to see how the Poachers were coping with the restless youths of Derry. It was the first time for eight days that we had not been deployed to deal with rioting. Obviously the General impressed the youths, or

was it the first heavy rainfall for three weeks that kept them off the streets!

Londonderry is a very popular city, everyone wants to visit us. Two more distinguished visitors in April were the CGS, General Sir Edwin Brammall and the Military Secretary Lieutenant General Sir Roland Guy.



Pte Fox rubbing shoulders with the CGS, General Sir Edwin Brammall, on the City Wall.

The deaths and subsequent funerals of the four hunger strikers were followed by demonstrations, barricades and rioting throughout the month of May. The death of Patsy O'Hara, who was a Derry man, was the signal for the start of three hours of intense petrol bombing and rioting during the early hours of 22 May. Seventeen blast bombs were thrown by the rioters and we took several minor casualties. The many hours spent on the streets or on standby resulted in over 100 arrests during May. Our search teams' most notable finds included 3 rifles, 1 pistol, 200 rounds of ammunition and two beer barrels containing 80 pounds of home made explosives.

Despite the increase in violence we managed to get our visitors in and out safely. Councillor Herbert Sowden, the Lord Mayor of Leicester, visited the Battalion on 14/15 May. We also had visits by representatives from the Leicester Mercury and Radio Lincolnshire. Routine updating visits were made by Lieutenant Colonel JV Fielding, Commandant Signal Wing School of Infantry, and Major B Willing, OC NITAT (BAOR).

Our shooting team qualified for Bisley when they all but swept the board at the Northern Ireland Skill at Arms Meeting at

Ballykinler on 16th and 17th May. All members shot well, but a special mention must go to Cpl Steve Nunn, the individual champion, Cpl Basil Fox, the champion young soldier and Pte Scott Jarvis who gained first place in the young soldiers rifle match.

The Band managed to slip away to England on the 11th May and changed out of combat dress into their more traditional attire to prepare for Beating Retreat on the Horse Guards and a mini KAPE tour. During their eight weeks away they performed in the schools, towns and cities of our three counties where they were very well received wherever they played.

The Drums Platoon put away their rifles and riot shields and drew out their drums and flutes on the 24th May. They joined up with the Band and the remainder of the Massed Bands of the Queens Division at Colchester to prepare for Horse Guards on the 9th, 10th and 11th June. The situation in Londonderry prior to their departure had allowed little time for musical practice, but once again our adaptable drummers, under the enthusiastic leadership of Drum Major Fidler, reached the high standards required of them. They returned to Londonderry soon after the finale on Horse Guards and left the Band playing their way around Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire.

There was a marked increase in the number of shooting incidents during May and June. The 'Mortars' could be excused for feeling unliked, as it seemed that they were shot at every time they went on patrol. D Company handed the city over to C Company on 1 June who followed their lead and found several weapons. Three weapons were left by gunmen as they ran away from Poachers in hot pursuit after shooting incidents. During a very good eight week period C Company found fourteen weapons.

One of our former Commanding Officers, Major General John Akehurst, GOC 4 ARMD DIV made a welcome return to the Battalion on 3 June. It was the General's first visit since becoming Deputy Colonel earlier in the year. During his two day visit he presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to WO2 Gordon Halewood, WO2 David Dunthorne and WO2 Mick Draper.

The shooting team added to their silver collections when they competed in the Ulster Rifle Association Meeting on 30 and 31 May.



The shooting team with their trophies from the Northern Ireland Skill at Arms meeting.



The Lord Mayor of Leicester, receiving a lesson on the tuba from Sgt Germany and the Band.

Major General John Akehurst with WO2 Dave Dunthorne, WO2 Gordon Halewood and WO2 Mick Draper after he had presented them with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medals.



They won the SMG match, the association match and the falling plate but had to settle for the silver medals in the Roupell and Roberts matches. Pte Nigel Scarboro was the Champion at Arms, and the shooting team kitty was increased by £98, a just reward for hard work on the side shows.

On Saturday 20 June the Poachers were granted the Freedom of Boston; an event which is reported elsewhere.

In spite of the long hours being worked and the constant standing up and down of platoons and companies as another hunger striker dies or yet another march is held, we have managed to preserve a semblance of normality. The companies have held their own Skill at Arms camps at Magilligan Ranges. The Training Wing staff have been very active and a total of fourteen cadres and courses have been completed to date, ranging from Upgrading Boards and JNCO Cadres through to pre Brecon training.

We often had all four companies deployed to cover both Londonderry and Strabane from early March until the end of June. Some may have thought they were in fact on a four month OP Banner tour as little was seen of wives and children during that period. This caused considerable strain but we coped and as the support for the hunger strikers began to

fade we were able to return to a more normal deployment in July.

Although July and August were relatively quiet months, the records show that there were six bombings with several false alarms and hoax calls, 17 shooting incidents and some 30 vehicles hi-jacked. We made 156 arrests and found eight weapons, several petrol bombs and 14 beer kegs which contained 1500 pounds of explosives. By way of a change from H Block demonstrations and marches, we had the marches and celebrations of the Orange Order on 13 July and the Apprentice Boys on 12 August when the Protestant community turning out in their thousands to watch the bands.

On 17 August we held a small parade to mark the disbandment of our assault pioneer platoon. CSgt Trevor Lenton and his band of handymen were not disbanded in 1978 but retained to meet the special requirements of our 2½ years in Berlin and since arriving in Ulster have formed the basis of company search teams. Once the companies had sufficient numbers of NCOs and men 'search trained', the pioneers returned to D Company and joined the Anti-tank and Mortar platoons. They were right on cue for the start of the support weapons cadres which were concluded with two days live firing at Magilligan on 8



Poachers Home Brew? Not quite, the 14 beer kegs contain $\frac{1}{4}$ ton of homemade explosives discovered on the Shantallow housing estate.

and 9 September.

Bombings, hoax bomb threats and shooting attacks at the RUC kept us busy throughout September. Little damage was caused but many hours were spent out in the rain as each incident was dealt with. A 700lb culvert bomb came close to blowing up a RUC mobile patrol at Strabane on the 15th. When a local farmer out walking his dog discovered the command wire the terrorists blew the bomb and escaped on a motorbike. The farmer was not injured but did not hear too well for a few days! The RUC patrol had been called back to their station when they were only half a mile short of the culvert a short time before the bomb was set off.

During the weeks following the death from starvation of Devine, on 20 August, four prisoners gave up their hunger strike for one reason or another. Public support had been fading for several weeks and on 3 October the H Block prisoners abandoned their hunger strike. When the end of the protest was announced there was a noticeable reduction in tension and the expected "face saving" attacks by the PIRA and others were limited



CSgt Lenton and the Assault Pioneers on parade for the last time.

and in the main unsuccessful. On the day the hunger strike ended an Armalite and a revolver were discovered during a follow up operation after two gunmen had crashed their hijacked car and had panicked while trying to avoid a D Company snap VCP. An attempted mortar attack against the Letterkenny PVCP on the 11th failed and the base plate vehicle and bombs blew up some 80 metres away. We are pleased to report that none of the men manning the checkpoint was injured.



The CLF, Major General Huxtable, and LCpl Poskitt on patrol in the Creggan.

We were very pleased to welcome the Colonel of the Regiment to Londonderry for a two day visit on the 7th and 8th. The General, who toured our City locations and visited every department in Ebrington Barracks, also found time to present six long serving Poachers with their LS and GC medals. Our other visitors during October included the Mayor of Grimsby on the 13th and 14th and Mr Jerry Wiggin MP, the Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, on the 20th.

Our first nine months in Londonderry have been busy, especially between March and July. We have seen many faces of Londonderry and its people and numerous and varied facets of the Poachers have been displayed. Quiet and courteous one moment,



The Colonel of The Regiment visits The Poachers.

steadfast and brave under a hail of petrol bombs the next. Aggressive when the need arises and the gunmen make the mistake of trying to take us on, and inquisitive and crafty when he doesn't cover his tracks carefully enough. We have nevertheless found the time to make our presence felt on the sporting scene as the following notes show.

SPORT

Football

The team had done very well in Berlin and were looking for a successful finish to the 80/81 season in Northern Ireland. After a good start we lost 3-2 to 1 A & SH in the second round of the Infantry Cup and little was achieved after that.

This season WO2 Gordon Halewood and CSgt Trevor Lenton have formed a large squad who have trained hard. The results to date have been very encouraging in both the league and cup competitions. After a 3-3 draw against 1 UDR we won a very exciting replay 4-3 in extra time in the Preliminary round of the Army Cup. We then went on to beat 1 ROYAL SCOTTS 4-2 in the first round.

Hockey

Wednesday 8 July 1981 marked the climax of the best ever season for the Poachers'

The Corporals Mess say farewell to LCpl "Lofty" Adcock, a popular and well known Poacher, after 20 years of regimental duty.



Hockey Team when the Infantry Cup was won for the first time with a 2-0 victory over 1 DERR, the BAOR stage winners, having previously beaten 3 RGJ in the final of the UK stage of the cup.

The season had started well in Berlin and by the time the snow and ice forced us to stop we had won eight of the ten games played and were top of the Berlin league. After a two month break the team played thirteen matches in Ulster, winning twelve and drawing one. Throughout the season our strength lay in our willingness to play for each other and to good individual skills.

Squash

The combination of Northern Ireland training, the move from Berlin and settling into Londonderry last winter resulted in a rather barren squash scene for the battalion last season. However, a scratch team hurriedly assembled in early February won through to the finals of the Northern Ireland Major Units Competition where the 1st Bn Scots Guards got the better of us.

This season it is hoped that we shall enter the competition better prepared. An inter-

company competition is being played in the weeks leading up to Christmas and fixtures have been arranged against three local civilian clubs in addition to friendly matches against other units. With the return to the Battalion of Major Simon Hopkins to take the strain at first string, and four of last year's regular players still available (Major Davenport, Major Rawlins, CSgt Varney and Cpl Townsend), quite apart from the new talent which it is hoped will emerge from the inter-company competition, prospects are looking good for the season.

Tennis

The Battalion appeared briefly on the Northern Ireland tennis circuit in 1981. We entered a team in the Inter-Unit Competition, but narrowly lost our first round match against 233 Sig Sqn by 5 rubbers to 4. At the time, several known players like WO2 Skayman and BdsM Donovan were on tour and unavailable. In the Northern Ireland Championships success came the Battalion's way when Major Robin Greenham won the men's singles title when in a closely-fought final he beat SGT Tomlinson REME by 7-5,

7-6. Cpl Mick Townsend RAPC and Sgt Dexter are two players who have improved during a season which has been dogged by atrocious weather. We hope that the Battalion will shortly have an indoor sports hall which should enable us to play more tennis than has been possible this year.

Tug of War

On 13 June our Tug of War teams qualified for the Army Finals by winning the Northern Ireland and North of England Championships in the 560 kilo class. The 640 kilo team also qualified by taking the runners-up place behind 4 UDR. The 640 kilo team were invited to take part in the RUC Championships on 24 June when they took third place having beaten Enniskillen, the 1980 UK Police Champions. In the Army Finals at Aldershot our 560 kilo team, the only non RA team competing, pulled very well and were fifth. After a very exciting series of pulls in the 640 kilo event we gained fourth place.

The battalion were pleased to accept an invitation to take part in the inter-service catchweight competition at the Royal Highland Games in Braemar on 5 September while in the Northern Ireland League the teams recorded some good results against very strong UDR teams. Final league positions were: 1st—720 class, 2nd 660 and 680 class and 3rd—560 and 640 class.



Winners of the Army Open Angling Championship (NI) Cpl Pilsworth, Sgt Scott, Cpl McCartney, WO2 Draper.

Rugby

This season looks most promising for the Poachers rugby, as support for the game has never been stronger, with sufficient players in the Battalion to provide two teams. We have a lot of young inexperienced players with tremendous potential yet to be developed and the strength of the team is ensured for some years to come. The 1st XV has done extremely well this season, having only lost to one team—unfortunately on two occasions. The highlight of the season so far has been playing in the Final of the Northern Ireland Major Units Competition. This was the hardest match of the season. We had a poor start and spent all the first half on the defensive, but in the second half our superior fitness began to tell and we went over to the attack. However the opposition's defence was sound and we were unable to convert our territorial advantage into points.

While not yet halfway through the season we have a strong team, large reserves and a full fixture list, Poachers rugby is now a force to be reckoned with.

Basketball

Since 1977 the Poachers Basketball Team has gone from insignificance to become the Northern Ireland 1981 League Champions.

We built on early experience gained in competitions at Aldershot in 1978 by playing top class American and RAF teams in Berlin, albeit with limited success. However since the battalion's arrival in Londonderry, CSgt 'Meadowlark' Smith, Cpl 'Wally' Taylor and Capt 'Big Rog' Antolik have become household names while original members of the '77' squad like Cpl 'Rocket' Ralph Gladwin, LCpl Neville Jackson and WO2 'Lofty' Stamps, continue to provide the steadiness and maturity needed in any top class squad. New players are improving steadily and the discovery of the year has got to be WO2 'Hurricane' Halewood who is reportedly fast losing interest in football!

Since arriving in Ulster the Poachers have played 18 matches, winning 17 and the total points scores were 1016 for and 437 against. The team is now taking a well earned rest from league commitments to concentrate on improving tactics for the next summer league.



Final of the Infantry Cup
Back: Cpl Taylor, Sgt Leyland, Capt Hall, Capt Thompson, Sgt Worth, Cpl Newbiggin.
Front: Capt Badger, Cpl Cotton, Maj Davenport, Capt Holme, Sgt Edmunds.

The Basket Squad after winning the Northern Ireland League.



The Cricket XI after defeating 6 UDR in the final of the Northern Ireland Major Units Championship.
Top: Capt Holme, WO2 Hadewood, LCpl Gloster, Sgt Worth, Cpl Taylor, LCpl Wilson.
Bottom: Maj Romilly, Capt Badger, Maj Davenport, Sgt Ali, 2Lt Napier.



POMPADOURS

1981 has been a milestone in the history of the Pompadours, being the year in which the battalion (after its Cyprus tour) spent the longest time (seven months) in England since 1970. However, globe-trotting Pompadours are not accustomed to this sort of luxury and so a full and varied programme was devised to ensure that everyone was kept on their toes.

The battalion returned to Cyprus in November, after an absence of just under three years, and immediately got to grips with all the problems associated with splitting a unit in half.

The Commanding Officer, Battalion Headquarters, two rifle companies and a small Headquarter Company back-up—in all 340 men—were based in Nicosia with responsibility for Sector 2 of the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Two successive battalion Seconds in Command, Majors John Child and Peter Williamson had the privilege to command the remainder of the battalion based in Dhekelia, in the Eastern Sovereign Base Area. The distinction between the two halves, with totally different masters and operational roles, was immediately apparent as the UN wore blue berets and drove white Landrovers, but we quickly overcame the inevitable adjustment problems and remained one battalion throughout the tour. The rifle companies, and as many Headquarter Company personnel as possible, changed over at the halfway point in the tour, thereby ensuring that the maximum numbers earned their UN medal.

