



CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

June 1988



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2nd Battalion
(Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and
Northamptonshire)



3rd Battalion
(Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire
and Essex)



June 1988

Vol. 8 No. 3

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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.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief The Royal Anglian Regiment
(A photograph of an original painting by Richard Stone).

From the Colonel of the Regiment



ON the 18th February 1988 our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, received a representative delegation at Clarence House to mark the 50th Anniversary of her appointment as Honorary Colonel The Hertfordshire Regiment (TA), and the beginning of her long association with The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, The 3rd East Anglian Regiment, and The Royal Anglian Regiment. Appropriately those attending represented each of these Regiments; a full report of the occasion appears elsewhere in the Castle.

It has been a great honour for the Regiment to have Her Majesty as our Colonel-in-Chief. There can be no other person who is held in such universal affection and esteem. Her visits

to her Regiment have always been joyful events, with every man, wife and child putting that little bit extra into the day simply because of the magic she weaves. In her inimitable way she has made a point of carrying on whatever the weather and despite efforts to limit her enthusiasm, she has insisted on seeing and speaking to as many of us as possible. Throughout the 50 years of her association with The Regiment and its forbears she has shown an immense interest in her Regiment and has won everyone's total loyalty and affection. In this 50th anniversary year, her Regiment thank Her Majesty for all she has done over the years, send her loyal and affectionate greetings, and wish her happiness all her days.



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

General Sir John Akehurst KCB CBE

Deputy Colonels of The Regiment:

Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire: Major General A J G Pollard CBE
Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire: Major General P P D Stone CBE
Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex: Brigadier W T Dodd OBE

Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

Norfolk: Colonel P W Raywood TD DL
Suffolk: Brigadier W C Deller OBE
Cambridgeshire: Major R A Shervington TD
Lincolnshire: Colonel W J Gleadell TD
Leicestershire: Colonel R G Wilkes OBE TD DL (Lieutenant Colonel W G Dawson TD DL Sep '88)
Northamptonshire: Captain J L Lowther CBE
Bedfordshire: Major J P Wetherall
Hertfordshire: Major D W Willard TD JP
Essex: Lieutenant Colonel P D L Hopper

Alliances

Canadian Armed Forces .	Sherbrooke Hussars
	The Lincoln and Welland Regiment
	The Essex and Kent Scottish
	The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment
Australian Military Forces	The Royal Tasmania Regiment
New Zealand	3rd Battalion (Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment
Pakistan Army	5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment
Malaysian Armed Forces	1st Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment
Barbados	The Barbados Regiment
Bermuda	The Bermuda Regiment
Gibraltar	The Gibraltar Regiment

Civic Honours

The Regiment has been granted the honour of the Freedom of Bedford, Boston, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Chelmsford, Cleethorpes, Colchester, Dunstable, Ely, Grantham, Grimsby, Hertford, Hinckley, Ilford, Ipswich, King's Lynn, Lincoln, Lowestoft, Northampton, Norwich, Peterborough, Romford, Southend, Watford, Wellingborough, Wisbech and Yarmouth.

REGIMENTAL LOCATIONS

Regimental Headquarters:

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN
(0284 752394/Colchester Military 5138)

Regimental Secretary: Colonel P D Blyth CBE

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major A G B Cobbold

Regimental Careers Officer: Major G W M Hipkin

Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

Britannia Barracks, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 4HJ (0603-628455)

Area Secretary: Major W H Reeve

Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire

Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton NN1 3RE (0603-35412)

Area Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel J L Wilson DL

Captain A R Smith (Lincoln)

Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex

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

Area Secretary: Major D J Thorogood

Regimental Information Team

Depot, The Queen's Division, Basingbourn (0763-42271)

BATTALION LOCATIONS

1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk & Cambridgeshire) Gibraltar, BFPO 52	Lieutenant Colonel J C B Sutherland MBE
2nd Battalion (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Northamptonshire) Celle, BFPO 23	Lieutenant Colonel T Longland MBE
3rd Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire & Essex), Minden BFPO 29	Lieutenant Colonel A Behagg MBE (Lieutenant Colonel J D Lacey - Jan '89)
5th Battalion TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough	Lieutenant Colonel N H Kelsey TD
6th Battalion TA Camp, Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds	Lieutenant Colonel A C Taylor (Lieutenant Colonel P R C Dixon - Oct 88)
7th Battalion TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester	Lieutenant Colonel G I G Brett

Senior Regimental Representatives

Depot the Queen's Division	Lieutenant Colonel M K Goldschmidt (Lieutenant Colonel M Boocock - Jan '89)
RMA Sandhurst	Captain C R Webster
JIB Shorncliffe	Major F J Perry MBE

Action by you

THE cost of postage is such that we cannot afford to send out separate details and reminders of functions to everyone. At the same time, details printed in Castle under separate headings are often overlooked or put on one side and forgotten because they are several months off!

In an attempt to reduce costs and to produce a consolidated reminder, we will include an Action By You section in future issues

Officers' Club

4 Nov 88 Regimental Dinner See page 10 for details

5 May 89 Regimental Reception Banqueting House, Whitehall, Note in diary for 1989.
Details in Dec. Castle

Past and Present

8 Oct 88 - Past and Present Dinner at Bassingbourn. See page 9 for details.

Christmas Cards

Available from RHQ. Cost 25p each.

Regimental Gathering

24 Jul 88 Gathering at Bassingbourn. See page 37 for details

STOP PRESS

Congratulations to 6th Bn on winning T.A.Bisley

Mainly about people

Farewell to General

ON 3 Jul 88 Maj Gen Sir David Thorne retires after 36 years' service. The Regiment, the Infantry and the Army owe a great deal to General David, as the following extracts from a Dining Out speech by Lt Gen Sir Jeremy Reilly clearly show. We all wish him well in what will doubtless be a busy retirement.

"Not far short of 36 years ago a number of young fellows reported to their respective depots for three months training in the ranks before going on to Sandhurst for 18 months.

Amongst their number could be found the names of Thorne and Reilly. We were intake 12 and a remarkably low grade intake it was by all accounts at the time.

Leastways, one had the impression that the Adjutant, Erskine Cum - and RSM Lord breathed a sigh of relief when they saw our backs - together with that of King Hussein - on the Grand Entrance steps!

Much of the 365,000 strong active Army, including most of its 93 battalions of 78 Infantry regiments, were then abroad. The Army was heavily dependent on two year National Servicemen, these providing most JNCOs and subalterns and had only a few families in tow. A private's gross monthly pay was £11; a 2Lt's £48.

General David joined the Norfolks in Colchester on their return from consecutive tours in Korea and Hong Kong before a year later moving with them to Cyprus; I went to the Warwicks in Egypt.

As a matter of stable army' and overstretch' interest, the Warwicks were then in Egypt after - in backward progression - Korea, Austria, two years as a recruit training battalion, Palestine, Germany and the campaign from Normandy to Bremen.

They would go on to Cyprus, Ballykintar, Aden, Hong Kong and BAOR before returning to Watchet in Somerset in 66, their second posting in England - since 6 Jun 44, 22 years earlier. However, after only three months in Watchet they deployed on a nine months unaccompanied operational tour in Hong Kong and Borneo.

The experience of most Infantry regiments of the line over this period was similar. Funnily enough I can't remember the word 'overstretch' being used at the time - we seemed to get on quite well without it - but of course there were not many families and camp followers.

Well, through these years, in between the odd bit of cricket and squash, General David attracted growing respect for his military attributes. It was always quite obvious to me that, despite not being 6 foot or a noted horseman, that he would be a general.

The only surprise, and regret, is that having been, in the rank of Major General, VQMG, the first Commander British Forces Falkland Island and Commander 1st Armoured Divi-



Maj Gen Thorne meets Ptes Allen and Jackson of the Vikings during his farewell visit to the Vikings in Gibraltar

sion, that he was not then selected for further promotion. It is not that there is anything to grumble about in being a Major General, nor in being Director of Infantry: merely that, as we all know, General David has had plenty of potential for still higher rank under his belt and it is a shame that the Army has left this potential untapped.

Not that he came to Warminster as Director of Infantry as if to a quiet pasture. Far from it. The reverse is true because he brought to his present appointment all the thrust, ideas, innovation and far sighted management that have been needed for all too long.

Comparisons are of course invidious but, although I have obviously had variable knowledge of his predecessors in this post, I would rate General David as being the outstanding Director of Infantry since the war without question, and probably of all time.

The Infantry are now at the forefront of combined arms affairs and are no longer seen, and this is what is important, are seen to be no longer as an inward looking group of reactionaries spending the majority of their time and energy defending a tribalistic status quo against attack, perceived or real, internal or external. They are seen as being a force of

well thought out and co-ordinated opinion that is at the same time both welcome and to be reckoned with.

This is a measure of the man and his leadership. I will not go into detail, nor develop an embarrassing eulogy. But, David, you can take it from me that the whole body of the Infantry think that you have done a smashing job for them and the Army; they are sorry that you are going; they are astonished that you have not been promoted; and they wish you well.

They also take note that having been made KBE for command in the Falklands, that this extinguished the CBE awarded for command of your brigade in the Northern Ireland, which in turn had substituted itself for the OBE earned in command of your battalion. They reflect, I suspect, upon this curious system.

And with that it falls to me, at their request, to say that we have for you here a keepsake of these last two years, which is also a measure of the respect and affection in which you are widely held. All units of Infantry, Reg, TA and Trg, have contributed to it.

As befits regulations I am able to give you a categorical assurance that it is of no intrinsic value whatsoever."

Mainly about people

Honours and Appointments

We congratulate the following who were included in the New Years Honours: **CBE** - Lt Col B.J. Elliott TD, **OBE** - Col D.K. Harris MBE, **BEM** - CSgt D.J. George

Birthday Honours: Congratulations on the award of an MBE to: Maj A.P. Domeisen, Capt A.W.M. Petch TD, Capt J.F. Milward.

Senior Appointments and Promotions: Maj Gen P.P.D. Stone - DPS (Army); Col A.J.K. Calder OBE - Sec COS AFNORTH; Col K Woodrow - DA Brussels; Col A.R. Thompson MBE MC - COS HQ WDIST; Lt Col R.G. Greenham - BRIXMIS; Lt Col T.D.A. Veitch - HQ 1 (BR) Corps.

Selected for promotion to Col: Lt Col C Groves. To Maj 30 Sep 88 Capts F.R. Antolik, D.J. Clements, R.J. Edmundson-Jones, M.P. Godkin, R.E. Harrold, S.W. Lamb, R.N.C. Lucas, J.F. Macdonald, D.C. Napier.

Commissions: We congratulate and welcome on their commissions: Maj C.A. Cocker from RNZIR, Capt J.E. Harris from R Signals For SSC(LE) WOIs O'Driscoll, Thurston and Meen

SSC from TA: Lt A.J. Wadman, Lt D.J. Vincent

From RMA Sandhurst: 1st Bn 2Lt J.J. Hart, 2Lt J.M.H. Heap, 2Lt R.A. Cook; 2nd Bn 2Lt R.W.H. Colgan, 2Lt D.G.H. Hunter, 2Lt R.F.L. Lyne; 3rd Bn 2Lt S.W. Carver, 2Lt N.J.R. Green, 2Lt H. Newson

We wish a happy retirement and success for the future to: Maj P.K.R. Ross, Maj C.J.B. Groom and Capt J.R. Boast

Chaplain Ed Hollowell writes that he left the Air War College in Jun 87 and is currently assigned to the US Army Engineer School.

Maj Ernie Morgan writes from S Australia that he has presented the Malaysian Rangers with a Battle Competition Trophy to be competed for annually by 11 battalions. He is contemplating a trip to Malaysia to refresh his memory on various Suffolk incidents for incorporation in a novel covering the lighter side of daily life in the emergency. He has met Phillip Morecambe, Monty Cases' and Bertie Bevan's daughters and Ian Wight's son.

Lt Ian Robertson, who served with 4/5 Essex in the 1960s, has been appointed Director of The National Army Museum. He was previously with the Chelmsford Museum and was involved with the creation of the Essex Regiment Museum in Chelmsford. He hopes that many members of the Regiment will find time to visit the National Army



Congratulations to 2Lt Dharen Hunter who was awarded the Sword of Honour when he passed out from Sandhurst in Dec 87. He is now serving with the Poachers.

Museum.

Maj Martin Franks has been forced by illness to retire early from his RO appointment in Colchester and now lives in Cambridge (address in Locations List). We wish him well. **Maj John de Bretton Gordon** has taken over from him.

Maj John Kemp is now well established in Wincanton with his own woodwork factory where he and his staff turn out any woodwork to order. He had recently seen Majors Mike Menage, Humphrey Bradshaw and Brian Cornish.

Maj Ben Tinton continues to visit all Royal Anglians in QEMIL, Woolwich every week. He tells us that CSgt Aujba of the Pompadours has proved invaluable as an interpreter for seven casualties of the Rawalpindi Ammunition Dump explosion who are also patients in the hospital, being the only link between them and the staff.

Lt Col 'Bertie' Bevan writes that Martin Bell has been prominent in recent BBC coverage of US affairs; indeed the cameras showed him during the signing of the summit talks and

he has interviewed the President, Martin Bell, who did NS with 1 Suffolk, in Cyprus as an outstanding Intelligence Section Corporal and Sergeant, is an old Suffolk Boy', whose father was Adrian Bell the author of delightful books on Suffolk county folk.

Congratulations to **Capt Richard Kemp** on passing PQS 2 for staff.

Maj John Perry, currently Quartermaster of the Junior Infantry Battalion, swept the board at the Army Officers' Golfing Society annual meeting at Sandwich.

He won the Royal Indian Army Service Corps Cup, the 36 hole Medal handicap, British Troops Austria Officers Golfing Society Prize and both Stapleford handicap matches at the Royal St George links and the Royal Cinque Ports Golf Course, Deal. How does he get the time to practice!

Lt Col Frank Flemming recently visited RHQ and tell us that when he retires from the Betting Levy Board he plans to live in a house they have bought near St Tropez. He must have picked the odd winner!

Mainly about people

Back row: Brig Robertson, In-Pensioner J Butty, Pte Baldwin, Lt Col Behagg;
centre row: Mrs Thorogood, Col Willard, Mrs Robertson, Major Thorogood, Mr T Powell, Mrs Powell, Mrs Peters; **front row:** Mrs Behagg, Mrs Willard, Brig Dodd, Mrs Dodd, Brig Peters

Gravestone restored

SINCE 1895 the stone marking the grave of Maj Gen R M. Rogers, VC, CB, has stood in All Saints Churchyard, Maidenhead, Berkshire. It was looking very fragile and the Regimental Association arranged for remedial work to be put in hand.

The Military Historical Society report that "the remedial work was successfully completed at a modest cost and to the credit of the Association and the old Regiment."

As an Ensign in the 44th, Rogers served at Sebastopol and in the 1857-60 China War where he earned his Victoria Cross in the storming of the North Taku Fort and where he was severely wounded.

He later commanded the 90 Light Infantry in the Zulu War of 1879 and was Brigade Commander at Agra in India. He was Maj-Gen when he died at Maidenhead in 1895, aged 60.

For the same action Pte John MacDougall, also 44th, received the Victoria Cross. He is believed to be buried in Edinburgh, but no details are known at Warley.

Service times

3rd Bn The Royal Anglian & Essex Regimental Chapel Services are held at Warley on the first Sunday of every month at 11.00 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

The following Padres will preach at the services during 1988: 3 Jul Rev A.E. Occomore, 7 Aug Rev J.F.O. Boen, 4 Sep Rev H.V. Crossley, 2 Oct Rev Canon J.A. Kingham, 6 Nov Rev J.A. Randall, 4 Dec Rev A.D. Jones, with lessons read by Lt Col A.C. Taylor, Col G.C.P. Morgan, Col P.H.A.L. Franklin, Col R.C. Tomkins, Brig R.J. Randall, Brig W.T. Dodd respectively.

Dinner date

THE Past and Present Dinner will be held at Bassingbourn on 8 Oct 88 under the chairmanship of Gen Sir John Akehurst, KCB, CBE.

Please apply to Don Richardson, 44 Peddars Close, Ixworth, Suffolk (0359-31923) by 1 Sep 88 for tickets. The cost is Members: £7.50, Guests: £10.



Anniversary visit to Queen Mother

IT was on 18 Feb 38 that Her Majesty the Queen Mother, then The Queen, first became Honorary Colonel The Hertfordshire Regiment (TA) thus beginning her long association with the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, the East Anglian Regiment and the Royal Anglian Regiment.

It was decided to mark the 50th anniversary of this association by calling on Her Majesty at Clarence House on 18 Feb this year.

A party, which would as far as possible represent the different threads of the association, met at the Duke of Yorks Headquarters in Chelsea and was led by Brig Bill Dodd, Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex).

At Clarence House the party was ushered into one of the drawing rooms where 50 roses, previously delivered by Regiment, were already displayed. Also in attendance were Lt Col Sir Martin Gilliat, Capt Sir Alastair Aird and Lady Ruth Fernoy.

The Queen Mother arrived at mid-day and

the Deputy Colonel said how delighted the Regiment was to be able to mark the occasion in this way, and presented The Queen Mother with two inscribed volumes of the history of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment which have been produced under the direction of Lt Col John Barow.

The Queen Mother said how pleased she was that the visit had been arranged and expressed her thanks both for the roses and the Regimental history.

Her Majesty, together with her staff, then talked extensively with each member of the party. She held particularly animated conversations with Brig and Mrs. Peters (Brig Peters commanded the 1st Battalion The Hertfordshire Regiment for a large part of World War II), In-Pensioner Jack Butty who regaled her with tales of Shanghai "between the wars" and Drummer Baldwin, currently serving with the 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment in Minden and, by many years, the youngest members of the group.

Mainly about people



Parade is a poser

THIS picture of a parade by a Line Regiment in the High Street of Chatham, Kent came from the family of the policeman in the foreground. The magazine *Drummers Call* tried to trace the Regiment and found from their archives that The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Essex Regiment were presented with silver drums in 1913 and that the 2nd Battalion had been stationed in Chatham in 1913-14. The other picture shows the detail of the Essex Silver Drums provided by Potters.

Having probably established the Battalion, several questions remain:

a. Why is the Drum Major carrying a parade cane and not a mace on a Dress Parade?

b. The Drums are not being played as they march past the Colours and there is no sign of a Band.

c. The Battalion (?) Colours are clearly visible in the Guard. A second set of the old large (6ft x 5'6") Colours can be seen behind the Guard. Who do they belong to?

Can Anyone help?



Regimental Dinner date

THE Regimental Dinner will be held at the Naval & Military Club on Friday 4 Nov 88. Please apply to RHQ by 15 Oct with your cheque. See page for details and proform.

1989 sees the 25th Anniversary of the formation of the Regiment. To mark the occasion a reception is to be held in the Banqueting

House, Whitehall, London, on the evening of 5 May. Details will appear in the next *Castle*, but mark the date in your diaries. This will replace for 1989 the annual party normally held in the Duke of Yorks which this year was enjoyed by 66 members and wives.

Mainly about people

Statue marks tercentenary

THE officers of the 3rd Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment have occasioned the 16th Foot tercentenary year by commissioning a silver statue of the Bedfordshire Hart.

This magnificent piece was collected from Garrards by the Adjutant, Capt A.J.C. Wild, and brought into the Mess in late February. It stands 18" high antler to hoof and 14" long nose to tail. It is mounted on a plinth of marble which is in turn mounted on a small wooden base.

The marble plinth is coloured pink, and it has a natural white vein running the length of it. This vein deliberately represents a stream and a ford, and the silver hart has been cast with its right foreleg uplifted as if crossing the ford. The significance of this to the Hertfordshire Regiment is obvious, and is highlighted by this short précis of the origins of the hart as one of our battalions' symbols.

The hart has always been a part of the Hertfordshire County arms - the area was well-known in Tudor times for hunting and was favoured by the monarchs of the time specifically for the deer. The town of Hertford was so named for its renown as a deers' crossing point through the dense forests.

The first record of the military of the county was a Tudor 'Trained Band, which after the Civil War became a militia to be called up only in times of tension.

By the early 1700's the Napoleonic Wars had them firmly established and it was then that they first began to wear the hart as their badge. In 1809 the territorial title of the Bedfordshire Regiment was adopted in place of the numeral XL and the Hertfordshire Regiment was incorporated in to it as the Fourth Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment. The battalion was always known as the Harts, and the Bedfords adopted the Harts capbadge.



ON the 19 Mar the first ever reunion was held for ex members of the signals platoon 2 R Anglian. Although due to other commitments the number of people who attended was not large, we had a very enjoyable evening.

It was held at the TA Centre, Clare St, North-

ampton, with the kind permission of Capt Amos.

For those that read the last edition of Castle you will know that we are trying to trace ex members of the Signal Pl. The number that we have now found has risen to 70. There are still many that we would like to find. If you know the whereabouts

of anyone who served with the Signal Pl between 1960 and 1974 please let Mr B.A. Roberts know. He can be contacted at: The Caretakers House, Magdalen College School, St Johns Site, High Street, Brackley, Northants, NN13 5AF (0280 701981

Mainly about people

Graves are honoured

IN a relatively commercial section of Philadelphia is located a small 18th century family cemetery. Within the walls of this cemetery are the remains of almost every generation of the prominent DeBenneville family, and those of two British officers, killed during the 1777 Revolutionary War Battle of Germantown: Brig Gen James T. Agnew, formerly of the 44th Regt of Foot, and Lt Col John Bird.