In Sector Two the battalion was responsible for manning the seventeen Observation Posts



United Nations Observation Post duty.

and Check Points in the UN Buffer Zone immediately to the west of Nicosia. Our task was to control the Buffer Zone and detect any breach of the ceasefire agreement by either the Turks or the Greeks. During the tour there were many such violations, thankfully no shooting incidents but countless moves forward into the Buffer Zone (mainly by the Turks) and improvements made to defensive positions (mainly by the Greeks). Negotia-



The Corps of Drums play reveille on St Patricks Day in the UN Buffer Zone.

tions with both sides could often be a frustrating and delicate business as Lt Michael Veal found out when he was abducted at gunpoint by a group of Turkish soldiers. Generally though, relations with both sides were very good and it was an interesting experience to come into close contact with two very different Armies. The same can be said of the UN force as a whole, made up as it was of Danes, Swedes, Canadians, Austrians, Finns, Australians and Irishmen. There was plenty of opportunity for business, social and sporting contact with all the other contingents.

Lt David Taylor and Sgts Barrell and Tweed had a busy and unique time being responsible for the Economic and Humanitarian aspects of the UN mission. The Senior NCOs controlled the extensive farming that took place in the Buffer Zone (and ensured a healthy supply of fruit and vegetables to the rest of the battalion) and Lt Taylor carried out weekly patrols to the North and South of the island visiting the minority communities and taking them medicines and food.

The highlight of the UN tour was the UN Medal Parade, with the battalion with Colours, band and drums on parade together with the Force Armoured Car Squadron, the (British) Support Regiment and the Helicopter Flight. The aim was to show the other national contingents exactly how a parade should be run—and this we did.



Pte Richards demonstrates the mod cons of a UN observation post.



Capt Gordon Brown searches for the Officers Mess goldfish, kidnapped by the Sergeants Mess and ransomed for Charity—Cyprus Christmas 1980.



B Company "hit the beach" during training in Cyprus.

Dhekelia, too, involved a fair amount of "staging on" with the security of the camp to maintain plus a commitment to protect the base at Ayiod Nicolaios which each company carried out for a three week period. However, much more time was available for training. Central cadres for the battalion were organised and each company completed a three week shooting package which culminated with a week's field firing at Akamas, as well as carrying out a range of exercises. There was time too, and plenty of scope, for all members of the battalion to take part in adventurous training and Pompadors duly climbed, ski-ed, sailed, parachuted and canoed in various parts of the island.

Simple ceremonies were held at both Nicosia and Dhekelia to honour all members of the Regiment buried there. At Nicosia wreaths were laid on the graves of Pte R Beaumont of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, LCpl R Fermor of the Suffolk Regiment, Maj GPJ Healey of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, Major (QM) JD Evans of the Essex Regiment and Pte JT Atterborough of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment. In all 29 members of the Regiment are buried there, marking the island's troubled past.



Maj Tony Downes lays a wreath on the grave of Pte R. Beaumont, Royal Norfolk Regiment, in Wayne's Keep Military Cemetery, Nicosia.



The Roman amphitheatre at Curium provides a superb setting for a band concert.

The Band was kept busy, being in great demand throughout the island, especially with the UN where they were the only military band in the Force. Highly successful Beating Retreats marked the start of the tour at Dhekelia and the end of the tour at Nicosia, and an excellent joint concert was held with the 3rd Battalion The Light Infantry in the superb setting of the Roman Amphitheatre at Curium.

In all the tour was unique, challenging and enjoyable, and a few weeks of Cypriot sunshine before our departure in May meant that we at least returned looking as if we had spent the winter in the Mediterranean.

The battalion returned to two weeks well earned leave (except Battalion Headquarters who deployed onto Exercise Norfolk Punch, a Field Force CPX, and hence missed not only a week's leave but also the Massed Bands Horse Guards Parade). By this time the Band and other key personnel were at 24 hours notice to move for Operation HELICAL—the plan to provide a skeleton service during the threatened strike of ambulance drivers.

We also carried out a major reorganisation for the trial of the new Type A Infantry Battalion structure that runs for a year from

September 1981. Major Andrew French found himself commanding Heavy Weapons Company, which is certainly not to be confused with Support Company, and the Reconnaissance Platoon spent the summer finding out how to repair and un-ditch the Fox armoured car. At the same time we converted to MILAN and to Clansman radios, and attended the Field Force Study Period.

July was exceptionally busy, beginning with a 'Regimental Week' with the aim of re-



The Recce Platoon discover the trials and tribulations of Fox.

establishing the Pompadour's links with the counties of Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex. Display teams from B Company visited over 30 towns in three counties; meeting the people and visiting Cadet Force detachments. The Band and Drums played at schools and other events throughout the area. C Company played host to over 200 schoolchildren who visited the battalion and also put 100 cadets through a vigorous training weekend. Very enjoyable cricket matches against our affiliated schools of Bancrofts, Haileybury and Felstead proved a tremendous success. In all, coverage by the local press and television meant that an enormous number of people were reminded that their County Regiment had come home and our local ties were considerably strengthened.



Meeting the people in Bedford: Drummer Eldridge, Sgt Wyatt and friend.

Next, 23 members of the battalion were presented with the Rhodesia Medal by Brigadier Keith Spacie for service with the Commonwealth Monitoring Force in 1979/80.

The Bisley team was, of course, in action. After a very successful meeting in Cyprus, winning the major units championships and needing help from Securicor to handle all the silver, the squad was confident that they could improve on last year's position. The results showed an improvement of 15 places, but it could and should have been much better. A total of five medals were won, with Capt Philip Crook getting into the Army 100.

Preparations were well in hand for this year's Salamanca Day when it was announced that the Colonel in Chief would be unable to attend due to ill health. Although we were ob-



Cpl McClintoch is presented with his Rhodesia medal by Brigadier K. Spacie.

viously disappointed, we wished Her Majesty a speedy recovery and went ahead with the full programme of events, with the Colonel of the Regiment representing the Colonel in Chief. After all the hard work that had been put in we were determined to make a great day of it. After inspecting the guard of honour Maj Gen Dye saw a display of new weapons and equipment before lunching in the Officers' Mess. The weather was not kind and the afternoon's fete was a very soggy affair! The eagle standard of the French 62nd Regiment captured at the battle of Salamanca was on parade for the first time in some years, carried by CSgt Luckman. During the day Maj Gen Dye unveiled a new portrait of our Deputy Colonel in Chief, commissioned by the officers from artist Richard Stone.



The Colonel of the Regiment keeps an eye on things on Salamanca Day.



The portrait is unveiled on Salamanca Day.

As Salamanca Day came to a close the battalion stood by on Spearhead duty due to the Ulster hunger strike.

We then had a fortnight infantry training, including our Annual Skill at Arms Camp and carried out all the necessary fitness and NBC testing before three weeks block leave in August, during which time Lt Col Alan Thompson assumed command.

Directly after block leave a battalion march and shoot competition was held, with 7 Platoon, commanded by Lt Peter Morling, the well deserved winners.

The 7 Field Force concentration at Otterburn will be remembered for one outstanding feature—the weather. Companies spent a week in the Kielder Forest culminating in platoon test exercises, and a week on the ranges. The camp ended with the GOC Eastern District's March and Shoot Competition. Despite atrocious weather the battalion swept the board with three of the top four places out of 34 teams, and 5 Platoon commanded by 2Lt Richard Clements the winners.

Shortly after our return from Otterburn, Battlegroup Headquarters spent a very useful week at the Battlegroup Trainer in Bovington.

Now we are set to embark on another busy



Lt Peter Morling and 7 Platoon on the road to victory in the March and Shoot competition.

year, especially so due to the trial of the new Infantry Battalion Organisation. The Pompadour travel agency could well be in business again as preparations are already in hand for SPEARHEAD duty over Christmas and the New Year and we are all looking forward to a battalion exercise in Canada next June. After all, you can't expect the Pompadours to stay put for too long, can you?

5th Battalion

The level and intensity of training is as high as ever, with the usual pressures on the Training Staff and on the management of every Company. We were promised that these pressures would ease after Exercise CRUSADER but were fooled again. The year has been devoted to individual skills and specialist training and, as Camp was in the UK, we sent as many members of the Battalion as possible on courses and cadres in lieu of Camp.

Our luck ran out at Annual Camp at Otterburn when we were unfortunate enough to be the only major unit to be allocated accommodation in a hutted camp. Not for us the joys of open-air living in the Cheviots! Some very wet and miserable soldiers from the tented camps were actually heard to say that 5 R ANGLIAN had friends in high places! We know that the truth is that our forecast attendance numbers matched the capacity of the hutted camp. When the Otterburn 'monsoon' really got going we must confess to feeling some sympathy with the remainder of 7 Field Force and, in particular, with the 3rd and 7th Battalions, but it was possible to cope with this by switching on the heating and shutting all doors and windows.

In fact we made extremely good use of the



Mortars firing under NBC conditions.

excellent range and training facilities. Training was the epitome of the All Arms cooperation we have grown to expect from the Regular and Volunteer elements of 7 Field Force. The Anti-Tank and Mortar Cadres being excellent examples with regular and volunteer soldiers working and training together.



WO2 Peter Noble instructs the Anti Tank Cadre.



March and Shoot—Cpl Hall and Pte Baxter at the water splash.

No 3 (Essex) Company easily won the Battalion March and Military Skills Competition organised by the 21C, followed by the D'Arcy Trophy, an inter-Company competition based on the result of the Annual 'Tickle' Fitness Competition.

The undoubted highlight of the second week in Camp was the March and Shoot Competition set by GOC Eastern District. Of the TA Teams competing, No 4 (Hertfordshire) Company came first and No 2 (Northamptonshire) Company second, but these results did not look quite so good when set against the overall results. Out of a total of 36 teams (26 Regular and 10 TA), we came 21st and 24th.

We were pleased to host many old friends from both East Midlands and East Anglian TAVRA, together with our Deputy Honorary Colonels. They all take a great interest in our affairs.

Our own Skill at Arms Meeting was held again this year at Colchester and No 4 (Hertfordshire) Company maintained its hold by easily winning the inter-Company prizes. They proved also that shooting is not just a matter of producing a few 'gladiators' and took most of the inter-platoon prizes. No 4 Company followed up these successes by winning all the Team prizes, and most of the individual prizes at the Eastern District Skill at Arms Meeting.

It was with high hopes that the Battalion Shooting Team went off to Bisley. Results were the best ever but not quite good enough as we were runners-up in the Inter-Unit Championship and second by one point in the much coveted China Cup. However, we were quite content with our win in the ETR Team Event, the Converted Gallery Match and the Aggregate Rifle and were well represented in the Individual Championships with Sgt Binley winning the Bisley Bullet, Cpl Wilson the Kinaird and Cpl Hornett the SMG. C Sgt Dolan, QPSI of 4 Company, must take a great deal of the credit for the performance of both his own Company and the Battalion Bisley Teams. He has now left us to return to the 3rd Battalion: his enthusiasm and ready smile will be most sadly missed.

Still on the sporting side of life, we won the Eastern District Orienteering Competition again this year.

The highlight in HQ Company year was a sub-unit rather than a Company event. The Corps of Drums, under Drum Major Griffin, took part in Beating Retreat at the Horseguards Parade in June. Cpl McIsaac continues to be responsible for the high standard of the flute playing, and L Cpl Newton, the Bass Drummer, has emblazoned all the drums in his spare time. The Corps of Drums have undertaken a large number of engagements this year, including the Northampton reunions at Peterborough and Northampton and The Burma Star Association Dinner at Leicester. The Drum Major invites any ex-regular drummers who live in the Peterborough area to come to London Road and join the team.

The Intelligence Section under C Sgt Berisford visited the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in Berlin where Ptes Haw, Sarsby, and Ward, those well known music lovers, went off to the Opera House in East Berlin. Finding it was fully booked, they spent their time watching the Berlin October Day Parade rehearsal and were probably the only British Soldiers to be present.

Major Alan Petch has retired after a long and successful period as OC HQ Company, but we have not seen the last of him as he has moved three doors down the corridor to become the full time Battalion Administrative Officer. The new OC is Major Tony Elsey, who at one time commanded the Signal Platoon at Corby. Capt Andrew Alexander has



4 (Hertfordshire) Company Team Eastern District SAAM.
Cpl Hickman, LCpl Hornett,
Cpl Batchelor, Cpl Morgan,
Pte Hutchins, Cpl Hurnett,
CSgt Dolan, Maj Kelsey,
WO2 Lacey, Sgt Verden.

taken over as 21C and Capt Charles Greenhough takes his post as Intelligence Officer. From the permanent staff we said farewell for the second time to W02 Pete Lane, and we welcome Sgt John Lowe as QPSI from the 2nd Battalion, and Sgt Phil Dowd from the 1st Battalion as Signals PSI.

In No 1 (Suffolk) Company W02 M Watkins has been replaced by W02 Lou Gorbould as SPSI. He can't keep away from the TA!

No 2 (Northamptonshire) Company did extremely well in the escape and evasion Exercise FLY-BY-NIGHT, when 5 Platoon from Rushden secured the Trophy and the beer, with Sgt Wilcox and his team coming first, and 2 Lt Wilson a close second. Capt Peter Horrell assumed command after Major Tony D'Alton reluctantly handed over due to heavy business commitments. The Company has a full complement of officers, and looks forward to gaining much from the stability this will give them.

No 3 (Essex) Company successes at Camp are recorded elsewhere. W02 Patrick has succeeded W02 Hughes, and C Sgt Turner has replaced C Sgt Gridley: we wish them all the best of luck.

No 4 (Hertfordshire) Company has had yet another very good year, particularly in the shooting reported elsewhere. Lt Geoffrey Walton proved that shooting is not the only forte in 4 Company, by winning the Battalion Inter-Platoon test exercise, with the other two rifle platoons of 4 Company taking second and third places. Major Colin Albany gave up

command at the end of March, having joined the Hertfordshire Regiment as a drummer boy and served continuously at Hertford, apart from his full-time service with the Beds & Herts Regiment. The performance of his Company during his period in command indicates the high standards he demanded and received. He now goes on to become Bn 21C leaving Major Nick Kelsey at the helm at Hertford ably assisted by Capt Alan Gregory. W02 McGowan left the Company after an excellent two years as SPSI, and W02 Peter Noble has taken over and made a considerable impact by starting 'keep fit' training for the Company wives and girlfriends!

Battalion recruiting continues to go well, putting extra strains on the Company Recruiting Staff, Clerical Officers and Training Teams. It does offer us the chance to be rather more selective, and by weeding out the doubtful applicants we hope to be able to cut down on our turnover and wastage. Although well recruited we will not, of course, turn down the chance to recruit any ex-members of our Regular Battalions, particularly if they have special skills to offer.

The end of this year coincides with the end of another phase in the short history of this Battalion when we leave 7 Field Force. The opportunity to soldier with the regular members of the Field Force has been both rewarding and stimulating, and we will miss it very much indeed. However, we also look forward to a new and challenging life in 49 Brigade.