The site is unique as there are only two other British Revolutionary War Generals interred in the United States: Gen S. Fraser and G W. Phillips. The graves of these two officers are well-marked within the boundaries of national parks, while the graves of Agnew and Bird were forgotten and ignored.

In time for the 210th anniversary of Agnew's death on 4 Oct 87, the graves were restored and properly honoured. A commemorative ceremony was held at the cemetery and among the guests was the Military Attache at the British Embassy, Washington.

Invitation

SIR,

I have been appointed liaison officer at the Scots Guards' Association Club, 2 Clifton Terrace, Edinburgh 12.

To get to the point, many tourists will be visiting Scotland this year, especially during the Tattoo.

Would it be possible to inform your readers that they would be very welcome at the Club should they visit Edinburgh?

The Club is next to Haymarket Station.

GEORGE ROBINSONS
36 Grove Street,
Edinburgh,
EH3 8AZ.

TV request

UNITED Television Artists is planning a major television series on the subject of deception in warfare. The producers will concentrate particularly on deception in World War Two. They are anxious to trace people directly involved in any type of deception operation at that time or indeed post war.

The television programmes should provide a last chance to explore the successes of deception in the 1940's with the men and women who helped to make it happen.

So, if you have any personal experience in this area, if you were involved in any of the great deceptions which culminated in the success of Operation Fortitude in 1944, please contact: David Rowley, Managing Director, United Television Artists, Baird House, 15-17 St Cross Street, Hatton Garden, London EC10 8UN (telephone: 01-831 2400)



WO2 Gordon Smith, an instructor with Eastern District Specialist Training Team, being presented with his TEM by Lt Col William Prince



Sgt B E Batchelor has been awarded £100 for the design of a drive sprocket end cap, used for recovery, on the Hagglund BV206. MVEE Chertsey are interested in the device. Pictured is the Commandant, Army School of Mechanical Transport, Brig P Marzetti, presenting Sgt Batchelor with his award.



Vikings



A challenging year

THIS YEAR is already proving to be busy and challenging for the battalion. Our sights are now firmly set on Colchester next year and our role within 10 Inf.Bde.

Our responsibilities for the defence of the Rock remain undiminished however, and the nature of operations in Gibraltar brings us into ever-closer liaison with the RN, RAF and civil police.

The battalion held an individual skills contest late last year and many of those skills were soon to be tested in Exercise Calpe's Key, which took place at the end of January. The exercise was tri-service and controlled by the Deputy Fortress Commander on behalf of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The exercise practised the new operational plan which involves a far higher degree of inter-service co-operation than before. A Coy set up its headquarters with the Maritime HQ in the Naval dockyard and took on responsibility for co-operation with the RN.

B Coy deployed to RAF Gibraltar and set up its HQ with the RAF, taking on the defence of the runway and airbase. Within their areas both companies also took over the defence of keypoints vital to the operations of their respective Services.

HQ Coy provided three rifle platoons for the defence of other keypoints, and Fire Support Coy covered various areas of threat.

The guns and infantry company of the Gibraltar Regiment came under command of our battalion HQ which moved underground. Most of the staff of the Gibraltar Regiment HQ moved in with us and their local knowledge proved invaluable. Both C Coy and "G" (Gibraltar) Coy were held within the Rock itself, a true "invulnerable reserve".

It is appropriate that such close operational links are established between us and the Gibraltar Regiment, for 1988 marks the 20th year of our alliance with them and it is hoped to hold some form of celebration later in the year.

Apart from exercises, training goes on and the emphasis has again been on getting people on courses in UK and Potential and Junior NCOs, First Aid, NBC, upgrading, Regular Radio Users and Standard 2 Cadres locally.

A Police open day was held in mid-April and some useful training was done, as well as further strengthening of out ties with the police. In addition, A Coy have begun a programme of progressive training for a number of RN personnel in basic ground defence, as part of their operational commitment.



Firing on the 125 m NDA range on the Rock

Gibraltar is not an ideal training ground for our role in Colchester and so maximum use has been made of each company's time at the Santa Margarita training area in Portugal, on Exercise Open Door.

C Coy went in early February, followed by A Coy and the Milan Pl, B Coy and the Mortar Pl

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News from the Vikings

From Page 13

Each company did a month, taking advantage of the rugged area to practise skills up to company level, skills for which there is simply insufficient room in Gibraltar. The time is proving invaluable as preparation for the battalion exercise in UK later this year. In January the Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Sir John Akehurst, was the first visitor to the battalion in 1988. The General visited both the Gibraltar Regiment and ourselves and attended a joint dinner in the Gibraltar Regiment Officers' Mess.

In February our county links were maintained when the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Norwich, Cllr Garry and Mrs Joan Wheatly visited us and saw how the battalion trains here.

In April the commander of the UK Field Army, Lt Gen Sir David Ramsbottom, and the Director of Infantry, Maj Gen Sir David Thorne, both visited. It was Major Gen Thorne's last official visit to the battalion before his retirement later this year and he presented LS and GC medals to CSgt Boucher, Cpl Woodruff and Pte Freeston.

Other visitors included a PIRA Active Service Unit in early March, and the battalion was closely involved with the follow-up action after their warm reception. As a result the Band and Drums, together with the Mortar Pl, under Lt Alan Wylie, received more than their usual share of national publicity when they mounted guard at the Governor's residence, The Convent, on 8 Mar.

Sport remains an important part of our lives here and in January the Drums SF Pl won the inter-platoon football competition, with HQ Coy winning the inter-company competition. Unfortunately the battalion team were not quite so successful against the other Services.

We are now looking forward to repeating our successes of last year in the athletics competitions to come. Road running too, is becoming increasingly popular.

Adventure training is varied and accessible here and with summer hours approaching, the training schedule of the Gibraltar Adventure Training Centre (manned almost entirely by Vikings) has been changed around to allow the battalion use of the facilities in the afternoons. The visiting TA companies will continue to use the GATC in the mornings and we look forward to seeing the 6th Battalion later in the year.

Adventure training off the Rock has again taken the form of skiing in the Sierra Nevada near Granada and trekking in the High Atlas mountains of Morocco.

Exercise Snow Fox, the skiing package, enabled more than 150 members of the battalion to get up into the mountains and try this exciting sport, with personnel from the RN and RAF attending.

Exercise Spring run goes on throughout the year, with each company being given one two week period in Morocco. Planning of the route and other details is done in Gibraltar and once political clearance has been obtained, the party of 12, usually under a junior officer, cross to Morocco in two civilised Landrovers. This year most of the planning revolves around Toubkal, the highest mountain in North Africa.



Gently does it - Pte Garve prepares to descend



Air Commodore Lemon, Air Commander RAF Gibraltar, showing the close links between the RAF and the Vikings

News from the Vikings



C Cay seen here revising old skills



After a quick dash the ringleader is apprehended

News from the Vikings

Runners busy on the Rock

GIBRALTAR has a full and competitive road running programme consisting of a league, Top of the Rock Race, Round the Rock Relay, Round the Town Relay, a half marathon and closing the season with the Gibraltar marathon.

The Rock, due to its size and shape, prevents most normal training and the terrain often causes injuries. The league has two local athletic clubs, the Calpeans and the Lourdians. Both of the clubs are strongly competitive and have, for many years, dominated the Combined Services Team in which the Vikings compete.

This year, with the support of the Vikings, the Combined Services won four of the eight league races and came second overall in the league. It is hoped that next season there will be the first Combined Services overall victory in the league for several decades.

The Top of the Rock race is a hard climb from sea level to the very top of the Rock - 1,300 ft. This race was also used as an inter coy competition by the battalion. The Combined Services team had a narrow victory in this race much to the surprise of the local teams who have been victorious for more than

20 years.

Outstanding results from the Vikings were LCpl Marshall (2nd) 19:22 sec. Pte Rudd 20:27 sec, Cpl Bishop 20:30 sec. Sgt Preston 21:34, CSgt Hanniver 21:39 sec. B Coy were the inter coy champions in a close and hard competition.

In the Round the Rock Relay the Combined Services A team had an unexpected success as several top runners were absent. The race was won with a fine team effort and a particularly fast run from LCpl Marshall on the hardest leg of the race. The team consisted of: Pte Rudd (Viking), LCpl Marshall (Viking), CSgt Hanniver (Viking), SSgt Wyan (Royal Engineers)

The Round the Town Relay is run through the busy streets with little to no vehicle control. It's an achievement to finish without being knocked down, let alone win. The local teams attempted to build a large lead at the start but the Combined Services held on to leave the team's better runners the opportunity to win in style.

The half marathon was not a team event and was used by the battalion as a proving ground for the marathon. LCpl Marshall had a

comfortable win.

The season finished with the Gibraltar marathon with nine Viking runners, many on their first marathon and with the aim of completing the course.

The race at the front soon settled with Mohammed Radaff leading LCpl Marshall at a fast pace. Radaff came a fine first in the record time of 2 hrs 28 mins 54 secs. LCpl Marshall, on his first marathon, came second in 2 hrs 40 mins 28 secs and gained entry to the London marathon.

Other runners of note were Sgt Preston 2 hrs 54 mins and Pte Briston in 3 hrs on his first marathon.

The star of the Vikings running team this year has been LCpl Marshall who is to prove himself on the track this season. He will be pressed by some young runners including Pte Rudd and the old and bold who don't know when to hang up their shoes like CSgt Hanniver and Sgt Preston.

The Vikings continue to enjoy their weekly "Fun Run" from the barracks up and round the Rock, delighting in the look of dismay from newcomers at the route that goes up, up and then up.



The Band and Corps of Drums playing during the quinquennial Kneller Hall inspection

News from the Vikings



Between running cadres, Training Wing staff enjoy a relaxing weekend with their wives



The 3rd Gibraltar Europa Viking Pack Cub Scouts with (from left) CSgt Clarke, Pte Keyzers and Cpl Woodruff

News from the Vikings



Milan live firing, Cpl Sutton in command



B Coy in action - Pte Wright, Pte Bailey, CSgt Long



Maj Robert Pepper (left) leaves to join Int Corps and WO2 Smith departs to 6th Bn as RSM



Mrs Pattern and Mrs Turner with the Lady Mayoress of Norwich

News from the Vikings



Above: CSgt Godby (left) and Maj I Hall of C Coy, chatting with the Colonel of the Regiment

Above left: Cpl Sid Woodruff after receiving his LS and GC medals from Maj Gen Sir David Thorne. CSgt Boucher awaits his.

Left: CSgt Morton and family with Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter and Lady Terry, Governor and C-in-C Gibraltar on the occasion of CSgt Morton's investiture of the BEM.