6th Battalion

TENTH ANNIVERSARY

The tenth anniversary of the 6th Battalion was reached on 1st April 1981 and the event was celebrated with a buffet supper at Bury St Edmunds and many past and present officers attended. Guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of St Edmundsbury and members of RHQ and the USAF. The anniversary cake was cut jointly by the Colonel of the Regiment, General J. B. Dye and Lieutenant Colonel David James.

At the end of a battalion's first decade it is always a time for reflection and diagnosis. Those who saw the beginning have seen the Battalion attain a high degree of professionalism with a fully recruited ORBAT. This happy situation was not reached without a great deal of hard work by all ranks, past and present. In its short history the Battalion has trained in the USA, Belize, Kenya, Denmark, Berlin, Gibraltar and West Germany.

Of the five Commanding Officers, it is perhaps appropriate that a Territorial should command in this anniversary year. Lieutenant Colonel David James succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Tom Dean (our first Regular Commanding Officer) on 7th March 1981. The Second-in-Command, Major R. P. James, is the other half of the James and James Management Team.



The Colonel of The Regiment and CO cut the cake at the 10th Anniversary of the Battalion.

HEADQUARTER COMPANY

The ten years has also seen the authority for a Headquarter Company to be established and located with Battalion HQ. The Wednesday evening Drill Nights at Bury St Edmunds soon took on the bustling activity previously associated with the Battalion's outstations and the Company is already fully recruited. The establishment of the new Company lead to a redistribution of posts within the Battalion. Major John Raybould became the first OC with Captain Richard Watson from 'A' Coy as 2IC. CSM Douglas Burch was transferred from Cambridge Company and Sgt Adrian Forde from Bedford is the new CQMS. The signals Platoon have remained the same and Lt Alan Spearing from 'B' Coy became the new Intelligence Officer while the creation of a Mortar Section added a new challenge to the Coy, and Sgt Carpenter from the 1st Battalion, together with many other duties, has them in his charge.

TRAINING

The training theme for the year was Home Defence and Conventional Tactics, with special emphasis on the training of Junior Officers and JNCOs. Training Major, Willy Hawkins, ran two very successful training weekends at Stanford Training Area with the aim of consolidating and improving the lessons and skills learnt in Exercise Square Leg from the previous year. This was the lead up to a Battalion Exercise at Sennybridge during Annual Camp. At camp we hosted a Company from the Maryland US National Guard for the second time, both occasions being at Sennybridge!

Prior to camp, the Company and Battalion Shooting Teams excelled themselves at the Eastern District Small Arms Meeting and at Bisley. At the Eastern District Meeting 'D' Coy were the overall champions of the Battalion, which in turn was pipped at the post by our sister unit, the 5th Battalion from Peterborough. The overall results were: *Eastern District*— D Coy—2nd; B Coy—3rd;

HQ Coy—4th; C Coy—5th; A Coy—7th.
Bisley— Imperial Tobacco Trophy: Cpl
Neill—1st; Daily Telegraph Cup: 6 R
ANGLIAN—7th.

Cpl Bob Neill of 'D' Company became the Battalion Champion Shot and the best class 'B' TAVR. All in all it was felt that the Battalion effectively served notice that they will be a force to be reckoned with in 1982.



Cpl Neill of D Company cradles his Bisley trophy.

ANNUAL CAMP

Camp came quickly upon us. In June, after quickly settling in at Sennybridge, preparations were made to receive our American guests. After lengthy negotiations with the RAF and HM Customs the Second in Command was allowed to meet the Maryland National Guard on the airfield tarmac despite the attentions of a particularly aggressive RAF police dog.

On the following day the National Guard assembled in the Camp Cinema to be officially welcomed by the Commanding Officer and to meet the Company Commanders. Introductions over, they were soon being trained on the unfamiliar British small arms weapons.

For the Battalion exercise, the men from Maryland were teamed up with C (Essex) Company as enemy in a Home Defence setting. After an exercise that proved East Anglians to be worthy coalminers, the Bat-



Er—were here.

talion was airlifted back to Sennybridge to enjoy the remainder of the Camp.

On the middle weekend our guests were taken on a sightseeing trip around the local countryside with visits to Brecon and Cardiff. At first light on Sunday morning a party of 45 left with two subalterns from the Essex Company to taste the delights of London.

The second week revolved around the use of the excellent ranges and the staging of the annual Gaza Cup. The National Guard returned creditable results but the Wisbech Platoon commanded by David Denson of D (Cambridgeshire) Company were the overall winners. In spite of all the activity an Officers' Mess Guest Night was held on the last Thursday to which a number of former members of the Battalion were invited. Guests included the Deputy Director of the WRAC and Lieutenant Colonel H. C. Ham-bury, the Lord Lieutenant of Bedford and President of the East Anglian TAVRA. The Band from the Depot at Crickhowell provided the music and National Anthems. Appropriately enough, the Tickle Fitness test was run on the morning after!



Exchange of Standards between C Company and the Maryland National Guard.

WRAC Power. Two members of the battalion guard members of the Maryland National band at camp.



New Weapons for the National Guard demonstrated by SSgt Ashley.

BATTALION NEWS

The Battalion had its annual FFR inspection at the beginning of November and, in particular, the enthusiastic approach by a very non-military Dr 'Chester' White, impressed the critical gaze of our inspector, Brigadier R. C. Middleton, Deputy Commander Eastern District.

The WRAC contingent continue to astound the male members of the Battalion with Janet Hiscott achieving the 'Best Recruit' of her intake at Guildford and OCdt Marianne Reilly winning the Best Shot trophy at the Bn SAA Meeting. CSgt Staples from B Coy continues to bring some Poacher magic to those around him and was the main inspiration in the Company winning the Battalion Football Competition and achieving eighth overall in the UKLF Cross Country Championships. His team also won the Eastern District TA Cross Country competition.

In September Lt Roger Adey commanded a composite battalion platoon in Belize having achieved remarkable recruiting results to maintain B (Bedfordshire) Company up to its full strength.

C (Essex) Company said goodbye to Colour Sergeant Wally Cook as PSI before he returned to the 3rd Battalion and welcomed Colour Sergeant Peter Armes in his stead. The Company has now become the official resident of Vange Camp which extends the Battalion recruiting down as far as the Thames Estuary. Fittingly, the 56 mile Essex Way Walk from Epping to Colchester continues to attract the company walkers.

In the heart of Cambridgeshire 'D' Coy retain their hold over the Battalion's shooting competitions winning the Rifle Match, SMG and LMG pairs. CSM Doug Burch was dined out on his appointment to the newly formed HQ Coy and was presented with an inscribed sword. Lt Mike Veal returned to the Company, looking well after his trip to Cyprus and his time with the 3rd Battalion. More recently CSgt Jim Coltman from the 1st Battalion has replaced CSgt Dennis Wilson as PSI.

Major Dennis Haslam was awarded yet another TD at a ceremony attended by the Lord Lieutenant and was also chosen as the



Lt Col D. W. James presents the consolation prizes at Battalion football tournament.

commander for the composite company going to Gibraltar in 1982.

At 'A' Coy CSgt Trevor Anderson took over as PSI from CSgt Colin Scales. In November members of the Coy under Lt Miles Green, the Adventure Training Officer, undertook the Fens walk and raised a considerable sum of money for charity.

Battalion Headquarters have welcomed the first Regular Adjutant of the 6th Battalion in the form of Captain Jim Badger from the 2nd Battalion. The new PSAO, Captain John Milward, replaced Captain Harry Woods in July, having served with a REME TA unit in Newcastle. In November the Battalion dined out the now retired Harry Woods together with Training Major, Willy Hawkins. Both were presented with mementoes of their service to the 6th Battalion, and an excellent cabaret was provided by the band of the 3rd Battalion. Guests included two former Commanding Officers; Colonels Paul Raywood and Tom Dean, who travelled over from West Germany for the occasion.

The 6th Battalion's tenth anniversary year sees us up to full strength after a busy and exacting training schedule and looking forward to new faces and new challenges in 1982.

7th Battalion

Since October 1980 and the return from Exercise Crusader/Spearpoint, the Battalion has been kept fully occupied. The period from October 1980 to March 1981 was concerned, in training terms, with revision, practice and polishing of individual infantry skills. From April until October we concentrated on section, platoon and company level training culminating in a Field Force Concentration at Otterburn in late September. In addition to the purely military training, which occurs on two weekends each month, there have been three ceremonial occasions to provide a change from the more normal training.

Thus, in October 1980 the general tempo for the companies appeared to be a lot slower than that which everyone had become accustomed to. Perhaps this had something to do with the financial restraints suddenly imposed on fuel and man training days as well as the pressure being relieved after the successful exercise in Germany. The individual training cycle started with the Battalion concentrating at Beckingham Camp in October. This initial weekend was run, in the main, by the permanent regular staff and allowed full involvement by the majority of the T.A. personnel unimpeded by administration. The training included radio use and operating procedures, anti-armour and general fire control, conduct of ranges and coaching, intelligence and NBC reporting as well as weapon handling, patrolling and NBC drills. Later in the month some 18 soldiers from A Coy again took part in "Exercise Stainton-Chase", a North East District March and Shoot. Against some formidable TA and Regular opposition the team finished about half way up the table. Other training in the month included a tutorial night navigation and movement exercise for members of B Coy, while the support weapons platoons travelled to Otterburn for live firing, culminating in the mortars providing the illumination for the anti-tank (Wombats) platoon night shoot.

November/December were occupied by the Battalion organised central training weekends supplemented by company weekends and a series of well attended company social events. Successful formal functions for both the



I know its here somewhere!

Warrant Officers and Sergeants and the Officers' Mess provided a general 'run-up' to Christmas.

In the January to March quarter, battalion and company training continued with the centrally organised training indicating an improved standard amongst the soldiers. In January the annual visitation of the Battalion H.Q. staff to each detachment and company location for exercise "Check List" was greeted with the "usual" enthusiasm by the companies. This exercise can be considered as either a wind up to the training year or as a pre-cursor to the next training year, being designed to ensure that the organisation and administration of each company has no major flaws before the series of inspections by



GOC Eastern District presents TEM to CSgt Hardy, A Company.



Its supposed to go in there-- I think!!

higher formations. In February the Field Force Commander, Brigadier Keith Spacie, visited the Battalion at Beckingham Camp. In March the G.O.C. Eastern District, Major General Dick Gerrard-Wright, visited NBC training at Stanford PTA.

During April, the training emphasis chang-

ed from individual to collective training, while Battalion and company command post groups "tested the framework scenario" at the Battle Group Trainer at Bovington. Whilst the occasion was stimulating and lessons were learned, the countryside did not provide quite the realistic setting that was re-



A study in concentration.



Assessing the situation.

competition, whilst another LDY Senior, C/Sgt. Blanchard comfortably walked away with the Senior NCO prize. A team from B Coy, including an officer, won the section match prize. Later in the month the LDY company completed an exhausting weekend of map reading in the Edale National Park area.

The first of the three ceremonial occasions also took place in May when, at the special request of the newly elected Mayor of Grimsby, A and B Companies jointly provided a 36 strong contingent for the Mayor's Inaugural Church Service and Parade. The theme for the Mayoral Year was to be 'Public Service' and on this first official function the con-



The march past at the freedom of Boston.

quired for this concept. This apart, the exercise demonstrated the potential available for training through the small computer medium.

May was a hectic month. At the beginning of the month, elements of the Battalion Command Post moved to Germany to take part in Exercise Hurst Park acting as lower control for 1 Armoured Division. The fine weather and the chance to play a new part in a large exercise made the week interesting, informative and enjoyable—meanwhile, in England, the remainder of the Battalion was engaged in battalion skill at Arms weekend. This was a particularly successful weekend which revealed that at least one officer knows one end of a weapon from the other! Lt. Jeremy Hyde (LDY Coy) won the SMG.

tingents from R.A.F. Binbrook, H.M.S. Shetland and the 7th Battalion, together with a 96 piece Police band, made it very much a service oriented occasion. The subsequent reception by the crowds, the generous compliments, free publicity and abundance of goodwill made the small expenditure of man training days very worthwhile.

In June, and although military training continued at weekends and on drill nights, again the main events concerned ceremonial occasions. On Saturday, 19th June, the Freedom of the Borough of Boston in Lincolnshire was granted to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment. As is reported elsewhere, we were represented on parade by 100 soldiers from A and B (Lincolnshire)

Companies under command of Major Peter Moseling.

The next day in Leicester, on the occasion of the annual "Leicester Tigers' Reunion", the Colours of the 4th and 5th Battalions, the Royal Leicestershire Regiment were "laid up" in the Cathedral. The Colour Parties and Escorts to the Colours on this occasion were provided by members of HQ (Leicestershire) Company of the 7th Battalion.

Throughout July and August many firms in the Battalion area closed down for the two weeks' annual holidays. Thus, whilst training continues, numbers attending are affected. Companies, nevertheless, carried through their training programmes which included personal weapons' tests and platoon level continuation training. LDY Company organised an inter-company marching competition over Yorkshire's Lyke Wake walk with 12 teams of six taking part: the first team home was an HQ Company team in 12 hours and 2 minutes for the 44 miles.

August saw a Battalion organised inter-platoon competition at Stanford PTA. The competition, based upon platoon defensive positions, incorporated skills such as patrolling and navigation; ambush and anti-ambush drills; weapon siting and NBC. The team gaining most points was the Gainsborough platoon of B Coy with 12 Platoon of D Coy coming a close second. The month ended with LDY Coy letting "the moths out of the money chests in a big way" by providing a

well organised lunch and family amusements for their Company Families' Day.

September found us preparing for the Field Force concentration and Battalion two weeks' Annual Training at Otterburn: two weeks which will be remembered for the appalling weather. Living under canvas, whilst a novelty for some, adds a certain "Je ne sais quoi" to life—especially when the tentage blows down and the area is a sea of glutinous mud! Despite all the dramas, the cadre based training which occupied the first week was highly successful. In the second phase, companies used the excellent range facilities and on the night of the second Tuesday the Battalion took to the hills for a three day company test exercise with Bn HQ providing control and co-ordination. Each company was tested, in adverse conditions, in a Bridge Demolition Guard role, in a company defensive position, in a counter-attack role and as an 'enemy' force. This considerable activity kept everybody on their toes.

The annual competition by the Battalion Senior NCOs for the "steelback" trophy was won for the second year by C/Sgt M. Blanchard of LDY Coy. In the Eastern District March and Shoot Competition, although the Battalion did not figure in the top five placings—nevertheless we were not at the bottom!

In October, activity was restricted to company shooting practice, localised company training and post camp sorting out of stores and equipment. The half yearly audit of

Steelback 1980.
Sgt Kite, Sgt Cottam,
CSgt Blanchard (Winner),
CSgt Freeman, Sgt Harvey,
Sgt Capon.



Company accounts was completed without any undue stresses.

The Battalion now moves into the next six monthly cycle of training with annual recruiting about to commence again. The high numbers wishing to join the TA, the continued high turnover rates, the constraint on overbearing to 110% of establishment and the tight control of man training days, have made initial recruit screening essential. In November the Battalion strength was 675 (including 37 officers), 372 attended annual camp at Otterburn and 368 were paid their bounty for the year 1980/81.

We congratulate Pte. Tillyard (HQ Coy) who was nominated the best TA photographer (category 6) in the Army Photographic competition and LCpl Cooper of B Coy who was included in the Army Rugby Team. Colour Sergeant Haniver (QPSI—A Coy) represented the Army at

Athletics.

Finally, as another year closes, we enter a new phase in the history of the Battalion. Since 1978 we have been part of a Regular Field Force formation. The benefits of such an association have been many but in January 1982 the 5th and 7th Battalions of the Regiment are to become part of a new TA Brigade based in Nottingham—although operational command will remain with the successor to 7 Field Force for a further year. It is appropriate, therefore, to publicly express the thanks of the Battalion to the many members, past and present, of 7 Field Force who have collectively, or individually, helped and guided the Battalion during the last three years. For the future, all members of the Battalion, well accustomed to change, look forward to the forthcoming challenges and of getting to 'grips' with the new role under the Revived and Rejuvenated "Polar Bear".

**DON'T JUST SIT THERE!
DO SOMETHING!!
THE TA NEEDS YOU AND MORE
LIKE YOU**

Depot Queen's Division

In many ways 1981 has been an extraordinary year for the Depot. Last year there were eight or nine Adult Recruit platoons in training and more than three hundred Junior Soldiers and Drummers. In December 1981 there are just eleven Adult Recruits and two hundred and sixty Junior Soldiers. After December there will be no Adult Recruits at the Depot until the start of the new training year in April 1982.

Those members of the Regiment who have served at Bassingbourn will appreciate that when working at full capacity the Depot is a very busy place. Although we have welcomed the breathing space created by a shortage of recruits in training we have not been idle. As many Sergeants and Corporals as possible have been released for Educational Proficiency Certificate courses, potential NCOs, Grade I Soldiers and GPMG(SF) training cadres have been run for regular battalions of the Division and training teams have been sent to TA Camps and to the UDR.

After Christmas we shall be sending teams to assist with training to Germany, Berlin, Cyprus, Bermuda and Northern Ireland. We shall continue to run the TA recruits' and JNCOs' courses and also preparatory Cadres for NCOs' Brecon and Platoon Commanders' Courses as well as Divisional Skill at Arms Courses for both regular and TA battalions.

Personalities

Sadly, in July we said farewell to Lt Col Kerry Woodrow who handed over command to Lt Col Ian Baillie of the Queen's Regiment. RSM "Nobby" Dawe handed over in May to RSM Jamieson, also of the Queen's Regiment, and went off to take up his appointment as RSM of the 7th Battalion.

On Friday 13th November Lieutenant Paul Currell officially left the Regiment and the Army. He was bade farewell by the Colonel Commandant of the Queen's Division, Major General Dick Gerrard Wright and the Col-

Lt Col Kerry Woodrow being towed out of the Depot.



onels of the Regiments of the Queen's Division. As the Colonel Commandant pointed out, Paul Currell has served as a fine example of courage to us all, and we naturally wish him all the best for the future.

New arrivals from the Regiment include Lieutenant Richard Kemp from the 3rd Battalion, CSgt Lawton from the 2nd and CSgt Hill from the 3rd. We look forward to the arrival of Major David Wright (to be Second in Command) and Major Jeremy Steele who takes over D Company in December.

Major Events

In spite of being short of recruits to train, the usual big events took place during the year. These included the invasion of the Barracks by 15,000 schoolboys and girls at the Annual Exhibition for Schools held over three days in July.

Bandmaster Stuart Watts and Drum Major Wild with the Junior Band and Corps of Drums played their part in the successful Beating of Retreat on Horseguards during the 9th to 11th June and, by all accounts, acquitted themselves very well alongside the Bandsmen and Drummers of the Queen's Division.

On the 18th of June three platoons of Junior Soldiers of C Company passed out. The inspecting officer was Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence Lewin, GCB, MVO, DSC, Chief of the Defence Staff. On 6th August 100 Junior Soldiers of D Company were inspected on their Passing Out Parade during a heavy thunderstorm by Major General JB Akehurst, CBE. The parade, commanded by

Major Mike Menage, was held in the large hangar but the rain was so heavy that only the Bandmaster managed to find a dry island to stand on. Everyone else got wet feet, including General Akehurst.

Sports

Sgt Brothers, Cpls Hickey, Stamp, Hammond and Dowling continue to represent the Regiment in the Depot Soccer Team. Though there is to be no cup run this year, the team has now settled and is playing well, the latest big scalp being a Major Unit, 39 Engineer Regiment, who were beaten five goals to nil.

The Hockey Team started the season well reaching the senior finals of the Eastern District Six-a-Side Competition where they were beaten by one goal by the eventual winners, 8 Field Workshops REME. The team is now skippered by Sgt Leighton (2nd Battalion) includes Major Mike Menage and Captain Jonathan Borthwick and looks to have a promising season ahead of it.

Bisley

Brown berets continue to dominate the Bisley scene. This year, after sweeping the board again at the Eastern District Skill at Arms Meeting, Lieutenant John Weigold's team achieved a best ever result of being placed 4th in the Minor Units order of merit. The team consisted of Royal Anglians only and included W02 Massingham, Sgt Bullard, Sgt Smith, Cpl Kilby and Cpl Chapman. Sgt Bullard was subsequently selected to fire SMG for the Army 8.

**Excellent Museums may be visited in
Northamptonshire at Abington Park
in Lincoln at Sobraon Barracks and in
Leicester at 'The Magazine'.
All are open on weekdays to the public.**

EXERCISE MONTE BIANCO 1981

—By Private G. Lerwill
—2nd Battalion

This was my first experience of mountaineering with the Army and I found it very different from civilian hill walking and rock climbing. The exercise had two phases, three weeks of selection, training and “hardening” in the Capel Curig area of N. Wales followed by three weeks in the Aiguilles/Monte Bianco area of N. Italy to learn the techniques of snow and ice work and to put the polishing touches to our rock technique.

The time in N. Wales was physically and mentally tough, with the constant fear of an RTU through lack of fitness and the sheer physical pressure of moving faster over the hills than I had ever done before. The first day was typical: we did the Snowdon Horseshoe in some four and a half hours in lousy weather, a walk that I would normally have allowed a day for and I would probably have turned back as the weather deteriorated. We lost one man RTU that day because he could not keep the pace up. I had difficulty using a fast walking pace on the ascent and running on descents of 1000 feet or more over rough and steep ground. I could not see the point of this killing pace at the time but I was to appreciate it later in Italy.

There were many things I liked in the Wales phase, such as coming down from a long day on the Carneddys to cool off by swimming in Llyn Ogwen. Also the long days on Idwal Slabs where we climbed stripped to the waist in perfect weather, often climbing free as the day progressed and we learned the routes.

Italy was very different. Initially we were short of breath even at base camp (2000m) and the sheer size of the peaks seemed to start where Snowdon stopped while the ridge lines seemed more like sharks teeth in their serrated outline than real rock. I saw places I had read about such as the Peuterey Ridge, the Branva glacier, the network of cable cars which seemed to crisscross the valley, Chamonix, Monte Bianco, the tunnel and many others. I had seen glaciers before in Iceland but never as many or as large as the Italian ones. We learned much that was new to us; the way to hold an ice axe so that it could be quickly brought underneath you and your weight used to stop yourself, walking together on a rope so that should a crevasse open up beneath one man



Pte Lerwill, 2nd Battalion.

then the other two can get him out, and continuously climbing with a rope of three.

We climbed several peaks but bad weather on Monte Bianco frustrated the main objective of the exercise. This was a blow, but I thought the smaller peaks had been more interesting to climb. Two days in particular stand out in my mind, when we ascended Monte Paradiso (the highest mountain in Italy) and when we climbed a peak some 300m lower. The day on Monte Paradiso was a slow exhausting plod, the only satisfaction being to reach the summit with its tremendous view. The day on the other peak began at 0400 hours to catch the snow just right and we walked some 2 kms to the snowline using our head torches. At first light we cramponed up and began to climb. The first third of the peak

was relatively easy though it became progressively steeper. At about 0800 hours we hit a rock band 200ft high and overhanging which we traversed for some 700m until we found an ice chute which was vertical and broke through the rock band to the snow above. SSI Orange, our patrol leader, lead the climb moving out onto the ice with only the first quarter inch of the front points of his crampons sticking into the ice. He hammered in several ice pitons some 60ft above my stance in case I should fall and I climbed the first pitch to his position and then belayed the third man up to me. SSI Orange then cut steps in the ice as he climbed higher and showered us with a constant shower of snow and ice chunks. We could not move out of the path for fear of being dislodged from our poor stances. Some time later we succeeded in getting back into easier snow.

The remainder of the ascent was a somewhat easier climb with another 1000m of near vertical snow, leading to a rounded summit where we stopped for 30 minutes before starting to descend by a different route. We were quickly back onto steep snow and we had to cut large steps for our cramponed feet and go more slowly than we would have wished. When we reached the rock band we found it not so steep, and only 90 ft in height. However we had to climb down in crampons and I for one needed a tight rope more than once. Once back down onto the snow it was virtually glissading all the way back to the mountain hut.

We had an afternoon to recover and then began planning and packing for the journey next day to another valley, some 23 miles and 6000m away. We began at 0320 hours with only one head torch between four and had to watch our step until first light. The route began with a long stretch on a glacier, fresh snow covered many of the crevasses and our

Italian guides backtracked more than once. I was on a rope of three with one of the guides and another soldier, and either led the party or rested in second place as we became exhausted. On one stretch we got onto the ice basin which is the source of a glacier and were faced by a ring of steep cliffs. Mario, our leader, took us on to the ice which clung below these cliffs and began to climb. The standard of ice was not too difficult but Mario led on at a furious pace and I was soon gasping as we were above 3500m. The ice changed to water ice at a bad time and I fell some 20ft but after a few moments' rest we continued at a slower pace. When we reached the cliffs we took it even easier and climbed some 170ft to reach a knife edge. The three of us sat astride the ridge and saw the rest of the party toiling to reach us on one side, and the peaks and ridges stretching to the horizon on the other with not a soul to be seen.

I thought the worst was over at this stage with only the descent to come. At first the descent was easy with the ground and the miles falling away beneath us. We left the snowline behind us and followed the meltwater streams down a steep descent to the valley. We started, as we had many times on Tryfan, running, but this changed as we descended some 6 times the height of Tryfan, into a wolf-trot, run 100, walk 100. The route became a meander between woodland and giant boulders and after another seven miles I was pleased to find the transport waiting for us.

I learned a great deal from my time in the mountains. Not only about the techniques used but also about my own limits which were themselves greatly extended. I became fitter than I have ever been, and found my mental stamina much greater also. I look forward to the opportunity to first improve these skills and then use them to teach others.

THE REGIMENTAL SHOP

**Do you need anything from the Regimental Shop?
Details of items that are available are on Page 80.**

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

The Sixteenth Annual Report and Accounts were presented to the Annual General Meeting held at Regimental Headquarters at Bury St Edmunds on 6 March 1981. Colonel P. E. B. Badger DL took the chair. The report covered the period up to the meeting while the accounts covered the year up to 31 December 1980. The Benevolent Fund continues to be in very good shape largely due to the continuous generous support given by serving members of the Regiment to the Days Pay Scheme.

Regimental Benevolent Funds

Each year the Regiment and our Associations are involved in a considerable number of benevolent cases. One way in which we help is to support the excellent work of the Army Benevolent Fund, as may be seen by the following extract from a letter from that fund:

"I am writing to acknowledge with gratitude your cheque for the splendid sum of £4,000 as the donation for the current year (1981) to the Army Benevolent Fund from the Royal Anglian Regiment Association Benevolent Fund. I need hardly say that we are deeply grateful for this very substantial help for the work of our fund. It is of course most encouraging for us that your Regimental Association has felt able to further increase its contribution and I can assure you that we do indeed appreciate this very greatly. Might I ask you to convey our sincere thanks to the Members of your Association and to the Trustees of your Benevolent Fund: it means a great deal to have the wonderful support that we always get from your Regiment".

Our Regimental Benevolent Fund Committee work closely with the Army Benevolent Fund and SSAFA to help any serving members of the Regiment, ex-members or their families

who are in urgent need. To apply for help you should approach your Company Commander if you are serving, your local Area Secretary (see page 3) or SSAFA.

REGIMENTAL REUNION

The Regimental Reception following the Horseguards Parade on 11 June took the place of the annual Reunion at Bassingbourn. In 1982 the Regimental Reunion will be sponsored by the 3rd Battalion in Meeanee Barracks, Colchester on Saturday 5 June.

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS PAST AND PRESENT DINNER CLUB

The 14th Annual Dinner was held at the Queens Division Depot at Bassingbourn on 24 October when records were broken with 230 members and guests sitting down to dinner. Stan Chandler came from America and our Dinner Chairman, General Sir Timothy Creasey KCB, OBE, WO, flew in from the Persian Gulf.

Guests and Members were full of praise for the excellence of the meal and the high standard of organisation by the Depot Staff. We are fortunate indeed to be able to enjoy Depot hospitality year after year, and especially for the "Past" Members to be able to relive a "Sgt Mess" night again. Our thanks go to RSM Jamieson and his excellent Mess.

The presence of General Sir Timothy Creasey as Chairman was much appreciated by all as was very apparent by the rousing cheer that followed his after dinner speech. Our Club guests included Lieutenant General Sir Richard Goodwin and Brigadier H. C. Millman of HQ The Queens Division. As a point of interest, 1981 marked the 75th anniversary of the Dinner Club which, as a Suffolk Regiment function, held its first dinner at Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds in 1906. The Club was renamed "Royal Anglian" in 1968.

THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
COMBINED GENERAL AND BENEVOLENT FUNDS
Abridged Balance Sheet as at 31 December, 1980

CAPITAL OF FUNDS			ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		
1979		£	1979		£
66,346	Balance brought forward	74,987	109	Office furniture at cost less depreciation	468
9,020	Excess Income over Expenditure	10,201	53,575	Investments at Cost	59,801
			11,614	Case loans/debtors	9,252
			4,469	Stock	4,144
			11,515	Cash at Bank and deposit	16,760
			173	Cash in hand	28
			81,455		90,453
				<i>Deduct Liabilities</i>	
			6,089	Creditors	5,265
75,366		85,188	75,366		85,188

GENERAL FUND

Abridged Income & Expenditure Account

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
1979		£	1979		£
106	Subscriptions	110	96	Admin and audit	131
635	Profit on sales of stock	747	172	Printing & Stationery	670
286	Refund Admin Expenses from Benevolent Fund	536	39	Wreaths	66
92	Investment Income	92	269	Entertainment	14
8	Deposit a/c interest	—	288	Donations	375
145	Excess Expenditure over Income	185	178	Regimental Reunion	—
			230	Postage, Depreciation and stocks written off	414
1,272		1,670	1,272		1,670

BENEVOLENT FUND

Abridged Income & Expenditure Account

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
1979		£	1979		£
18,726	Days Pay Scheme	22,755	539	Admin & Audit	768
5,249	Investment Income	5,980	—	Write off bad dept	8
512	Investment Short Term Deposit	1,430	—	Solicitors fees	43
1,566	Sundry Donations & Receipts	904	5,707	Case Grants	7,851
			—	Stationery	714
			3,000	Donation ABF	3,700
			4,297	Grants to Outstations	2,957
			1,500	Personal Accident Insurance Scheme	1,500
			1,920	Journal & Annual Report	2,200
			70	Donations & Appeals	313
			—	Association Badges	814
			9,020	Excess Income over Expenditure	10,201
26,053		31,069	26,053		31,069

Around The Branches



NORFOLK

Annual Reunion Dinner — Norwich 1981

The Annual Reunion Dinner of The Royal Norfolk Regiment and The Royal Anglian Regiment (Norfolk) Association was held in Norwich on Saturday, 26th September 1981. Brigadier F. P. Barclay, the President of the Association, presided and one hundred and sixty Old Comrades, including a good representation from the London Branch, enjoyed a congenial evening. A party of Regimental D Day Veterans, who had only that morning returned from a pilgrimage to the battlefields of Helmond, Holland, showed commendable resilience by attending.