Legion launches new programme

Coinciding with their annual conference at Douglas, Isle of Man, the Royal British Legion announced a major new programme to provide improved training in the care and welfare of ageing veterans and their dependants.

Calls on the Royal British Legion for help are increasing as the problems of ageing ex-Service men and women, many of whom are from the Second World War and now in their seventies, also increase. In addition, victims of the many conflicts which have occurred since, including Northern Ireland, are turning to the Legion in ever-growing numbers.

The Legion, therefore, intends to train its army of volunteer local welfare committee members in the complexities of the Government's new social security measures, ensuring that they are familiar with the new rules and that those in their care receive the full benefits to which they are entitled.

Mr Robert Scafe, the Legion's national chairman, said, "It is essential that we communicate details of the developments in all areas of Government reforms affecting the ex-Service community, especially social security, to ensure to all those who need it. To this end, we are arranging a programme of training seminars across the country."



News from the Vikings



Above: Brig Stone chats to the boys - Pte Cox, Pte Parnell, Cpl Wright of B Coy



Left: Mrs Gibson-Taylor seen here during her visit to the Vikings

Below: LCpl Jefferies in conversation with the Lord Mayor of Norwich in the JNCO Naafi, South Barracks

Thank you

Mr L.J. Stoker of Wisbech, a former Bandsman with the Royal Norfolk Regiment, has written to the editor of Castle following a recent holiday in Gibraltar

During his stay on the Rock he and his wife were entertained by members of the 1st Battalion and has asked us to convey his thanks for the marvellous hospitality extended to them.

It is 50 years since he served in Gibraltar and his visit evoked many happy memories to which can now be added the memories of six days spent with the Vikings.





Poachers



SA80 arrives at Trenchard

AFTER months of anticipation, 18 Feb saw the arrival of SA 80 at Trenchard Barracks. For the next few weeks everyone's existence revolved around unpacking, cleaning, checking and converting to the new weapon.

Deployment on a two-week exercise at Soltau was the deadline to be reached and to the credit of the hardworking instructors, it was achieved. The weapon performed well on the exercise, which was a useful familiarisation period.

The only drawback was that BFAs were few and far between! Undeterred the Poachers battled on. Three weeks later in April the battalion was to be found on a fortnight's field tiring at Sennelager.

This period saw the rifle companies consolidating their skills, and HQ and D(Sp) Coy firing the weapon for the first time. General opinion was favourable, and much higher scores were being obtained but unfortunately bits continued to drop off! The SA 80 does not seem to be Poacher proof.

After a hectic summer and autumn, the pace of life steadied for the battalion in November. There was time to be devoted to sporting fixtures - rugby, football, hockey, squash - and over the winter months the battalion has achieved some resounding wins, accompanied by the odd defeat.

The main sporting focus was on the boxing

team, who worked extremely hard and achieved two confident wins before falling to the eventual Army champions, the Staffords. They will be back next year to take up the challenge again.

November also saw the departure of the Band and Corps of Drums, under the nominal supervision of Lt David Till, for Barbados, briefly taking in Washington DC on the way. They were on their way to assist the Barbados government to celebrate 25 years of independence.

Never have so many Poachers claimed ability to play musical instruments, in a vain attempt to be attached to the party. The Band and Drums did work extremely hard, or so they assure us, and proved a great credit to the battalion on their numerous engagements, although their suntuans were not appreciated on their return.

December proved to be pleasantly short for the Poachers, with the prospect of four weeks leave to spur everyone on. 9 Dec saw the new GOC of 1 Armd Div Maj Gen Swinburn visiting the battalion. He was greeted by a barrack guard formed by C Coy. Lunch was in the Officers' Mess before a visit to the A Coy assault course competition and specialist training with the Milan and Mortar Platoons.

The rest of the month was devoted more to matters of a social flavour. The numerous



Action on the assault course at STC

departmental, company, battalion and mess functions all went well and left everyone desperately in need of leave.

17 Dec saw the Officers' versus WOs' and Sgts' Mess football match, which ended in a victory for the Sgts' Mess. However, the Officers must be congratulated on their play as it was the first time they had played since the previous December, and it was the night after the Austin Dinner. The football was immediately followed by the soldiers' Christmas lunch, which signified the beginning of leave for all those flying to England, departing as soon as they had eaten.

18 Jan heralded the return to work and the next few weeks saw individual courses of all types - EPC, German & Snow Queen as well as career courses - and a gradual work up to the next big exercise in March.

There were a number of visits to the battalion, the first by Brig H.W.R. Pike, the new commander of 22 Armd Bde on 8 Feb. This was followed by a visit from the Lord Mayor of Leicester, Cllr Gordan Parmar, on 16/17 Feb. The party chose to travel to BAOR in the civic Daimler and their progress caused a



Getting to grips with the SA80 at STC

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News from the Poachers



Steady on lads, shouldn't there be a set of wheels between this track?

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great deal of interest across northern Germany.

The first day of the visit was spent with B (Leicestershire) Coy. The Lord Mayor tried his hand at .22 shooting in the JTTW and at commanding an APC. That night a supper was held in the Officers' Mess before embarking on a hectic programme the next days.

The first stop was Belsen Concentration Camp to lay a wreath. This was followed by a lightening tour of the remainder of the battalion, before an appointment with Celle's Oberstadtdirektor and Oberbergermeister.

This completed, it was back to the WOs' and Sgts' Mess for lunch before it was time to depart. It was a successful visit with many Leicester lads meeting their Lord Mayor for the first time.

The battalion's final VIP visitor was Director Infantry, Maj Gen Sir David Thorne on 8/9 Mar. The programme began with an evening band concert and supper in the Officers' Mess.

The Band and Corps of Drums put on an extremely professional show, providing a very eye-catching and entertaining evening. Their versatility ranged over all types of music - from military to blues - and culminated in a song! All money raised at the event was donated to the Guide Dogs for the Blind appeal.

The second day of the visit saw a tour of the barracks and an interesting insight into the 'way forward' for the Infantry, for the Officers and Sgts' Messes.

With the arrival of March, so ended a rela-

tively quiet period for the Poachers. The month began and ended with visits to BGTT between which was sandwiched a fortnight on Soltau. The BGTT exercises enabled the members of the battalion battle group for BATUS to get together for the first time and both proved valuable training exercises.

The Soltau exercise not only provided the Poachers with a first chance to use SA 80 in the field but also a first chance to work with Challenger, which was pronounced a good bit

of kit'.

After a week of company based training, a fast moving BG exercise was held that tested everybody's flexibility to the full. The only drawback to the exercise was the weather, which was abysmal and made moving around the area very difficult. Vehicles 'bogging in' was a common occurrence and kept the LAD on their toes.

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Working conditions on Soltau

News from the Poachers



From Page 22

April was equally busy. A visit by the Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Sir John Akehurst began on 13 Apr. The day began with a vigorous round of golf with the Quartermasters and CSgt Thomas. The serious business began with lunch in the WOs' and Sgts' Mess and the presentation of LS & GC Medals to WO2 D. Watson, CSgt A. Thomas, SSgt A. Douglas APTC and LCpl M.C. Mer ryweather. Visits were paid to the companies before finishing with tea in the Cpls' Mess and dinner in the Offrs' Mess.

The first weeks of April were also devoted to intensive training for the battalion shooting team, in preparation for the Divisional SAAM. The Poachers came second overall and managed to achieve a substantial number of firsts in team and individual events. Our congratulations to the team for such impressive results.

April was dominated by the Mortar Platoon Concentration and the Sennelager Field Firing period. The Mortars had a very successful exercise after weeks of hard preparation under the command of Capt Julian Dean.

The Sennelager period was enjoyed by all with excellent weather, a keenly contested inter-platoon competition (won by 6 Pl) and some outstanding live firing FIBUA training.

The last six months have also seen a number of departures. Maj Chris Groom, Capt Steve Boast and Lts Steve Taylor, Harry Hallam and Andy Fell departed for greener pastures. We wish them well. The battalion now looks forward to a busy period of BATUS training before deployment to Canada at the end of July.

Left: The march on the inter-platoon competition at STC



Sgt Hayton, Cpl Scarboro, LCpl White and Cpl Iles - winners of the falling plate competition at STC

News from the Poachers



6Pl, B Coy, led by Lt Justin Barnes, winners of the inter-platoon competition



Colonel of the Regiment with members of B Coy



The Bishop of Lincoln visits the battalion



Cpl Hammond supervising NBC training

News from the Poachers



The Mayor of Leicester with some Leicester lads



Pompadours



Return to BATUS

THIS year began with the Pompadours preparing to return to BATUS for the last time during their current BAOR tour. The BATUS training programme began in January with low-level training at individual and section level progressing up to Company then Battle Group level.

All elements of the Battle Group, which includes A and C Sqns 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards and 4 (Sphinx) Bty, 47 Fd Regt, came together in March for a pre-BATUS study period and TEWT. Training continued apace with the battalion also converting to SA80 by the end of March in readiness for field firing.

For 10 days in April the battalion undertook a field firing package at Sennelegar as part of its pre-BATUS training. Companies initially concentrated on the low-level skills of the individual, post and the fire team, as well as specialist skills such as L37 gunnery, demolitions and sniping. In addition the Milan platoon ran its own concentration.

Companies then moved onto ranges organised by a series of Battalion Permanent Range Teams. These ranges were designed to practice section and platoon level attacks including co-operation with main battle tanks from the 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards. The period ended for each company with Exercise Random Sample, a 24-hour live firing exercise designed to practice the defence and attack phases of war.



Pte 'Recky' Riley and Pte Nigel Medler of the GPMG SF PI on watch during Ex Random Sample

The exercise included Chieftain firing main armament, support from 4 (Sphinx) Fd Bty (the battalion's close support battery) and all of the support weapon platoons.

The exercise was visited by the Corps Commander who was pleasantly surprised at how much could be done within the relatively small range area. The complete package was a demanding yet rewarding exercise which gave the perfect opportunity for the battalion to become fully conversant with SA80.

Between 16-22 Apr the Recce PI conducted their annual live firing at Bergen Hohne Ranges. Because of BATUS, the platoon had reduced scales of ammunition, nevertheless the new standard shoots were interesting and demanding.

This year the platoon conducted the exercises in a tactical setting and as far as we know this was a first for both the RAC and Infantry. There was some speculation as to the wisdom of the decision but at the end of the day the Platoon proved that, with careful preparation and training, it is possible to operate tactically and still achieve the standards required by the RAC Gunnery School. We wholeheartedly recommend this method to other platoons.

The Mortar PI participated in Ex Joint Endeavour, the 1 (BR) Corps bi-annual mortar concentration at Munsterlager South. The aim of the exercise was to practice the platoon in all phases of war while live firing.