In his customary address to the Old Comrades, Brigadier Barclay reviewed the activities of the Regimental organisations during the past year. He noted the increasing extent of the Regimental Benevolent commitments and thanked members of the Association for the generous financial support that they had continued to contribute over the years to assist former members of the Regiment in need. He also expressed his appreciation of the services rendered by SSAFA, branches of the Royal British Legion and the Forces Help Society in investigating and reporting on individuals in need so that timely assistance could be provided. He emphasised that the provision of assistance continues to be the most worthwhile aspect of the activities of the Regimental Association.

The President referred to the progress being made towards the installation of gas fired central heating in the 22 Regimental War Memorial Cottages and Bungalows at Norwich and King's Lynn. The last phase of this project is now nearing completion at King's Lynn and work should be completed before the Winter. He commended the Army Benevolent Fund and the Royal Anglian

Regiment Benevolent Fund for their generous financial support for the project.

Brigadier Barclay referred to the achievements of the 1st Battalion and the 6th (Volunteer) Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment and, on behalf of all members of the Association, he wished Lieutenant Colonel John Hart and all members of the 1st Battalion good fortune in their current operational role in Northern Ireland. He hoped that, when the 1st Battalion returned to East Anglia in 1982, he would have the opportunity to welcome many of the serving soldiers to the next Reunion Dinner at Norwich to be held on Saturday, 25th September, 1982.

Annual Regimental Services

The traditional Commemoration Service (27th September 1981) and the Regimental Association Service (26th April 1981) held in the Regimental Chapel at Norwich Cathedral were well attended and members attending are most grateful to Mrs Peter Barclay who provides and arranges the flower decorations, which do so much to enhance the beauty of the Chapel. The Services were conducted by the Reverend Wynter Blathwayt and the Addresses were given by the Venerable B O'Faral, Chaplain to Her Majesty The Queen, and Vicar of Ranworth and The Venerable G Grobecker, Archdeacon of Lynn, respectively.

The annual Remembrance Service was held at the War Memorial Bungalows (1939-45) on 11th November 1981 and the Service was conducted by the Association Chaplain. The Regimental Chapel is one of the most attractive features of Norwich Cathedral and a focal point of interest for visitors. In 1982 Services will be held in the Regimental Chapel on 25th April (Commemorative Service), 26th September (Association Service) and the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial Cottages, Norwich on 11th November.

Dinner Clubs

The Association Branches' Dinners held in London (16th May 1981) and at King's Lynn

(31st October 1981) were both well attended as was the 4th Battalion Old Comrades Dinner held in Norwich on 25th April 1981. Notices concerning these Dinners to be held in 1982 will be published in the Britannia and Castle Newsletter in January 1982. On 5th and 6th June 1981 The Royal Norfolk Regiment Dinner Club held its annual Dinner and Luncheon at the Norfolk Club, Norwich. Brigadier Peter Barclay presided at the Dinner over an assembly of 42 members, and the guest of the Club was Major General Dick Gerrard-Wright, the GOC Eastern District. On the following day some 54 Members and their wives enjoyed the annual luncheon at the Norfolk Club. It is planned to hold the next Dinner and Luncheon at the Norfolk Club in 1982 on 4th and 5th June respectively. On 1st May 1981 the 34th Annual Dinner of the 2nd Battalion "Kohima" Dinner Club was held at the Officers' Mess, Inns of Court and City Yeomanry, London at which Colonel Henry Conder presided over a gathering of some 18 former officers who served with the 2nd Battalion in Burma during World War II.

Regimental Outstation At Norwich

The decision to retain The Royal Anglian Regiment Outstation at Britannia Barracks, Norwich has greatly encouraged all members of the Royal Norfolk Regiment Association, particularly those members who participate so actively on the Committees responsible for the management of the Association's Regimental Institutions, which do so much to perpetuate our Regimental presence in the County of Norfolk.



SUFFOLK

1982 Events

Saturday 31st July 82—Suffolk Regiment Officers Dinner Club party at The Angel Hotel, Bury St Edmunds at 7.30 pm.

Saturday 31st July 82—Bury St. Edmunds Branch OCA Minden Dance—Blenheim Camp at 8.00 pm.

Suffolk Regiment, Annual Reunion Minden Day 1st August 82 at Gibraltar Barracks 11.00 am.

O.C.A. Annual Reunion 1981

The Annual Reunion was held in Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds on Sunday 2nd August and was attended by an estimated one and a half thousand. The day started with a Drumhead Service under the trees. The Rev. Tony Cato OBE, who was Chaplain to the 1st Battalion during World War II, came from Bath and gave a stirring and topical address. This was followed by a march past of Old Comrades organised by the Bury St Edmunds Branch—a spontaneous affair in which some two hundred Old Comrades took part, including members of The Cambridgeshire Regiment and our Chelsea Pensioners. Ex RSM Tridini led the parade with previous commanding Officers in the ranks. The bearing and marching of these old soldiers was as good as anything seen on the Horse Guards. Wearing their red and yellow Minden roses they marched proudly and the spirit of the Regiment was manifest in their eyes as, to the strains of "Speed the Plough", they marched past Lt General Sir Richard Goodwin.

The Suffolk Military Band under Bandmaster Ray "Hooky" Walker played at the Service, the March Past and throughout the day, their red and yellow band uniforms providing a welcome splash of Regimental colours. The Gt. Cornard & Sudbury Majorettes again treated us to two superb displays of marching and music that quickly emptied the beer tent.

That Regimental institution, the Blaker family, turned up in strength. Two Blaker children were christened during the afternoon in the Regimental Chapel with General Sir Richard Goodwin and Lt Colonel Monty Case as god parents. Needless to say each of the children was christened "Minden" amongst their other names.

The Band and Drums of the 3rd Battalion beat Retreat and provided the nostalgic finale as they marched off to "Speed the Plough" accompanied by the roaring applause of the spectators.

Bury St. Edmunds Branch

We have had an eventful year including two very successful gatherings, the Annual

Branch Dinner and a "Garden Party" given by Colonel Peter Dean.

At the Dinner on Saturday 21st February, 112 members and their guests sat down to Minden Soup, Suffolk Turkey, Duchesse Potatoes, and Dettingen Gateaux. The ladies received red and yellow button-holes at a sherry reception, dinner was announced, after the Bugle calls for half hours dress, Officers Mess, Sergeants Mess and Cookhouse. It was a surprise to see our President, Major Stan Chandler, pay us a visit in March. Stan (looked very fit and the States seem to suit him,).

Both the Bury St Edmunds and London Branches were well represented at the Annual Dunkirk pilgrimage. The London Branch as usual had the best decorated coach on the trip, and Messrs Gilly Gilham, Ray Pike and Aubrey Simmons laid a superb wreath of Minden Roses at the Dunkirk Cemetery on behalf of our Comrades who died in the "Fight back to the Beaches", I understand that Gilly Gilham BEM was the originator of this splendid gesture and a photograph taken by Ex Cpl Aubrey Simmonds is now in the Regimental Museum.

London Branch

Things have been quiet in London, but we still have our Chota Reunion at the Royal Hospital every few weeks. Ex RSM "Polly" Hopkins is now out of the Infirmary after his operation and, in time, hopes for a complete recovery. We visited him and others on Founders Day and Bill Barratt and I will be visiting the Royal Hospital again.

Ipswich Branch

By the time this goes to press we will have enjoyed yet another Minden Day at Gibraltar Barracks and one or two Green King Ales with our old pals of the Regiment. It is now three years since the Ipswich Branch held its first meeting, and I am happy to report that our membership is increasing. Although this is a healthy and happy branch, it is sad to note that only two of our members are ex-Royal Anglian Regiment, whilst the remainder are all ex-Suffolk Regiment. We would like a few more ex-Anglian members to swell our ranks. It would be nice to know that all NCOs and men are informed of the location of Regimental Associations in their area on their discharge, (Editor's Note—This is done).

Leiston Branch

What a sad blow it was to hear of the deaths of ex-CSM Nobby Clarke and ex-CSM Busty Tyler. I only briefly met Nobby when with the 1st Battalion at Blackdown in the early 30's, but I got to know him much better in the late 50's and early 60's when he joined D Coy 4 Suffolk at Lowestoft where he quickly became CSM of that Coy. All will remember Nobby as a quiet, genuine and very respected gentleman of the Regiment.

The news of the death of Busty came as a great shock: it is impossible to imagine the reunion without his vast figure to act as a centre piece. I will always remember Busty best for his escapades with the 1st Battalion in Palestine just after the last war. He was always the life and soul of the Mess, and one particular instance comes to mind which I am sure George will not mind me telling. For some reason the RSM had left his hat, stick and Sam Browne hanging in the Mess and Busty could not resist dressing up in them and giving a demonstration of Guard Mounting. Now George, the RSM, when halting, appeared to 'raise both knees' at the same time and Busty had us all in convulsions. Unbeknown to him however the RSM had entered and stood watching it all. We never did hear what excuse Busty gave to the RSM, but I bet it was good!

Now what about the living. In January I met John Perrett, ex-1st Bn Anti Tank Officer in Normandy. Regimental history will tell you that John was not only a successful Anti Tank Officer but also a very successful Patrol Leader and mobile Combat Group leader. He was commissioned into the Essex Regiment and while stationed in Leiston he met and married a Leiston lass and transferred to the Suffolk Regiment with whom he completed his service. He recently retired and has now returned to settle in the town. John wished to be remembered to all who knew him.

Suffolk Marches

The following notes by an unknown writer appear on some sheets of Music in the Suffolk Regiment Museum Archives:

Speed The Plough

Before the 12th foot sailed from Ipswich in 1741 (7 years war with France) they had

served in Scotland during the rebellions. As the regiment had always recruited in Suffolk, the regimental march is an arrangement of a Scottish Reel and a Suffolk Morris Folk tune. My late wife danced to the music whilst at School. Strange to relate, it was even danced in Canada as a Country Barn Dance, no doubt through the connections of the military personnel. The 12th foot became the Suffolk regiment in 1782, and its 1st Battalion have always marched past to Speed the Plough since 1741.

The Duchess

Arranged for the 3rd Battalion by the Duchess of Athol in 1860, for drums and pipes, adopted by the 2nd Battalion when their march 'The Dashing White Sergeant' was discontinued when the 3rd Battalion became the Depot in 1887.

1913—All Battalions ordered to march past to "Speed The Plough". "The Duchess", as a mark of respect to the 2nd Battalion was always played when the Sovereign was present or regimental colours were marched on the parade ground. The Cambridgeshires, as a volunteer regiment always used "Speed The Plough". Prior to 1908, they were the 3rd and 4th (V) Battalion The Suffolk Regiment."



CAMBRIDGESHIRE

The Cambridgeshire Regiment OCA Reunion and Memorial Service

The Reunion and Memorial Service took place at Ely on Sunday 14th June 81. This year, 1981, Lieutenant General Sir Richard Goodwin KCB CBE DSO DL, President of The Suffolk Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suf-

folk and Cambridgeshire), attended the Service in Ely Cathedral and took the Salute accompanied by the Mayor of Ely and Lt Colonel Victor Mapey, President of the OCA. The Service was led by the Dean, The Very Reverend M. S. Carey MA and prayers were said by the Reverend Canon G. Youell, Honorary Chaplain to the Forces. Lt Colonel Mapey read the lesson, and a wreath was laid in the Regimental Chapel by members of the March Branch.

The ACF Drum and Bugle Band (Whittlesey) led the Parade to the Cathedral and the collection was taken by young ladies of the Soham Village College detachment in their smart Army Cadet Force uniforms. Music during the Service and for the March Past was played by the Band of the 5th Battalion and the Bandmaster, WO1 B. W. Crossman, perfectly timed the Regimental March as the Parade passed the Saluting Base.

Old Comrades were joined by D (Cambridgeshire) Company, The 6th Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and Officers and Adult Instructors of the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force. The Standard of the Royal Artillery Association was paraded with those of the OCA. Special praise is due to D Company who had only the previous day returned from Annual Camp, a glowing example of the continuing Regimental Spirit.

At the Maltings an excellent tea was provided by Major Ken Starling and his willing helpers, and a glittering display of Regimental Silver prepared and watched over by Mr H. Taylor, enhanced the scene. Each year Colonel Stanley Aston requests all those "Cambridgeshires" who served in the 1914/18 War to step forward. General Goodwin spoke to each one of the twelve who received prolonged applause. After tea the Band and Corps of Drums of the 5th Battalion gave an impressive display watched by the Old Comrades and local residents. Just prior to this the ACF Drum and Bugle Band had given a performance which was much appreciated.

Cambridge Branch

Our Branch Sub-Committee arranged a very successful Wine and Cheese evening on Friday May 8th in the Officers Mess, at the TA Centre. We were delighted with the attendance, especially as one or two "new" ex-Cambridgeshires attended.

Among those who have written are Mr W. J. Gordon who enlisted in the 1st Battalion in 1908 and later served in the Kings African Rifles, Mr G. W. Skeels who served in the 1st Battalion and later in the 1st Suffolks and who was awarded the MM in 1917. Mr Skeels, a native of Ely, now lives in Scunthorpe, but is a regular attender at the Reunions. Major Alan Smith who lives in Shoreham-by-Sea also wrote: he joined the 2nd Battalion in 1939, was commissioned in the Suffolks and later served in the Royal Irish Fusiliers. A new member is Lt Ron Chappell who was commissioned in The Suffolk Regiment, posted to 2nd Cambridgeshires and was captured in Johore.

The Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regiment TA Officers Club

43 members and their guests sat down to the Annual Dinner and Colonel Stanley Aston acted as PMC whilst Lt Chapman was Mr Vice. In the absence of Padre Simpson, John Hyde said grace. The toast to The Regiment was proposed by Stanley Aston and in his reply Company Commander Dennis Haslam told us how well the Company had done both in numbers attending Drill nights and in various competitions. Several usual faces were absent including Dick Shervington, Walter Page, Frank Blake (recently contacted again) Ted Simpson, Bill Keatley. New faces included Major Townsend and some of his Officers, Bill Livermore, and Chris Wright (recently returned from Norway).

The Rookery Ramsamy Garden Party

There was a good turnout on Sunday 5th July and the weather was kind. The Suffolk Military Band excelled themselves while a certain black dog had a very good tea! Some old faces were looking younger than ever, including Baines, Jack Masefield, Sandy Sandeman and his brother-in-law Peter Lechey ex Gordons. It was very pleasant seeing Mrs A. A. Johnson, President of Bury FEPOW Branch.



LINCOLNSHIRE

The highlight of 1981 was our Annual Reunion, which took place at the Beachholme Holiday Camp, Cleethorpes. Our President, Major-General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard presided at the dinner and amongst those present was Major-General Gerrard-Wright who managed to take time off from his duties of G.O.C. Eastern District.

Our eldest active member, ex WO2 Frank North, now well into his 97th year, was with us once again, and took many of us on a trip down memory lane. Frank ended his 21 years service in 1921! Major Gus Segon was unfortunately unable to join us due to ill health and sent his very best wishes to all those present. In Pensioner Winter represented our Chelsea Platoon and from all accounts had an enjoyable time.

1982 Reunion

This will be held at the Beachholme on SATURDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER 1982 and details can be obtained from any of our Branches or direct from RHQ at Lincoln.

GRIMSBY BRANCH

The Branch dinner was well supported. Among the guests were Major-General and Lady Welby-Everard and the Mayor of Cleethorpes, Mrs. Skane-Davis, who was escorted by her husband.

Lt. Colonel Disney, one of our eldest members, has been in poor health recently. However, he has attended as many functions as possible.

The Branch have organised an exhibition of Regimental Militaria, which will take place in March 1982 in the Welhome Galleries, Grimsby, and will last for four weeks. The Mayor of Grimsby, a member of our Branch, will be opening the exhibition.

LINCOLN BRANCH

Saturday, the 10th September 1981 was the 21st Anniversary of the opening of our pre-

sent Club and we still have a number of our founder members who are regular supporters. Amongst them is Wilf Lewin, who celebrated his Golden Wedding this year.

We still organise coach trips and these are always well supported, the Scarborough and the Sheffield trips remain in our memory as when we visited Scarborough the weather was beautiful, and the Sheffield trip was to a brewery, need we say more!

We have had quite a few visits from serving members of the Royal Anglian Regiment, and were very pleased to see the Poachers "Tug of War" team. We had some very enjoyable evenings in their company, and the Ice Bucket, presented by them, rests in a place of honour in the bar.

Our Branch dinner will be held in the Silvergate Restaurant, Lincoln, in March 1982. Further details may be obtained from our Secretary, Jack Rothwell.



ROYAL TIGERS' WEEKEND 1981

Royal Tigers' Weekend was held this year on 20th and 21st June when attendance was even greater than normal and the weekend proved to be a great success.

Prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Association, the Band of 2nd Battalion performed an impressive Beating Retreat ceremony on the Square at Ulverscroft Road. Fortunately, the weather remained dry and the Retreat Beating was very much appreciated by the large number of Old Comrades and their families who were present.

At the Annual General Meeting the chair was taken by Colonel M. St. G. Pallot. Colonel Pallot particularly thanked the great number of members who had so willingly supported our money raising efforts which are so important to the Association. Our Annual Sweep was again run on the Grand National and after paying for prizes and administrative expenses a profit of £915 was made.

The Annual General Meeting was followed by the Annual Dinner and Reunion and it was most pleasing to see so many Old Comrades. 154 members attended the Dinner.

At the Sunday Parade Service in the Regimental Chapel the Colours of the 4th and 5th Battalions, The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, were laid up. Elsewhere in this magazine will be found a report of this memorable occasion. We were honoured by the presence of The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire and Mrs Martin, The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Leicester and many other distinguished guests. After the service, the Old Comrades, headed by the Band of the 2nd Battalion, marched past the Lord Lieutenant who took the salute. A drinks party, held at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, for Old Comrades and their guests proved to be a fitting climax to the weekend.

Finally, Royal Tigers' Weekend 1981 was the last organised by Major John Dudley, who has retired. He has been Secretary of the Association for many years and all members of the Association are most grateful to him for the unfailing hard work and service that he has given to the Association over the years. We wish him well in his retirement.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

The Regimental Reunion of the Northamptonshire Regiment and the Royal Anglian Regiment (Northamptonshire Branch) was held on 27 & 28 June 1981. At the AGM of the Association the Chair was taken by Major General J. B. Akehurst our Deputy Colonel and President: 23 Members were present. The Secretary presented the General Fund and Benevolent Fund Accounts and thanked Lt Col E. M. Goodale and Majors D. Baxter and P. F. Keily for auditing them. During the year 29 applications for assistance had been approved and £2359 had been disbursed in relief. £688 had been disbursed in Supplementary Pensions to 7 recipients. We are grateful

to the Army Benevolent Fund and The Royal Anglian Regiment for their continued support in aid of our Benevolent Funds.

Reports received from our Branches at Corby, Northampton and Peterborough indicate encouraging Branch activity and increased Royal Anglian participation; we would however like to see a greater Royal Anglian involvement in our activities.

Major General Akehurst presided at the Reunion Dinner which was attended by 140 Comrades, including a "Pride" of 5 ex RSMS and a "Brace" of ex Bandmasters, and their guests. On Sunday no less than 138 Comrades assembled for Church Parade. The Parade, led by Brigadier D. E. Taunton assisted by RSM David Knight and preceded by the Band & Drums of the 5th Battalion, marched to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre for the Reunion Church Service. En Route to Barracks after the Church Service the parade marched past the Deputy Colonel giving a smart "Eyes-Right" when passing the Dais. The Band played the Northamptonshire Regiment Quick March and a number of Comrades were heard to be singing "Hard-up, Hard-up, Always bloody-well Hard up: Hard-up, Always bloody-well Broke"—Sotto Voce, but audible. After Dismissal the Officers entertained their guests in the Officers' Mess of the Depot, Royal Pioneer Corps, by kind permission of the Commandant, whilst the Comrades and their guests slaked their great thirsts in the Regimental Club. Many mini reunions took place this weekend and we were left with the (still) unresolved query: "What, and when, was the origin of the word "JANKERS".

Comrades of the 4th Bn Northamptonshire Regiment (1939-46) held their thirty-fifth All Ranks Reunion Dinner in the Town Band Club, Kettering, on 25th September 1981. The Chairman, Major Peter Scopes presided, supported by 71 former Members of the Battalion. In proposing the Toast of "The Regiment", Major Scopes said that for some years they had been without a President and he proposed that Major A. C. (Alfred) Webb, who had served throughout the war with the battalion should be elected to this "important and onerous" office. The Comrades enthusiastically endorsed the proposal and A.C.W. agreed to accept the Presidency.

On 17th October the 5th (Hunts) battalion and the Peterborough Branch held their 27th

Annual Reunion at the TA centre, Peterborough. Major R. K. Hill (Branch President) presided and 120 Comrades and Guests were present. Toasts were given to HM The Queen and to Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, our Deputy Colonel in Chief, from whom messages for a convivial evening had been received, and to "The Regiment". The Regimental Band of the 5th Battalion played during the dinner and afterwards The Corps of Drums gave an excellent display of music and marching for our entertainment.

At each of the Reunions this year a hitherto undetected note of urgency was noticed in the general conversation as if those present realised that the sands are running out fast and unless every occasion is taken to reunite something precious, of inestimable value, will be lost, possibly forever.



ESSEX

Annual Reunion and Service of Remembrance

To maintain our traditional links with the County, the Mayors and Mayoresses of the Freedom Boroughs of Colchester and Chelmsford and the Chairman of Brentwood District Council and his wife had luncheon with Brigadier R. J. RANDALL before the Service. Other guests were Lt Col R. J. DRUMMOND, OBE, Colonel G. C. P. MORGAN, Colonel R. TOMKINS, Colonel P. D. BLYTH, CBE and their wives. The Chapel was filled to capacity for the Service of Remembrance for which the Band of the 3rd Battalion shared the accompaniment with the organist, Mrs June LEE. It is sad to report that the names of 50 comrades who had died since the last Service were read out. 550 members and guests sat down for tea while the Band and Drums gave there usual high standard performance of music and marching. They have become one of the enjoyable features of recent Reunions. Once again the March Past, at which the salute was

taken by Brigadier R. J. RANDALL and Colonel P. H. A. L. FRANKLIN, was led by Major Harry STAFF whose stentorian voice and upright bearing always amazes those who learn that he is 94 years of age. However, he is not quite the oldest in attendance because Major Henry YOUNG pips him by three years. Arrangements are in hand for 1982, the date is Sunday 27th June 1982. The Bishop of Chelmsford has accepted an invitation to give the Address at the Service.

Regimental Chapel

Morning Prayer and Holy Communion are celebrated on the first Sunday of each month at 11 am. These Services are well supported and most of those attending come to the RHQ for an hour or so afterwards.

On 11th November 1980 at 1100 hrs the 3rd Battalion held a Remembrance Service in the Chapel. All ranks wore No. 2 Dress complete with the recently adopted "collar dogs". The Chapel was full to capacity with the officers occupying the Choir Stalls. The Service was conducted by the Battalion Padre, the Colours were present, the Band played for the Service and the Commanding Officer read the lesson.

BRANCHES AND CLUBS

Chelmsford and District Branch (Secretary: Major M. FRANKS, MBE)

Another successful year was reported at the AGM. Membership had increased to over 200 and finances were sound. Mr G. SARGEANT, for many years Assistant and then Secretary, felt, that at the age of 80, he should hand over to a younger man! He was thanked for his services.

Dances continue to be held at Writtle, and thanks to Eric SAVILLE and his sub-committee, £365 profit was made over the year. Other activities included visits to the Military Musical Pageant at Wembley in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund, the Queens Division Massed Bands on Horse Guards and to the 3rd Battalion on Salamanca Day.

The Annual Dinner and Dance was held in the County Hotel, Chelmsford on Saturday 31st October, 1981 when the Guest of Honour was Mr R. SEYMOUR, Essex County Vice Chairman, The Royal British Legion.

4th Battalion Comrades Association (Secretary: Mr F. C. HAWKINS)

Visit to Italy. A holiday in Italy combined with visits to places where the 4th Battalion had been in action during the 1939/45 War was enjoyed by a party of members and wives led by Bill HAWKINS who reports as follows:

"We stayed for 2 weeks, staying at the Hotel Cruiser, Pesaro, on the Adriatic Coast. Everyone said how much they enjoyed it. We did have a few incidents which we did not bargain for. Whole day visits were made to Venice, Florence, San Marino and Assisi. Our journeys did take us close to, and sometimes over, ground that we were very familiar with almost forty years ago; of course it was difficult and sometimes even impossible to recognise our old haunts.

Several British and Commonwealth Cemeteries were visited. Gradara, Coriano Ridge, Mendola, Mortecchio and Assisi. At the Rimini Gurkha Cemetery we were able to see where Rifleman Sher Bahadur Thapa, VC, 1/9 Gurkha Rifles, was buried. This gallant man was in our own 5 Brigade 4th Indian Division (age 23). At some of these cemeteries we found the names of many Essex personnel; some of these we knew but several names were unknown to us. Several photos were taken and possibly at a later date these can be passed around for information purposes.

At Pesaro Railway Station we were assisted by a railway policeman who we found out was taken prisoner in the desert and finished his war years in the PoW Cage at Buckhurst Hill.

Our intentions while on this visit were to journey down to Cassino, but the distance and cost were too great, so as a compromise, one of our members, Captain G. GREEN, has promised to lay a wreath on the Memorial at Cassino while on holiday in Rome at the present moment."

We visited the Inde Coope Brewery at Romford with 24 members and wives and a Regimental plaque was presented as a token of appreciation.

The Annual Interim Reunion was held at RHQ Warley on 20th March 1981 where some 70 members and wives enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

On 22nd March members attended the Cenotaph to honour the memory of those who gave their lives at the Battle of Gaza in World War I and at the Battle of Cassino in World War II. Major General D. BECKETT, CB, DSO, OBE, took the Salute,

The AGM was held at the Drill Hall, Ilford, on 1st May.

We visited the Royal Hospital Chelsea on the 3rd May, when some 30 members and wives were given a very interesting tour of the establishment, and on the 4th June, the Founders Day at the Hospital when The Queen Mother took the Salute.

On 5th June ex CSM Reg COX and ex Sgt Bill HAWKINS represented the 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Field Marshal Sir Claude Aukinleck, GCB, GCIE, GSI, DSO, OBE at Westminster Abbey.

Southend and District Branch
(Secretary: Captain R. G. TURNNIDGE)

A successful Buffet Dance was held in the Drill Hall, Prittlewell, on Saturday 7th March and this venue may be used again instead of Hawkwell Village Hall. The Annual Dinner and Dance was held at Lindisfarne on 16th May. Brigadier R. J. RANDALL was the Guest of Honour. Thanks are due to the small and hard-working committee for this very enjoyable evening.

Thurrock and District Branch
(Secretary: Mr T. J. EVERETT)

Captain C. A. BARNES, MC, has accepted the Presidency of the Branch.

Saffron Walden Branch
(Secretary: Mr E. W. ELSOM)

The Annual Buffet Dance was held in the Town Hall on Saturday 19th September.

Metropolitan Essex Branch
(Secretary: Captain W. B. FAINT)

At the Annual General Meeting held on 2nd June, 1981 it was proposed and agreed that the Branch would close down with effect from 30th September 1981. The Eagle and Gun Association will accept the transfer of any member who wishes to do so.

7th Eagle and Gun Regimental Association
(Secretary: Captain A. S. CROSS)

A successful and enjoyable Reunion was held at the Drill Hall, Whipps Cross, Leyton E 10, on 24th October. Some 80 members were present.

Membership

A return of Branch membership for this year totalled 850.

**Officers Dinner Club—
3rd Battalion The Royal
Anglian Regiment**

The Annual Cocktail Party was held in the Army and Navy Club London on Friday 10th April. The 3rd Bn was in Cyprus at the time and members were delighted to receive a message of good wishes from the Commanding Officer and Officers during the evening. The date for 1982 is Friday 23rd April.

4/5th Bn The Essex Regiment

On 6th March the Annual Dinner was held at the RAF Club in London. Major General D. BECKETT, CB, DSO, OBE, was in the chair and the guests were Sir Stuart MALLINSON, CBE, DSO, MC, JP, DL, and Major General J. B. DYE, CBE, MC, DL.



**BEDFORDSHIRE
AND HERTFORDSHIRE**

The (16th Foot) Regimental Association have increased their membership by 44 in spite of 22 deaths over the year. These increases have enabled us to reconstitute the Luton/Dunstable Comrades Branch in that town's Royal British Legion Hall under its new President, Major Bill Powers, who is accepting membership from all who reside in those parts of the County.

Our Chairman, Brigadier David Carter, in spite of living in Somerset, has found time to meet us at all our major social functions; in addition his help and wise counselling have proved to be invaluable to those running the affairs of the Regiment.

The County Battalion, the 3rd (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex Battalion) the Royal Anglian Regiment, has maintained its useful and friendly contacts and it is pleasing to have them back in Colchester after their stay in Cyprus. 80 Comrades and wives, were present for the Salamanca Day festivities on 22nd July and enjoyed seeing their many 3rd Battalion friends despite the appalling wet weather.