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The CO briefing the Corps Commander during Ex Random Sample

News from the Pompadours



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The exercise was divided into three phases. Phase 1 was a testing period which dealt not only with all aspects of mortaring, but included an inspection which looked at vehicles, harnesses, NBC, first aid and AFV recognition. Phase 2 was a series of demanding but enjoyable exercises run by Support Weapons Wing Netheravon. These exercises practised the platoon and tested battle procedures to its limits with evenings spent in tactical hides.

Phase 3 was the main live, designed to practise mortar platoons and artillery batteries in direct support of a battle group. This culminated in a brigade attack, with all mortar platoons and artillery firing on a brigade fire plan.

The platoon set an exceptionally high standard. Everyone enjoyed the concentration and had seen the results of the preparatory training.

Following on from field firing, the battalion moved straight from Sennelager to the Soltau Training Area to continue its mechanised training with all the elements of the Battle Group.

The Soltau package began with the Company/Squadron Groups undergoing their own training in preparation for the Battle Group exercise on 5-6 May. Time off was limited to a Battle Group barbeque on Sunday after a series of interesting demonstrations involving all elements of the Battle Group.

Exercise Sweet Medicine, a Brigade FTX, followed on the Battle Group exercise. The Brigade Commander put the Battle Group through a demanding exercise which involved most phases of war. The four day exercise was a great success and left the Battle Group poised for BATUS. As always, there is little time and the pre-advance party departed for BATUS just five days after the Brigade Exercise!

The Colonel of the Regiment visited the battalion for the first time in Minden on the 18

The Battle Group demonstration at Soltau

Nov. He was met by a Guard of Honour provided by the PNC's Cadre and toured the rest of the cadres in training within the barracks.

At lunchtime he was entertained by the WO's and Sgts' Mess after he had presented LS and GC medals to CSgt Mills, Sgt Jones and Cpl Richmond. WO2 Brett was also awarded an MID for operations in Northern Ireland. In the evening Gen and Lady Akehurst were guests in the Officers' Mess.

The battalion was also delighted to greet the Director of Infantry, Maj Gen Sir David Thorne, on 7-8 Mar. He was entertained by the Officers on the evening of his arrival and the following morning, visited C Coy and Milan training in Elizabeth Barracks.

He also briefed the Officers, WO's and SNCO's in their respective messes upon the way ahead for the Infantry. Finally, the General had lunch in the WO's and Sgts' Mess before departing for 2 Queens that afternoon.

Brig C.C. Barnett paid a farewell visit to the Pompadours on 24 Mar as Brigadier Infantry 1 (BR) Corps. The Brigadier also took the opportunity to discuss School of Infantry training as he was to become Commandant of the School in April.

The battalion played host to Anglia Television over the weekend 14/15 Apr. As part of an ITV Telethon, Anglia decided that short video messages from members of the Forces and dependents serving in BAOR would be recorded.

The recordings would be transmitted later in May to parents, family and friends in the east of England. The CO capitalised on the opportunity of some 'free' publicity (at a small cost) for the Pompadours and 30 other members of the battalion took the opportunity to say 'hello' to mum.

March saw the return of RSM WO1 Potter from JIB Shorncliffe. Our congratulations go to the 'old' RSM as he is now our MTO as Lt P Thurston.

Despite the demands of pre-BATUS train-

ing, the battalion took time off to sponsor the 4 Armd Div SAAM at Sennelager Training Centre on 11/12 Apr.

The SAAM included most of the battalion in a spectrum of activities from range control to selling hot dogs, all of which was planned and co-ordinated by Maj Peter Field and Capt Bob Eke. 23 units from the Division took part and for the first time 3 R Anglian fielded SA80 in competition shooting.

The team, under the leadership of Lt Andy Latham, excelled themselves and made a clean sweep of all the prizes, less the falling plate. In the Robert Cup 3 R Anglian fielded

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Dusk settles on the Recce Pl at Bergen Hohne

News from the Pompadours



Clearing mines the hard way

From Page 27

seven of the total of 20 firers and the Champion at Arms was won by LCpl Hazelwood who went on to win a further 10 trophies.

Shooting within the battalion continued with 2Lt Des O'Driscoll doing well in the Young Officers Shoot. On the small bore side, the battalion was placed second in the Division and qualified for the Rhine Army Championship.

The championship was of a very high standard and, despite little time for training, the team managed a creditable fifth place. At home, in the Queen's Division Match, HQ Coy are still lying second with two more cards to fire. Our congratulations go to LCpl Hazelwood who travels to Bisley in June to represent Queen's Division.

While the majority of the battalion was engaged in DIVSAAM, the B Coy marathon team escaped the net and headed to Vienna. Sgt Hughes took the team, consisting of two JNCOs and five Ptes to take part in the Vienna Marathon.

The journey was long and arduous with an overnight stop in Regensburg, courtesy of a US Pioneer Detachment. On arrival in Vienna, the team settled into a hostel in Friedrich Engels Platz.

The race proved to be hard with numerous hills. This was offset by the pleasure of running through what can only be described as a beautiful city.

As to the marathon, Sgt Hughes was the first across the line for the Coy 3 hrs 30 mins, with the remainder coming in around the 4 hr point. It was a particularly good effort as most of the recognised runners were involved in the DIVSAAM, and for many of the runners this was their first marathon.

As a finale the team got a mention on Chiltern radio and Radio Vienna. After a lengthy return journey, another stay at Regensburg, a tired but happy team returned to Minden having collected Dm 1,200 for charity.

The members were: Sgt Hughes, LCpl Anderson, LCpl Hill, Pte Aubrey-Wright, LCpl Townsend, Pte Sayers, Pte Jones 77, Pte Crawley.



Maj Gen Sir David Thorne meets CSgts Barry and Baxter of the Milan Pl



WO1 RSM Thurston (right) hands over to WO1 RSM Polks

News from the Pompadours



The Pompadours' shooting team at the 4 Armd Div SAAM. Back row from left: LCpl Hazlewood, LCpl Jolly, Capt Eke, CO, LCpl Battersby, LCpl Easterbrook. Front row from left: LCpl Christian, LCpl Simpson, LCpl Bodenham, LCpl Winkle, Lt A Latham, 2Lt M Dixon.



The Colonel of the Regiment with OC Heavy Weapons Coy, Maj Simon Porter, talking to members of the Milan PI

News from the Pompadours



LCpl Hazlewood, the 4 Armd Div SAAM Champion at Arms



WO2 Brett receiving his MID for operations to Northern Ireland from the Colonel of the Regiment



Brigadier Infantry, Brig C C Barnett on his farewell visit to the battalion chats with Sgt Krifton and CSgt Barton

News from the Pompadours

Band hits the right note

ONCE every five years each military band in the British Army is inspected by the Commandant (Inspector of Army Bands) and Director of Music (Assistant Inspector of Army Bands) from the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. On 3 March this year the Pompadours Band underwent just such an inspection.

The inspection was to examine every musical and administrative aspect of the 3rd Battalion Band and most of January and February were spent in detailed preparation.

On the morning of the inspection, the Band, with the Corps of Drums, paraded on the battalion square for the first part of the inspection. The Band's new scarlet tunics and all musical instruments came under close scrutiny. There followed a ten minute marching display which started with the Pompadours quick march and culminated with the Corps of Drums Victory Beatings.

The second part of the inspection took place in the Stadthalle: an imposing modern concert hall in the centre of Minden. In front of an audience of about 100 members of the battalion, the Band was subjected to a practical and academic examination designed to identify any weak spots in their musical proficiency.

The indoor phase of the inspection began with a fanfare: Pompadours 300, written especially for the battalion's tercentenary. There followed various musical tests including scales, transpositions and sight reading. Finally, the smaller groups within the band provided half an hour's entertainment with music ranging from the Bavarian band's Oom Pah Polka through to the dance band's authentic rendition of Moonlight Serenade.

But the final verdict on the Band's performance came from the Royal Military School of Music Inspectorate: 'First class.....this was a very impressive display'.



The Commandant of the Royal School of Music talking to Cpl Edmonds during the Band's quinquennial inspection



The Band and Corps of Drums on parade during their inspection

News from the Pompadours



The quickest way down - 2Lt O'Driscoll demonstrates an alternative way of coming down a rock face



Pte Edwards surveys the stack before the climb begins

Expedition to Sardinia

EXERCISE Deci Flex was an adventure training exercise mounted by the Pompadours in early February. It was held in Sardinia and aimed to introduce soldiers to trekking and rock climbing in a mountainous environment. The following article was written by expedition leader 2Lt Des O'Driscoll.

"An opportunity to visit the Mediterranean in the middle of a German winter - well, would you turn it down?"

"As we landed in Sardinia the rumours appeared to be true, it really was hot at this time of the year! Within minutes the majority of the expedition were sporting T-shirts and some went as far as shorts.

"Eight members of 3 R Anglian were in Sardinia as part of Exercise Deci Flex, to trek in the hills and climb on some of the island's vast rock outcrops.

"During the trekking phase we saw many spectacular sights, such as the fortress town of

Macomer and the unusual castle above Esporlatu, which is built on an island of rock above the valley floor. It took some time to get used to seeing cattle walking down town high streets! Everywhere we went we were greeted with enthusiasm, kindness and curiosity. The sight of a heavily burdened trekker is rare even to the hill people in this region.

"Language difficulties were soon overcome by the use of sign language, after we found that speaking English more slowly and loudly was ineffective! Those with a smattering of French or German tried using this and met with considerable success.

"After trekking for five days we moved to Arbatax on the east coast to climb on the numerous slabs in the area. The ingenuity of several expedition members led to a well furnished camp site on the cliff tops.

"For many, it was a first encounter with rock climbing. However, the excellent

weather provided a calming influence on the nervous, offering good conditions and two new routes were put up, one on a spectacular sea stack on a deserted cove. This area has huge potential and deserves to be developed.

"Three days R & R rounded off the expedition. This included a trip to Oristano where masked horsemen hold a race through the streets each year!

"If you get a chance to visit Sardinia, take it, the weather is wonderful and for those interested in challenge pursuits, the opportunities are endless. The expedition support unit at Capitana deserve our grateful thanks for providing an excellent administrative service for our expedition."

Expedition members: 2Lt O'Driscoll, 2Lt Baker, Sgt Carey, Pte Willey, Cpl Beagley, Pte Fox, Pts Edwards and Pte Cowan.

News from the Pompadours



The permanent staff of the Pompadours' ski hut in Bavaria

EXERCISE Snow Queen is an annual event organised to allow soldiers and families in BAOR to try the delights of the various forms of skiing. This year 3 R Anglian successfully ran a ski hut in Bavaria from Christmas to the end of March.

The first two courses over the festive season were run for families but encountered severe problems - no snow! This led to people travelling into the higher areas of Austria to find suitable conditions. The soldiers' courses started at the beginning of January and each consisted of 30 all ranks including five from the Poachers in Celle.

Each course lasted two weeks and consisted of five days langlaufing (cross country) with the remainder of the time being dedicated to downhill.

Each course culminated in individual tests at either bronze or silver standard. In particular, a special mention should go to LCpl Thornton, LCpl Cahill (REMF), Pte Adams and Cpl Wolfe for passing out as instructors.

More than 200 soldiers passed through the hut this year. Despite very serious efforts by the "Kamikaze Club" injuries were kept to a minimum with only the odd stitch here and there.

Officers Dinner Club party

Thirty nine members of the 3rd Battalion Officers Dinner Club attended the cocktail party at the Army and Navy Club on 15 Apr. With wives and guests a total of 89 people were present. Most had not seen each other since the same occasion last year and, as far as one could tell, their conversations took up where they left off 12 months ago!

The trouble is that most of them, the men anyway, are deaf in the right ear. Trying to adjust one's position - is that the right expression? gravel-bellies will understand anyway - so as to hear and be heard is quite tricky.

I think we should stop the practice of making silver presentations to the 3rd Battalion on final departure and instead buy one of those old fashioned kissing chairs, where the participants sit side by side but facing the opposite direction - well for heaven's sake it is perfectly clear. If you cannot understand what I am trying to say look at the diagram



OK now!
What? What do you mean...oh...yes.

Right ear to right ear. So what about this



Yes, much better. Do make sure the instructions are clear when you go to your furniture makers. These to be known as CCLE-DOCFU SOF (Chairs Conversation left ear deal Old Comrades for the use of).

Of course rules of engagement will be somewhat different - on second thoughts perhaps they needn't be. Do you remember my mentioning behind-the-curtain-goings-on at the party last year (well look it up in the June 1987 issue - chaps these days have to be spooned all the bloomin' way) No doubt about it. A CCLE-DOCFU SOF in collapsible man-packable form could be just the ticket for behind the curtain antics. My word yes.

Anyway, where were we? Ah yes, there all 89 of them were, chattering excitedly about whatever they had been chattering excitedly about last year, when it was time to go home again.

Feature Focus

Under an African sun

By Maj. J. B. C. Prescott

IN 1987 I was fortunate to be given the opportunity to join the British Military Advisory Training Team (BMATT) in Zimbabwe for a seven month period as a Training Advisory to the Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA).

During my initial interview Commander BMATT emphasised the importance of making full use of the opportunities that such a posting gave; not that I needed much persuasion as having previously travelled quite widely in Africa, I realised just how lucky I was to be in this part of the world again.

I therefore planned, for my free time, to travel on three separate trips within Zimbabwe and the surrounding areas: South Luangwa National Park in Zambia, a 200 Kilometre canoe trip down the Zambezi and the Okavango Delta in Botswana.

South Luangwa is an area some 700 kilometres NE of Lusaka, the capital of Zambia. The difference in living standards between Zimbabwe & Zambia is reflected in the standards seen between the capitals of Harare & Lusaka.

Lusaka has little to recommend it. It is dirty, there is little in the shops and violence is prevalent. It is worth noting that photography is banned in the city as all whites seem to be regarded as potential S. African agents.

Glad to be out of the city I eventually arrived at Mtuwe, a small settlement on the edge of the Luangwa Game Park, for eventual transfer by Land-rover into the park itself.

The Luangwa river which cuts through the centre of park is its lifeblood and provides the natural magnet from the game which travel for miles from the arid area surrounding the reserve.

That first evening gave me a foretaste of the richness of the animal life in the region seeing eight lions, a leopard, wallowing hippos, elephants and buck of every variety. In fact during my stay, the only animal of note not to be seen was the Black Rhino, a sad reflection of the plight of that magnificent animal in its losing battle for survival against the poacher.

Luangwa is an exceptional reserve not only for the quantity of game, but the way it can be viewed. The remoteness of the region limits the number of tourists in contrast to the exploitation of similar reserves in East Africa. One can either travel in the reserve by Land-Rover or on foot with an armed guide. Nothing makes the adrenaline flow faster than to walk in the bush with the game close by, knowing that one is on equal terms with animals in an environment where humans are the trespassers.

After four memorable days I travelled back to Lusaka and decided to take the long route



Lions on the bank of the Luangwa River

back to Zimbabwe by local bus to Livingstone and the Victoria Falls.

Travel in Africa is always eventful and this trip proved no exception. Two hours after leaving Lusaka we broke down. After an hour we resumed the journey only to find that some of the passengers had failed to get back on the bus. On turning the bus around, the driver reversed into a ditch where we remained for some time totally blocking the road. The journey ended eventually late into the night, 10 1/2 hrs after starting on what should have been a five hour trip.

The Zambezi Valley on the northern boundary of Zimbabwe was the setting for my next journey, a 200 kilometre journey lasting seven days by canoe from Chirundu to Kanyemba on the Mozambique border.

My fellow travellers on this trip were two South Africans, an Australian doctor, a young Zimbabwean couple, an Irish university lecturer and the Zimbabwean guide. We were paired off into four canoes in which we carried all our provisions and equipment for the duration of the trip.

We soon settled into the daily routine of rising at dawn and canoeing for two hours before a well deserved breakfast. My insistence on shaving at breakfast was a source of constant amusement to the rest of the party. Distances covered varied according to the current and wind but on average we travelled

30 kilometres a day. At night we generally camped on sand banks in the middle of the river as these proved the safest haven for us from the animals.

The Zambezi Valley like Luangwa provides a natural haven to animals. Travelling by canoe gives one the best possible opportunity of seeing the game as they come down to drink on the banks. Canoeing creates little noise and one can literally travel within yards of the unsuspecting animals.

Hippos were our main concern as their movements are unpredictable especially when submerged. The potential dangers were minimised by knocking our paddles against the sides of our canoes at regular intervals to prewarn them of our presence.

The only visible signs of civilisation on the entire trip were the occasional sightings of game park wardens and the army on anti-poaching patrols. The Zambezi Valley is the last bastion of the black rhino and the situation is now so critical that the authorities have adopted a shoot on sight policy against the poachers.

On reflection I feel there is no finer way of seeing Africa than on a trip like this. To sit under the African starlight sky at night, around a fire on the banks of the Zambezi with the chorus of animal noises in the background provides memories that will linger for a long time.

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Feature Focus



Journey's end for the canoe safari

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The Okovango Delta has been called the 'Jewel of the Kalahari'. Situated on the edge of the Kalahari in Botswana, the Okavango River is one of the world's strangest phenomena.

The river begins its journey in the highlands of Angola and winds its way towards Botswana. Instead of flowing out to sea its journey ends on the edge of the Kalahari creating the marsh area known as the Okovango Delta.

At full flood the delta covers 20,000 sq kilometres. The area is a shimmering mass of water, interspaced with numerous islands covered in startling green vegetation; a complete contrast to the desert of the Kalahari which surrounds the area.

Transport into the delta is tenuous to say the least. The staging post is Maun in Botswana from where one transfers into a light aircraft to reach one's chosen camp site in the delta. Frequently the sand landing strips at these camps are impassable due to the heavy rains.

From the camps the best method of movement, especially during the wet season, is by 'Mokoros' which are dug out canoes made from the sausage tree. Like the canoe trip down the Zambezi, this method proved an

excellent way of getting close to the wildlife.

I arrived in the delta on Christmas Eve and spent three idyllic days at Naxaba Camp midway into the delta. Time was taken up with treks to some of the surrounding islands to view the game and fishing some of the many surrounding lagoons and tributaries.

The Okovango is renowned for its birdlife. The river banks and vegetation provides a natural sanctuary to numerous species. One of the most spectacular sights was to see the African fish eagle plummet from the open sky to recover fish a few yards away from one's boat.

The Okovango Delta is a haven yet to be spoilt by economic exploitation or by the package tourist industry. How long this remains so, only time will tell, but as it stands at present the Okovango provides one of the most unusual areas of beauty in the world.

Working in Zimbabwe provided me with unsurpassed opportunities to see Africa. BMATT Zimbabwe is probably one of the best kept secrets of the British Army. It gives those that volunteer a tremendous opportunity to travel. Work, although frustrating at times, is very rewarding, but that is another story. For those who feel that they would like to go, my advice is to do so now as the opportunities may well not be there in the years to come.

Falklands visit is one to remember

By Maj. A.C. Chissel

"What but a bleak and gloomy solitude, an island thrown aside from human use, stormy in winter and barren in summer: an island which not even the southern savages have dignified with habitation..."

Part of a quote by Dr Samuel Johnson on regaining the Falkland Islands from Spain in 1770.

The opportunity to go to the Falkland Islands came up when Maj Andrew Duff, former Training Major of the battalion, put out a call for umpires for Ex Fire Focus (Falkland Islands Reinforcement Exercise). Having had friends that had fought there in 1982, I had always naturally wanted to go and see it for myself.

Battlefield tours have always left me with a slight feeling of ghoulishness and the Falkland Islands were to be no different, mainly I suppose because of its recent history. Capt Frazer Macdonald, our former Adjutant, also came along, making it very much a 5th Battalion affair (at least as far as the umpires were concerned).

Prior to leaving, we were duly issued with our "quilted Chinese fighting jackets" and spent large sums of money in Silvermans' and Field and Trek' to make sure that we were properly equipped to meet the elements. The exercise instructions said, and I quote "The month of March is a late autumn month. The temperature can drop to below zero, which added to the driving rain and constant winds can lead to exposure".

This later proved to rank up along with the other two great lies, "I'm not married" and "the cheque's in the post..."

Fearing a long dry flight, we left Paddington Station with a small carryout and arrived at Brize Norton fairly well refreshed for the rigours of RAF Movements. The only eventful incident on the 18 hour journey was the RAF steward, who introduced himself to the assembled troops of D Coy 3 Para as "Gary your flight attendant". We were not impressed.

It was at this point that the phrase "British Aerospace in uniform without unions" was coined to describe certain elements of the RAF: and was to be reinforced many times during the coming days.

After a thankfully brief stop at Ascension Island, we landed at Mount Pleasant Airport in

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Feature Focus

Cameroon joint exercise

Cameroon Quadrant was a joint military civilian research expedition to Southwest Cameroon. The following article was written by CSgt Mansell and Cpl Stohr.

The Southwestern part of the Federal Republic of Cameroon is one of the least known regions of Sub-Sahara Africa, lying between Buea in the south and Akwaya in the north. It forms a corridor of territory approximately 100 km wide bordering Nigeria's Cross River State.

The expedition area was predominantly tropical rain forest, one of the largest tracts of such forest left in Africa, with a mangrove swamp belt extending from the coast up to 20 km inland.

The aim was to enter and traverse this remote and somewhat forbidding area by boat, foot and Land-Rover to effect detailed and original scientific research. The two main fields of research were Ethnography (the study of material culture, art and cult traditions) and the natural history of the area, in particular, fish and waterborne diseases.