The Massed Bands of the Queen's Division performed on 11th June at the "Horse Guards" Whitehall giving pride and pleasure to over 160 16th Foot Members and their wives, who were greatly inspired by the excellent musical programme.

The Dinner and Dance was once more in its old surroundings at "Sele School", Hertford on 9th May after an interval of 7 years. There was a good turnout of 190 Members and guests.

It is with sadness that we must record those distinguished members of the Regiment who died during 1981. The 3rd Battalion, provided their Bugler, Lance-Corporal Nelson at the Church Services for Brigadier Ernest Pepper and Ex-W.O.II Arthur Davidge which gave great satisfaction to their families and friends. Arthur Davidge also served with the East Anglian Brigade and the Royal Anglian Regiment prior to leaving the Army.

BEDFORD All Members of the Branch were very saddened by the sudden death of their Vice-Chairman Mr "Charlie" Houghton who had given years of loyal service both to the Regiment and the Branch. Mr Tom Morley has now been voted in as the new Vice-Chairman. The annual Social Evening was most successful with over 90 persons present. Successes throughout the year in local Games Leagues were recorded and the "Standard" was shown at many events, notably the Town's Memorial Parade Service for those who fell in 2 World Wars. Our distinguished Honorary Secretary, Mr "Buster" Wells, was present at Buckingham Palace in May to receive his award of the M.B.E. presented by Her Majesty, The Queen.

HERTFORD The Honorary Secretary, Mr Stanley Mansfield, has, as a result of a membership recruiting campaign, successfully trebled the numbers to 53. A climax to his appeals was a happy and well organised Dance at Hertford on 26th September.

HITCHIN The Branch increased membership considerably over the last 12 Months. Mr Harold Walker, the Branch's Honorary Secretary, has now obtained a permanent "home" for Branch Meetings and is fortunately restored again to good health after undergoing an operation in hospital during October.

LONDON Mr "Bill" Aldridge, the enthusiastic Honorary Secretary of many years visited the USA for a 6 weeks holiday with his wife and Mr & Mrs B. L. Stead. Branch Members still attend many Branch and Regimental functions; keeping the Membership figures at a good level.

ST. ALBANS The Honorary Secretary Mr H. R. Howard has been actively increasing Membership after recent ill-health. The Branch has now obtained a suitable home for its Meetings.

WARE (HERTFORDSHIRE) O.C.A. The Annual Dinner and Dance was held at "Presdales School", Ware on 23rd May. 310 persons attended, again more than last year. The Bowls Club still claims its popular appeal and successes for Mr Jimmy Crane who obtained several prizes. A successful and pleasant day was held on Barton Ranges during September when 4th (Hertfordshire) Company (T.A.) were both hosts to and competitors against the Members of the Branch.

WATFORD The Branch Standard was "blessed" in St. Alban's Abbey in September and the workmanship and needlework is excellent. Full credit should be given to the hard working Honorary Secretary, Mr Leslie (Lucky) Nunn, whose enthusiasm never fails, with the result that Membership during the last 3 years has risen sharply.

ARMY CADETS

ROYAL ANGLIAN (LEICESTERSHIRE & NORTHAMPTONSHIRE) ARMY CADET FORCE

The last twelve months have seen continued constraints on public expenditure and we have had to bear our share. We also lost a Company H.Q. in the ACF Review.

R.S.M.I. J.H. Blunt retired in October 1980 after four years as R.S.M.I. and has been succeeded by R.S.M.I. L. Warren. Our good wishes go to both of them.

It is always gratifying to report on valuable help to charities by Cadets. In 1980 Kettering Detachment, 'D' Company, collected £212 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Day Appeal and a further £101 for the Army Benevolent Fund, while Cadets from 'A' and 'D' Companies took part in a sponsored walk to raise funds for the Army Benevolent Fund and in appreciation were presented with Queen Mother Commemorative Crowns by General Sir John Mogg, Chairman of the Army Benevolent Fund.

'B' Company held its Annual Dinner in January 1981 at T. & A.V.R. Centre, Brentwood Road, Leicester. Amongst the guests were our Medical Officer Col. N. T. Nicol O.B.E. TD DL and Mrs. Nicol and our Public Relations Officer Lt. Col. M.J.B. Farnsworth M.B.E.

Also in January 1981 Martinique Detachment ('A' Company) at Daventry held an Open Day attended by sixty parents and guests who met the Officers and Adult Instructors and saw demonstrations of adventure training, first aid, field craft and weapon training.

A party of four adults and thirty Cadets from Wigston and Kibworth Detachments ('B' Company) visited the Royal Armoured Corps Training Depot at Bovington in February 1981 and had a most successful time. We hope to repeat the visit again in the future.

The Kibworth Detachment has moved to new premises and held an Open Day in early April 1981 so that potential recruits and



Presentation of GOC Eastern District Certificate of Commendation to LCpl Mark Stoodle by Brigadier RA Plummer.

members of the public could see what the Cadets do on a normal training night. Despite this the Detachment failed to meet its target of 30 Cadets by September and the T. & A.V.R. Association was unable to continue paying for its premises. To the great credit of the Detachment, parents and friends, they took over the tenancy and the Detachment continues to exist.

Glen Parva Detachment, 'B' Company, held an Open Day on Sunday 5th October 1981 opened by the Mayor of Oadby and Wigston, Mrs. Primrose Wray. The Mayor inspected the Cadets, presented Proficiency Certificates, watched a drill demonstration by the Cadets and a dance routine by the Girls' Venture Corps and visited the numerous side shows with parents and friends.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Leicester with Cadets of B and C Companies at Camp.



The winners of the Colonel Brown Cup for the best percentage of Army Proficiency Certificate passes against strength, as at 31st March 1981, were 'D' Company with 60.9%. The Cup was presented at Annual Camp in August.

On behalf of Wigston Detachment 'B' Company, Sgt. Major Instructor W. Moore presented a silver tray to Capt. S. Bullock, Quartermaster 7th Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment on his leaving, in appreciation of all the help he has given during his time with the Battalion. On the same occasion Cadet Ian Stacy was presented with a tankard on his leaving to join the Regular Army.

Out hearty congratulations to our Medical Officer Colonel N. T. Nicol on his award of the O.B.E. in the 1981 Queen's Birthday Honours List. Prior to joining the Army Cadet Force in 1967 Colonel Nicol had commanded 222 Field Ambulance R.A.M.C.(T.A.), was D.A.D.M.S. and has latterly been Honorary Colonel of 222 Field Ambulance R.A.M.C.(T.A.).

L/Cpl. Mark Stoodle has been awarded a Commendation by the GOC Eastern District,

Major General R.E.J. Gerrard-Wright, and Brigadier R.A. Plummer, Brigadier East Midlands, presented the framed Certificate at a ceremony held at Kettering on 1st July 1981. L/Cpl. Mark Stoodle at fifteen is the first of our Cadets to be given a Certificate of Commendation. He is a member of the Kettering Detachment 'D' Company and completed his first aid training during last Winter. Last February he came across an accident between two cars and kicked in a door to free the injured driver while telling passers-by to get the police and an ambulance. At the presentation Brigadier Plummer said, "Mark is a shining example of a good citizen. His help at the road accident was highly commendable. His quick action and level-headedness in such difficult circumstances are most praiseworthy."

The Chief Constable of Northamptonshire, Mr. Maurice Buck O.B.E. Q.P.M., presented Duke of Edinburgh Award Certificates to a number of A Company Cadets on the 13th October 1981 at Clare Street T.A. Centre, Northampton. Staff Sgt. Alistair Smith (Gibraltar Detachment) was presented with his Gold Award. Silver Awards went to Sgt.

Paul Canham, L/Cpl. Wayne Heighton, L/Cpl. Stuart Mathers and Cpl. David Gilbert (all of Burma Detachment) and Bronze Awards to Cpl. Adrian Morris, Cadet Garrick Robinson, Cpl. Stuart Shersby, Cpl. Mark Shersby, L/Cpl. Niel Anderson and Cpl. Michael Hill (all of Martinique Detachment) and L/Cpl. Neil Bramley (Quebec Detachment).

SPORT

Coalville and Loughborough Detachments, 'B' Company, each entered a team of five Cadets in the Eastern District Pontoon (Orienteering) Competition held at Stanford P.T.A. The Competition course was strenuous and only three Cadets out of all the teams in the Competition completed it within the allotted time: we had one of them.

'C' Company entered two teams in the South Yorkshire March. Each team of one adult and twelve Cadets covered a twenty mile march and received a team plaque and a march medal.

In the Autumn of 1980 a number of Cadets from 'C' Company embarked on the former racing yacht "Ramrod" and completed a journey from West Mersea to Ipswich and back. The event was so successful that parties of Cadets from 'C' Company intend going again.

In December 1980 'B' Company entered a team of adult and cadets in 7 Royal Anglian March and Shoot Competition. At the end of the first day (March and Stand section), our team stood sixth out of fifteen. Our overall position was not good as certain aspects of the Competition were outside the cadet syllabus.

ANNUAL CAMP 1981

After more than fifteen years we returned to Proteus Training Camp, Ollerton, Nottinghamshire for the period 16th to 23rd August 1981 with 34 Officers, 60 Instructors and 398 Cadets.

Number 2 Cadet Training Team ran a four star Junior Leaders Course, while a successful three star course was run under County arrangements. Training at one and two star level was carried out under Company arrangements and included a number of night exercises. A party of Cadets visited Edale in Derbyshire for adventure training under

2/Lt. Malcolm Holmes and SMI Bernard O'Connor. In the evenings there were cinema shows and the NAAFI. The W.R.V.S. ran a games room in the NAAFI and a mobile canteen for Cadets out training. We are extremely grateful to Mrs. J. MacLaren, Mrs. M. Edmonds and Mrs. N. Blunt and to our medical Officer Colonel N. T. Nicol and Mrs. A. Collier and Mrs. J. Speechley of The St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

On the Sunday of arrival at Camp our Senior Padre, Canon F. Pearce CF, held an open air church service for all in Camp.

As we were so close to our own Counties of Leicestershire and Northamptonshire we held an Open Day on the final Saturday for the Commandant's Annual Inspection and presentation of prizes and to watch the Cadets taking part in a decathlon. Over 100 members of families and guests attended, which was a great success.

We were very pleased that representatives of the Leicester Mercury, the Northampton Chronicle and Echo and the Kettering Evening Telegraph were able to visit us during Camp and full accounts of the visits appeared in their newspapers.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Leicester, Councillor and Mrs. A. H. Berridge, the Mayor and Mayoress of Kettering, Councillor and Mrs. L. A. Marsh and the Mayor and Mayoress of Northampton, Councillor and Mrs. A.H.W. Prowse, also visited. Their continued interest is very much appreciated. We also welcomed, amongst others, Colonel R.A.St.G. Martin O.B.E. J.P. the President of the East Midlands T. & A.V.R. Association, Colonel S.H. Clark and Brigadier J.A. Macdonald, the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of the Association, and Brigadier R.A. Plummer, Brigadier Eastern District (Nottingham).

On the final Friday of Camp the Officers held a formal Dinner Night attended by Brigadier Plummer, our Honorary Colonel Brigadier Macdonald, Colonel R.C. Jeffery TD DL, Chairman of the Northamptonshire Committee East Midlands T. & A.V.R. Association, Colonel W.A. Gleadell TD, Colonel K.R. Morgan-Jones O.B.E., Commandant Royal Army Veterinary Corps Depot, Lt. Col. D.B. Fowler M.B. B.S. C.O. 222 Field Ambulance RAMC T.A. and Governor and Deputy Governor of H.M. Prison Beckingham.

SUFFOLK ARMY CADET FORCE

Suffolk ACF is now at a strength of 42 Officers, 60 Staff Instructors and some 630 Cadets, organised into 22 Detachments throughout the County and 3 Company Headquarters based on Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds and Leiston. This is fully up to the new establishment allowed us by MOD and some Detachments now have waiting lists, all of which tend to improve the quality of the Cadet. We now feel that we have the maximum number of Cadets who can be trained and administered effectively.

We have had a good progressive year with a hardworking Annual Camp at WESTDOWN(S) near Bulford in August attended by some 450 all ranks. Particularly gratifying has been the ever increasing cooperation with the TA and also our several visits, including some overseas, to regular units to whom our Detachments are affiliated.

Colonel Jimmy Thom MC TD JP DL is due to give up as Commandant in December 1981 after a distinguished tenure of some four and a half years which has seen the introduction and full implementation of the much more professional Army Proficiency Training schedule with its Star gradings.

We have had our full share of sporting and competitive successes, in particular that of our 3 Shooting Teams who finished in the top ten at the Eastern District Cadet Rifle Meeting, as well as winning the Falling Plate Competition.

We sent some 40 Cadets to the Regular and Associated Forces during the year and believe that we overcame successfully the various and inevitable financial restrictions. We believe the quality of today's Cadet to be higher than ever before.

ESSEX ARMY CADET FORCE

The Essex Army Cadet Force, under the guidance of their Cadet Commandant, Colonel Roger Tomkins, a former Commanding Officer of the 6th Battalion has had a very good year.

Annual Camp in August was at Crowborough and some very useful and enjoyable training was undertaken. Through the good offices of the Army Air Corps our old friend, Major Mike Somerton-Rayner, was



GOC Eastern District with Winners of Cadet falling Plate from C.Coy Suffolk ACF.

with us again, and every cadet and adult who wished to do so had a helicopter flight, mostly in a tactical setting.

We were also pleased to welcome our Lord-Lieutenant, Admiral Sir Andrew Lewis and Colonel Geoffrey Morgan, the Royal Anglian Regiment Deputy Honorary Colonel (TA) for Essex.

Our great success of the year has been in .22 shooting. Six cadets, all from the Dovercourt Platoon (affiliated to the 5th Battalion) obtained places in the Army Cadet Force .22 Hundred. Of these, five cadets—Cpls S. Lenyk, E. Ainger, L/Cpls R. Henshaw, E. Brown and Cadet L. Warner—gained places in the ACF XL (Forty). As such they represented the Army Cadet Force in the Junior Inter-Service Small Bore Match—the Whistler Trophy. This year the ACF won, 54 points ahead of the runners-up, the Air Training Corps. In this match Cpl Lenyk obtained a possible and no Essex (i.e. Dovercourt) cadet dropped more than three points. To have so many boys from one detachment in a National team is most exceptional, if not a record.

OBITUARY



**Brigadier J. R. G. André C.B.E., D.S.O.
The Royal Lincolnshire and
The Malay Regiment**

James Richard Glencoe (Toby) André died on 12th January 1981 in his 82nd year. He was commissioned into The Lincolnshire Regiment from Sandhurst in August 1918 and, after a short period of service with the 1st Battalion in France and UK, he was posted to India where he served for 12 months with the Machine Gun Corps before joining the 2nd Battalion.

In 1927 Toby André returned to the UK and served at the Depot and again with the 2nd Battalion until October 1934 when he was seconded as a Company Commander to the newly-formed Malay Regiment and had 2½ years of typical pre-war colonial soldiering, stationed at Port Dickson. After a home leave in 1938 he returned for a second and very different tour of duty, was promoted Major and appointed Second-in-Command.