The two experts in the party were Keith Nicklin, the Keeper of Ethnography, and Dr. Gordon Reid, Keeper of the Natural History, both from the Horniman Museum in London. The remaining two civilians on the expedition were Dr Neil Kitchin, our resident doctor and

expert in tropical diseases and injuries and our freelance photographer, Eddie Parker, whose task it was to record the expedition, particularly the fish specimens.

The military team was led by Maj Andy Bruce, Battery Commander 4 (Sphinx) Fd Bty RA, the Pompadours' affiliated Battery and included CSgt Mick Mansell and Cpl 'Starky' Stohr, from 3 R Anglian.

The other military members were Capt John Gander, Sgt Norman Pivett, L.Bdr Grint Alderton and Gnrs Phil Tye, Kez Kerry and Cos Cosgrove, not forgetting Cpl John Wright, the ever important REME representative.

The planning, requesting and collecting of stores was undertaken by Sgt. Pivett. Incredibly he had everything loaded into the containers in UK by 16 Dec ready for their boat trip to the Cameroons. This included serviceable hard top 3/4 ton L-R with cages, spare engine, gearboxes and axles, tyres and numerous engine spares, four genuine assault boats with three Johnson 35 engines and one Johnson 40 engine and a very important item mosquito repellent.

Prior to departing for the Cameroon, expedition members underwent medical tests and vaccinations. They also attended lectures on tropical diseases and their symptoms. Cpl

Wright and Cpl Stohr underwent a crash course on outboard motor maintenance.

Expedition members met at RAF Wyton, Cambridgeshire on 4 Jan 88, the first time the whole group had been together. We set off for Cameroon in an RAF Hercules at 0500 hrs on the following morning. Our long journey was broken by overnight stops in both Cyprus and Nairobi, before arriving in Davala (Cameroon) late on 8 Jan.

Clearing Customs with all the boxes of equipment and personal baggage became a major task. We were then to face our first encounter with the authorities as we were stopped outside the airport by a Gendarme of the Cameroon Police Force. He was positive that we were members of a mercenary group who were going to attempt a coup to overthrow the Cameroon government.

After assistance from the British Consulate we managed to proceed. The removal of the L-Rs and container from the docks was already complete, an achievement in itself, as the usual waiting period for containers is three months and ours had been cleared in a day.

The first stop was Kimba, a small community approximately 120 kms north east of Douala. Our convoy of L-Rs and one large civilian open cattle truck arrived there in the

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brilliant sunshine, which was to remain with us right the way through the fortnight. MPA itself is an enormous and well constructed complex, with a heavy emphasis on comfort. Its vast internal corridors quickly earned it the nickname "Death Star". Incredibly there were even tales of people being mugged while walking home at night. Mind you with whisky at 11p a tot, we were a fairly easy target.

The first couple of days were reasonably slack for the infantry umpires, which enabled us to carry out the usual run of sightseeing tours. Inevitably we walked along Bertha's Beach and photographed the penguins and dolphins surfing just offshore. Port Stanley was next, along the road (sorry did I say road) which links MPA with the island's capital. That was an experience in itself - the M25 it is not.

We took time off en route to look in more detail at the scenes of the final battles for Stanley. Enough has been written about them but suffice to say that if we had been defending those peaks, we should still have been there. The sheer scale of the terrain is sufficient testimony to the men that fought for them. Next, a quick drive through Stanley (blink and you miss it) looking quite lovely in the sunshine and over Wireless Ridge to fish in the Murrell River. Sadly no luck with the sea trout but it was worth it for the scenery.

Fire Focus then began in earnest. My task initially was to umpire the Resident Infantry Company (RIC) Commander and then to umpire the reinforcing battalion's Main HQ. Friendships with 3 LI quickly formed and I was impressed with the way the company performed, given the horrendous frontages that they had to cover. The Company Commander had my instant sympathy.

The arrival of the reinforcing battalion was a welcome relief for the Company on the ground who now had their platoons replaced by companies. Their deployment was delayed by four hours while the Press insisted on filming the new arrivals patrolling among the penguins. It was a delay that they could have done without.

Planned incidents involving all three services took place over the next four days ranging from power cuts, SF action, unwanted foreign journalists landing (brilliantly portrayed by one of the umpires) to a massive simulated air attack on the complex itself, centred mainly in the Sgts Mess (at breakfast time...).

The climax of the exercise was when two platoons of the RIC were deployed to West Falkland to take out a SF base. This was a live firing exercise which included naval gunfire from HMS Nottingham, a battery of 105mm guns and four mortars. It was the most impressive two platoon attack I have ever seen.

3 LI crossed their craggy startline to the

accompaniment of two silver bugles blown by members of the Drums Platoon - a nice touch. The attack itself was made more realistic by the BC Maj Willie McCracken (he had been an FOO during the war), whose definition of "danger close" in the soft peat was somewhat different to Capt Macdonalds which earned Frazer the nickname 'TC' or 'take cover', following a salvo covered him in peat.

Endex meant a farewell dinner at the Up-land Goose (where else?) The food was reasonable and cheap although in the case of the senior officer who drank three pints of bitter standing on his head (yes - on his head) the food looked much better first time round. His efforts did result in a cheque from the author to Great Ormond Street Hospital. 3 R Anglian are to note that the record and the venue have been established. It is debatable if the Guinness Book of Records will be interested in any attempt to beat it but if you can persuade the landlord it might be worth a try.

I was, quite frankly, sad to leave. The opportunities for sightseeing, adventure training and field firing are quite enormous and I am certain that the Pompadours will have a tremendous time, particularly if they take advantage of the facilities.

I will be more than happy to visit them next year and I know that the RIC will include some members of all three battalions who will join them on the tour. I'm sure they will enjoy it.

Feature Focus

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dark and the unloading took almost three hours.

Our first campsite was alongside the main Kimba Water Tower and we stayed for five days before moving onto our permanent camp in Mindenba. While at Lake Kimba there was time for Keith Nicklin to make contact with local chiefs and various personnel in authority whose names and locations would be invaluable to his research later on in the expedition.

Also Dr. Reid was able to try out his nets which were under trail from an American firm and gather some of the species of fish from Lake Kimba and tributaries. During this time we were able to unpack equipment, issue hammocks and survival equipment. This included the first aid kits which were to be used more frequently than we could have imagined. We were then joined by our military police representatives who were to escort us during our three month stay in the country.

The move from Kimba to Mindenba was our first introduction to the dust and bone-shaking that was to be with us for the remainder of the expedition.

Upon arrival, we initially elected to decline the offer of camping on the disused village football pitch opting instead for a site deep within a palm oil plantation. However, our stay was short-lived as we were rapidly driven away by large tsetse flies. The football pitch became home for Exercise Cameroon Quadrant.

Tents were erected, a kitchen area designated and a doctor's surgery and garage constructed from locally cut bamboo. An antenna was placed in position but we were later to find out that communications with Germany were impossible.

Our initial trip into the Karup National Park lasted three days and was an opportunity to confirm the terrain. Our first experience of the jungle was promising and, during the next month, we were to assist in many excursions

gathering fish samples and data on the many streams. Even at this early stage new species were found.

The first cases of malaria began to appear towards the end of our time in the jungle. Our doctor, Neil Kitchin, had only to deal with boils and minor cuts until then. However, his blood sampling equipment and expertise were put to the test as the first case was diagnosed. In total 13 members of the expedition went down with malaria including some of the local army and police representatives who had accompanied us.

Upon completion of the jungle work, river sampling began. The main rivers that were studied were the Ndian and the Cross. The Ndian flows to Rio Del Ray, and is tidal. The salt water proved to be a problem as far as drinking water was concerned.

The Cross river contained long stretches of shallow water and sand bars, where we had to man-handle the boats. Regrettably towards the end of the expedition the Johnson 40 engine failed and it had to be towed back upstream assisted by the tidal flow of the Ndian River.

Once all the species found had been preserved and the campsite packed away, a well earned rest was waiting. R & R was taken on a nature reserve and in a beach resort. The flight back was again by Hercules via Dakar/Senegal.

As a result of the expedition, Keith Nicklin gathered so much information about the tribal customs and traditions and arts that he is now a leading expert in this field.

Dr Gordon Reid discovered more than 150 species of fish of which at least 15 species are new to man. These fish, totalling some 740 kgs, are being examined at the Horniman Museum. Photographer Eddie Parker took more than 200 reels of film and is now busy developing these for later presentation and photographic evidence of the species caught.

It was a unique experience and a trip to remember.

British Battalion

MR Chye Kooi Loong was born in 1929 and in Dec 41, as a boy of 12, was present at the Battle of Kanpar, Malaya when the British Battalion first came into his life.

The friendship he had with the survivors of this unique and outstanding battalion, formed from the 1st Bn the Leicestershire Regiment and the 2nd Bn The East Surrey Regiment, culminated in seven years research, primarily in the United Kingdom, Japan and Malaysia, for his book on the history of the battalion. A manuscript of his book was presented to both Regiments when Mr Chye visited the United Kingdom in 84.

Due principally to the efforts of Mr Richard Lane, a former Territorial Officer with 5 R Leicesters, the book is now to be published by the Syston Printing and Bookbinding Company of Leicester. It is a comprehensive and extremely well researched work, including 25 detailed and easy to read maps.

Written as a personal tribute to the men who served in the British Battalion, it is particularly fitting that publication is in the year when the 17th Foot celebrates the 300 anniversary of its formation as it encapsulates the bravery, humour, adaptability and sheer stubbornness of the British soldier in adversity.

The Royal Tigers Association owes a great debt to Mr Chye for writing such a splendid book and to Mr Lane who has gone to very great personal trouble to not only edit and set up the print run, but also to underwrite, personally, the whole 1,500 copy production.

The book is produced in hard cover and will be approximately 300 pages long which includes coloured maps and a number of appendices. It is sold on a non profit basis and is obtainable from the secretary of the Royal Tigers Association, price £19.50 per copy (which includes postage and packing).

Regimental Gathering

HAVE you told RHQ or your local Area HQ that you will be attending the Regimental Gathering at Bassingboorn on 24 Jul 88? If not, you should complete the proforma on page 77 now.

The programme will be:

1130 Muster for Drum Head Service
1200 Drum Head Service
1245 March Past - we hope that all Founder Regiments will send contingents with Branch Standards..

1300 Lunch - packed lunches will be available as will bars and snacks.
p.m. Activities - TA Band plays

1600 Retreat
1630 Depart

We hope that association branches will parade with their Standards for the Drum Head Service and March Past, and that each branch will enter at least one team in the shooting competition.

In the afternoon there will be an opportunity for OCAs to see and fire the new rifle and other equipment. The Band and Drums of the Pompadours will play at the Service and Retreat, while the TA Band will entertain us during the afternoon. Children will be catered for.