The Malay Regiment mobilised and moved to Singapore in September 1939. André was given responsibility for training for war. Realizing the stultifying effect on morale of constantly practising static defence, he embarked on a strenuous programme of jungle training. In July 1941 he was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel and assumed Command of the 1st Battalion. His battalion put up a splendid and gallant resistance fighting the Japanese at close range and sustaining many casualties in the defence of Singapore. In recognition of the Battalion's brave stand André was awarded the D.S.O. in the field, the Citation reading:-

"During the fighting on Singapore Island between the 11th and 15th February 1942 this officer commanded his Battalion with great gallantry combined with sound judgement and calmness. The Battalion which had not previously been under fire and which was largely officered by inexperienced personnel, took a prominent part in the successful defence of the Western outskirts of Singapore. The casualties, both in officers and other ranks, were numerous but throughout Colonel André maintained a high standard of efficiency and morale. It was due to his own personal courage and personality that the Battalion, under his Command, played its part so well. He was invariably cheerful and cool in emergency, and at all times inspired those under him by his example."

There followed 3½ years as a prisoner-of-war in Singapore during which he did his best to make conditions less intolerable for his fellow prisoners, and for this he was later mentioned in despatches.

After the war in February 1947 André returned to Malaya to Command the reformed and rapidly expanding Malay Regiment. He was appointed CBE in January 1950 and promoted Brigadier in July 1952.

After his retirement in 1953 he and his wife Grace lived in Sussex. They became very involved with the care of the elderly and started up a club for them which still flourishes. He is survived by Grace, two sons, a daughter and seven grandchildren.

It is hoped that this obituary will help to fill the gap that existed when the events in Singapore and, in particular, Toby André's outstanding contribution, received little publicity within the Regiment after the war.

**Brigadier D. R. Wilson O.B.E.
The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment**

Brigadier Douglas Richard Wilson died on 13th December 1980 a month before his 69th birthday. He was born into The Lincolnshire Regiment, his father having commanded the 1st Battalion both during the first world war and immediately after it in Ireland.

Having been educated at Radley he was commissioned into the Regiment from Sandhurst in 1932 and, having served with the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong and India, he returned to the UK shortly before the outbreak of the second world war. At Dunkirk he served as Brigade Transport Officer with H.Q. 9th Infantry Brigade, and afterwards was posted back to his Regiment. After attending the Staff College in 1943/44 he joined the 2nd Battalion as second-in-command and was immediately plunged into the D-Day preparations when he showed his considerable administrative ability and his meticulous attention to detail.

After being slightly wounded and following brief command of 7th Green Howards, he was appointed to Command 2nd South Wales Borderers in December 1944 who, as part of the 49th Infantry Division, served in the Nijmegen "Island" and took part in the crossing of the Rhine and the capture of Arnhem. After the war he was posted back to his own Regiment to command the 2nd Battalion in Palestine. From 1947 until the end of 1951 he served on the staff of HQ BAOR, first as GSO I Air when he played a major part in the organisation of the Berlin air lift, and secondly as GSO I (SD). He was then appointed to command in his own Regiment for the second time, by which time it had become the 1st Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, and saw service during the troubles in Egypt and then in Berlin.

After relinquishing command in 1954 he served as AAG at HQ Southern Command and in 1957 was appointed to command 47 Infantry Brigade (TA). He retired in July 1960.

To Douglas Wilson, who was a confirmed bachelor, his Regiment was a major influence in his life. He was sadly unable to accept the fact that The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment was amalgamated with The Northamptonshire Regiment in 1960 and to the great regret of his many friends he very seldom attended Regimental functions during his later years.

He was always a dedicated Churchman and after his retirement he lived in a Wiltshire village and worked for the staff of Salisbury Diocese. His Rector has paid tribute to the caring work that he did for his parish and his parishioners.

He was Mentioned in Despatches in 1940 and appointed OBE in the New Year's Honours 1957.

BRIGADIER E. C. PEPPER

Brigadier Ernest, Cecil Pepper, CMG, CBE, DSO died at Hindhead, Surrey, on August 3, at the age of 81. The son of W. E. Pepper of the Manor House, Nocton, Lincolnshire, he was born on 3rd October 1899. He went to RMC Sandhurst in 1917, and was commissioned into The Worcestershire Regiment in the following year. In 1919 he went with the regiment to Ireland.

In 1925 he was made ADC to the Governor of the United Provinces, India, and rejoined the regiment in Shanghai in 1930. On returning to Britain in 1931 he transferred to The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment with accelerated promotion and was at the Staff College in 1934-35. When war broke out in 1939 he was brigade major at Chatham, and went with the BEF to France. After the evacuation at Dunkirk he returned to France with Lord Alanbrooke two weeks later and was in France when it fell. He was GSO1 at the War Office, 1940-41; a battalion commander 1941-42; and BGS in the North African campaign 1942-43. After a spell in Washington in 1943-44 he commanded a brigade in the Normandy landings, and fought through France and Belgium with 7 Armoured Brigade. Before the war ended he was appointed Commandant at the School of Infantry, Warminster. He retired at his own request in 1945. In the same year he was appointed Warden of London House, the Dominion Students Hall Trust, and made a major contribution to its development and that of William Goodenough House and the Crossley Wing for married students, together with the Burn in Scotland. He retired in 1970. For many years he was closely associated with the Church of England Children's Society (Waifs and Strays), the Royal Overseas League, and the Victoria League.

In 1929 he married Margaret Allan, daughter of A.W. Allan MD. They had two sons.



COLONEL J. S. GREENE, OBE, MC.

John Greene was born on 8 March 1916 and educated at Brentwood School. He was commissioned into the Essex Regiment on 28 August 1937 from the TA. He joined the 1st Battalion in Palestine in 1937 where he soon established himself as a keen and cheerful Regimental Officer.

From the outbreak of war until he was wounded in Tobruk he was in the thick of it—Gallabat—Iraq—Syria—Tobruk—Ed Duda—enjoying the comradeship and excitement, never shirking duty, never afraid of discomfort. After he was wounded he was evacuated to Cairo and posted as GSO II to the Sudan Defence Forces. In 1944 he joined the 7th Hampshires where he gained his MC at the crossing of the Rhine.

After the war he attended Staff College and held staff appointments in the Middle East and Hong Kong. In the UK he commanded the Depot at Warley, served with the 4th Bn TA and became Chief Instructor at the JSN and CGD. His last appointment before he retired in 1966 was as Military Attache in Jeddah for which he was awarded the OBE. On retirement John worked in an export trade to Middle Eastern countries which entailed frequent visits there.

All who knew John will miss him greatly and will remember his boisterous bonhomie and enthusiasm. He was indeed a true Regimental Officer. The respect and affection in which he was held was reflected in the very many tributes received by his widow Diana and their three children, to whom we offer our sincere sympathy.

Lieutenant Colonel E. S. MAY

Edgar, who died on the 27th April 1981, joined the army as a private soldier with all the ideals of a volunteer and was soon in action with the B.E.F. After Dunkirk he joined a Commando unit and was present at the raid on the Loften Islands. On his return he was commissioned into the Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

He joined the 7th Battalion under canvas at TOW LAW preparing for service in India and Burma. Prior to going into Burma he volunteered to join a Task Force which was formed for special duties involving suitable crossing points on the Chindwin. On completion of these duties the Task Force became part of the Special Force Paratroop Unit (Bladet) in which Edgar served with distinction.

He returned to his native Coventry after the war where he built up a successful ophthalmic opticians practice and also a manufacturing of lenses business. Meanwhile he gave his service to the community without stint, being, among many other things, a Justice of the Peace, the Clerk to the Coventry Freeman's Charity and a member of the Coventry Army Benevolent Fund Appeal Committee.

As one of his colleagues on the Bench put it 'Edgar lives respected and died regretted'.

H.R.D.

Major J. E. Odlin, D.C.M.

The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment

Major Jim Odlin died on the 24th October 1981, aged 83. He enlisted into the Regiment on the 26th April 1915, served in the 3/5th and 1st/5th Service Battalions throughout the first World War, and was discharged on the 24th January, 1919. He immediately re-enlisted as a regular soldier on the 25th January 1919 and served with the 2nd Battalion in India, finally retiring with the rank of Warrant Officer 2nd Class.

Jim was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in 1918 for excellent work and gallantry in action on many occasions.

He took a very keen interest in the activities of the Royal British Legion and became President of the Mablethorpe Branch. In May 1940, he joined the Home Guard and served until December 1945 when he was discharged in the rank of Major.

Jim was one of the most active members of our Regimental Association and will be sadly missed by all that knew him.



Major T. R. STEAD DL

Tom Stead was born on the 3rd June 1914 and was commissioned into The Essex Regiment in November 1942. He was immediately drafted to the Western Desert where he joined the 1st/4th Battalion The Essex Regiment in time for the last action before Tunis. After recuperation and training in the Delta, the battalion moved to Italy for the Cassino operation where Tom was a platoon commander, followed in due course by moves to the Adriatic Front and Greece where he served as Adjutant to Lieutenant Colonel Magill Cuerdon.

It was in Greece that he met Joan, whom he married in May 1947.

His subsequent service was in the United Kingdom as he was unfortunately medically downgraded to Home Only: his postings included Warminster, Manchester and Birmingham OTCs and Company Commander at The Essex Regiment Depot Warley. It was

while at Warley that he was asked to become Regimental Secretary, an appointment he carried out with great success until he retired at 65 in 1979. As Secretary, Tom Stead served the Essex, 3rd East Anglian and Royal Anglian Regiments with outstanding loyalty, being closely involved with the various amalgamations. His wise advice was greatly appreciated by the successive Colonels of The Regiment whom he served and it is largely due to his efforts that in spite of all the difficulties the flag is still flying at Warley and that the Chapel is as thriving and immaculate as ever.

Tom will be remembered for many reasons, but perhaps above all for his love of the Regiment he served so well. He died at his home in Shenfield on 27th December 1981 at the age of 67.

Address Given at the Funeral of Major M. S. Fowler

The Colonel of The Regiment gave the following address:

Major M. S. Fowler

Born 29th June 1928. Died 7th November 1981.

That is what the record will say, but we have come here today to remember with gratitude the life of Major Mick Fowler, dear family man, fine soldier and true friend.

I know of no-one in the Regiment who was more widely known, nor held in such high regard. His service record is unique. Mick joined the Royal Norfolk Regiment at the age of seventeen in 1946 and during the next thirty-five years rose from the rank of Private Soldier to that of Major Quartermaster in an unbroken period of Regimental service. Almost thirty of those years were with the 1st Battalion and its former regiments, and by virtue of this remarkable record Mick became a father figure in the Regiment and that Battalion. He had the bearing and stature for this role and unrivalled knowledge and wisdom for it. He was a close friend and confidant of successive commanding officers whom he served, no less than eight of whom are present to pay their last respects to him today. Also present are friends he made throughout his service in places which epitomize the deployment of the British Army since the Second World War. Mick served many times in BAOR and Berlin; in Korea and Hong Kong;

Cyprus and British Gyana; Aden, Gibraltar and Northern Ireland. We can each of us look back with personal memories of hard and dangerous times we have shared together with him, and also the comradeship of Mess life which Mick enjoyed so much.

Mick commanded enormous respect. Rough when necessary. Tough when required. Loyal to his Regiment, in which he set the highest standards for those who served in it. But behind his bluff exterior he was a modest man, and I know that he would be embarrassed if we dwelt too long over his virtues. Neither do I believe that Mick would want us to be too despondent today. He was a supremely happy man; content with what life had brought him; wanting nothing but to serve our Regiment in his own style. And how well he succeeded, and what a fine example he has set others to follow.

It is to Joan and the family to whom our love and sympathy go out today. We have all admired the quiet dignity which they, with Mick, have faced the anguish of the past few months, the depth of which only the close family can know. Now the head of the family has gone, but I hope that they can draw some comfort from his achievements and from the great regard and affection in which he was held by all those who served and knew him.

Major P. H. Segon, M.B.E.

All Ranks of the old 1st Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment will remember "Gus" Segon who died on November 22nd, aged 82.

He was RSM for most of the time the Battalion was at Dover Castle, Gibraltar, Shanghai, Hong Kong and India. He was commissioned during the last War and awarded the M.B.E.

Although a firm disciplinarian, he was well liked, admired and respected for his ability and knowledge. He also had the knack of always knowing what was going on!

Sgt. Major Instructor K. R. Smith

S.M.I. K.R. SMITH the Detachment Commander of Kibworth Detachment ('B' Company) died suddenly on the 26th April 1981 whilst on a training weekend at Kibworth, Leicestershire. His funeral was held at Kibworth Parish Church with full military honours.

S.M.I. Smith had been Detachment Commander for eighteen months. He originally joined the Army Cadet Force at Market Harborough and left as a Cadet Sergeant but rejoined as an Adult Instructor a number of years later. S.M.I. Smith will be sadly missed by all those who served with him in the Army Cadet Force. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and family.



MAJOR J. B. KITTO

John Kitto was born on the 9th December 1918 and was educated at Felsted and Sandhurst. In January 1939 he was commissioned into The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment with whom he served in the BEF. Following service with The Hertfords he volunteered for service with the Iraqi Levees and subsequently with the Airborne Forces with whom he served in North Africa, Italy and Palestine. After the war he served with 1 Essex, as an Instructor at Eaton Hall, in Malaya and Germany. In the words of Major General Ward-Booth, throughout his service

John Kitto was a catalyst for all that was good in the life of the Mess and was loved by the families.

In 1960 John left the Army, although he never lost touch with his many friends, and began a successful second career as a schoolmaster, where his enthusiasm, thoroughness and sense of fun stood him in good stead. He was also heavily involved in the work of the British Red Cross and, of course, his Regimental Association.

His death on Sunday 17th January 1982 was greeted with great sadness by his many friends who were all the richer for having known him.

Colonel D. M. Smith, O.B.E., T.D.

Colonel D. M. Smith O.B.E., T.D. a former Commandant of Royal Anglian (Leicestershire & Northamptonshire) Army Cadet Force died on the 15th March 1981 after a serious illness. His funeral held at Barnack Parish Church near Stamford, Lincolnshire was conducted with full military honours.

Colonel Smith served for many years in the

Territorial Army and his final command was of 350 (Robin Hood Foresters) Light Regiment R.A.(T.A.) from which he retired in 1957. He was awarded the O.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List of 1958.

In 1964 he was appointed County Cadet Commandant of Northamptonshire Army Cadet Force and remained in that appointment until the end of 1967.

In 1968 Colonel Smith became Commandant of the Royal Anglian (Leicestershire & Northamptonshire) Army Cadet Force following the amalgamation of Northamptonshire Army Cadet Force and Leicestershire & Rutland Army Cadet Force. He retired as County Commandant in September 1972. He was determined that the amalgamation of Northamptonshire and Leicestershire & Rutland Army Cadet Forces should be a success and the fact that the amalgamation worked so well was due in no small measure to the time and effort devoted by him.

Colonel Smith will be sadly missed not only by those who served with him in the Army Cadet Force but also by his many friends. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow, son and daughter.

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