Reunion for ex PoWs

THE national ex-Prisoner-of-War Association's first annual reunion will be held at the Ladbroke's Holiday Centre, Middleton-on-Sea (nr Bognor Regis) from Fri 21 Oct to Mon 24 Oct 88.

A Church Parade will be organised for 23 Oct and interested organisations are invited to honour the Parade by the presence of their Standards.

For further details send a stamped addressed envelope to: National Ex-Prisoner of War Association Re-Union Secretary, Mr C. Jago, 72 Norfolk Road, West Hamham, Salisbury, SP2 8HE. (0722) 333599

Feature Focus



Cpl Stohr navigating one of the team's boats down the treacherous River Cross



The expedition heading off into the rain forest



5th Battalion



Period of consolidation

FOLLOWING the success of Exercise Keystone, the battalion had entered a period of consolidation - as forecast in the last edition of Castle.

The emphasis of the training programme has been one of ensuring that the basic skills are driven home through the adoption of a "core programme" designed to cover the basic - but vital subjects. This coming year individual training is the priority.

Inevitably following Keystone numbers did fall but recruiting is good and we look forward to building up our strength. The continued intake of recruits has meant that the trainers have been heavily involved with recruit cadres and recruit training weekends.

In addition, a successful battalion skill at arms meeting was held over the weekend 16/17 Apr. HW and HQ Coy won the Champion Company shooting trophy. The Champion Shot was Pte Bacon of 9 Pl.

On 14 Apr 19 soldiers under OCdt Arnold moved to Minden on attachment to the Pompadours for Exercise Medicine Man II. They return on 30 June and their report will appear in the next edition of Castle.

The battalion welcomed Maj R. Tournay from the 6th Battalion as OC 4 Coy, Capt S. Brunt from the Poachers as Adjutant, Capt D. Spalding (NRPS) as PSAO A Coy, WO1 P. Smith from the Vikings as RSM and Sgt Bell from the Poachers as the new Anti Tank Platoon PSI.

The battalion bade farewell to Capt F. Macdonald, Capt J. de-Bretton Gordon (NRPS), WO1 H. Smith and Sgt Minns. We wish them every success for the future.



Capt Nigel Ffitch leading the Recce Pl through the mire



The Commander, CO, 2IC and COS discuss CR's

News from the 5th Battalion

Pride in performance

HAVING served several COs in the last 19 years, I have come to the conclusion that they all want to make their mark (well they do don't they?).

As a young subaltern you enter into the spirit of the thing because if you don't you wind up doing extras. As a Captain you become blasé about the whole business and adopt the cynical approach. As a Company Commander you become as enthusiastic as a young subaltern (a little thing called Confidential Reports play a major role in this).

You then put body and soul into FIBUA, fighting in woods, sport or "this battalion is going to be the best in Persian Pottery approach" or whatever is the new CO's

theme. I even had one once who insisted that I box for goodness sake? 5'9" of bristling (and original) Viking, in the form of my wife soon put paid to that idea but it was close - I was a Captain at the time and was going through my cynical period.

Our new one came up with "pride in performance". I'd heard it before somewhere and regressed to my Captain period again and filed it away in the back of my mind for use to remind Company Commanders and overzealous subbies when the time was right.

I have to confess I paid it little more attention. I was certain that the troops would do the same. I was wrong.

It first sprang to mind again during the build up training to the battalion March and Shoot Competition at STANTA in January. The subbies were doing their usual trick of trying to impress the CO or anyone who would listen, as were the Company Commanders, but that was nothing new. What struck me was that it was having an effect on the men themselves and more suprisingly on the SNCOs, who tend to adopt a Captain's approach to these matters.

Prior to the event everyone worked hard to win the damn thing. They put up posters in the TA Centres advertising the event, they even prepared a training programme for fitness over the Christmas holiday that included one day off to recover and even had a day when you walked five miles WITH THE FAMILY. I was shocked, nay horrified. What was happening to the battalion?

Anyway, it dawned on me on Boxing Day, as I was running with a Bergan on a nice little circuit around my village, that this "pride in performance" thing might actually work. You understand of course that I was only out running after my wife's seizure watching me trying to get into my mess overalls - good, as long as that's cleared up. It was a catchy phrase: the troops liked it (I stopped for a fag at this point - well I had done nearly half a mile) and if the SNCOs liked it as well, who was I to argue?

Come the day of the March and Shoot I actually saw it - this "pride in performance" thing. The weather was horrible but there they were trying to WIN and trying damned hard. I actually got a hit enthusiastic myself at one stage - only for forms sake you understand. I watched people going over assault courses like whippets and even helping each other as opposed to sneering as they lay in the mud.

People were cheering each other on and shooting well and answering all the questions on the NBC test. There was actually stacks of "leadership" on the march phase too and not only from the Junior Officers and NCOs. It was beginning to work. People were taking "pride in their performance" across the battalion and the last few months since then have confirmed it.

Of course, I don't hold with this sort of thing myself - bloody stupid really when you think of it. I just hope that I can put together our FIBUA package by July and I'm actually very pleased with our four day field firing package at camp. Steady there old chap "pride in performance", I ask you.....



Lt Keith Parker discovering that walking on water is not that easy

News from the 5th Battalion



5Pl 2Coy all set for the eight mile bash



Maj A Chissel meets the penguins during his trip to the Falklands for Ex Fire Focus



6th Battalion



No winter rest for us

THE time for Castle notes approaches once more, yet again the companies have failed to produce any worthwhile photographs and sadly, yet again the Adjutant is in foreign parts and thus avoids the dubious privilege of producing the battalion's notes.

Although the winter period is supposed to be quieter in the TA, it certainly doesn't seem to have been the case for the 6th Battalion this time.

November was especially busy because our Brigade Commander decided to set a weekend test exercise, Anglian Artist, as part of our ARU for 1987/88. Despite our anxieties the exercise was thoroughly enjoyed and a great success. The weather was kind, 21 SAS provided an excellent enemy, we had ample 'real estate' to exercise over both at Beckingham/Fulbeck in Lincolnshire and on Stanford Battle area nearer home.

The system also produced both Chinook and light helicopters - a rare treat on a TA weekend exercise in UK. This winter we have been particularly fortunate with the elements and our February PTX, based on RAF Marham and exercising with 23 SAS and 2620 R Aux Air Force Squadron, also avoided snow and rain although we were less fortunate in April for the battalion SAAM when the early details fired in a snowstorm.

Fortunately, conditions did improve and the sun emerged in time for the prizegiving on Sunday afternoon. Brig Williams, Commander 54 Inf Bde, presented the Inter-Company Shield to C Coy who narrowly pipped D Coy. He also presented individual prizes and the BEM to CSgt Dougie George of B (Bedfordshire) Co whose tremendous service to the Army and to this battalion over a period of 40 years had been recognised in the New Years Honours list.

All our companies have raised money for local charities but one event in particular merits special mention. WO2 (SPSI) Thorpe of HQ Coy ran Exercise Camouflaged Petticoat in November for a group of wives who were prepared to try soldiering for a weekend. They raised £1,346 for the Addenbrookes Kidney Donor Appeal - a considerable achievement.

The battalion has been active in sport and tried to participate whenever possible. In squash the unit side, despite the high average age (CO, Adjt, SPSI HQ Coy, Admin PSI C Coy plus Pte Sagrott WRAC) surprised themselves by reaching the final of the District Major Units before losing to 39 Engr Regt.

However, the highlight has been the per-



A wiring party from F(HSF) Coy under the watchful eye of Sgt Fletcher (back left) on Ex Anglian Artist

formance of our distance runners - with our team of CSgt Long (PSI C), Cpl Spratling (C), LCpl Newman (C) and Pte Leeper (HQ) finishing TA runners up to 15 Para in the Army half marathon championships in a field of 24 teams.

We have just heard that we have won the UKLF Tickle Fitness Competition 1987/88 for TA Major Units and are now pondering what to do with the prize money. The announcement of the result was not totally unexpected as we had achieved a 100% pass in the BFT supervised by Eastern District PT staff.

The TEM is awarded to a TA soldier who completes 12 years continuous satisfactory service and attends annual camp in 10 of those years. This is not easily achieved given the demands of civilian employers, so it is particularly pleasing to report that during the last six months the following members of the battalion have received their TEMs or clasps to this medal: WO2 Budds and CSgt Brunton-Douglas from A Coy, WO2 Forde, Cpl Soper and LCpl Warwick from B Coy, CSgt Rogers, Sgts Turner ACC, Heskett ACC and Robb, Cpl Ellis and LCpl Crisp from C Coy and LCpl Veal from D Coy.

Slightly more unusual was the Royal Naval LS & GC awarded to Pte Whiley of F (HSF) Coy. He had qualified for the medal while in the Navy but through some administrative muddle had never received it. Quite by chance, his HSF Company Commander is Maj A.F. Woodward (Lieutenant Commander (Retired)).

Lt Chris Wawn is about to return to us after a two year SSVC and his place in the 1st Battalion will be taken by 2 Lt Peter Chilvers who has been commanding our Lowestoft platoon for the last two years.

At the moment we also have Ptes Morgan (HQ), Blackham (A) and Mason (B) serving 'S' type engagements with 3 Queens for the duration of their Northern Ireland tour. These attachments to the Regular Army are valuable because they do enable TA personnel to gain experience which is difficult to acquire on TA training.

Capt Hare, the Adjutant, has spent six weeks in Australia with the British Army shooting team who have been competing in and winning an eight nation invitation match

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News from the 6th Battalion



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as part of the bi-centennial celebrations.

We have had rather too many changes in the last few months: Maj Willdridge the Training Major has returned to the 1st Battalion and CSgt Morley the PSI Mortars has rejoined the 3rd Battalion in Minden. We thank them for their efforts here and welcome their replacements Maj J.B.C. Prescott and CSgt M. Stephen.

Capt Tournay has left us to command a company in the 5th Battalion. Capt Lopes has gone to command the Infantry Wing of Cambridge University OTC and very sadly Lts Kirk, Porter, Overton and Revell, all from A Coy have had to transfer because of changes in their civilian employment. Fortunately Capt Akister has joined A Coy from the Regular Army and 2 Lt Pearson has transferred in from DLOY.

We said farewell to WO2 Collison on 6 Apr. He had been MTWO of this battalion since its formation in 1971 and before that had served a full engagement in the Regular Army, latterly with the 3rd Battalion.

To mark his retirement he was presented with a suitably inscribed carriage clock by the permanent staff and a fine statuette by the WOs and Sgts Mess. He was very well known throughout Eastern District, had become something of an institution here and was well respected by all ranks. We were sad to see him go but wish him every success as he starts his third career as the customer services manager for the local Rover main dealers.

Above: Cpl Branch, C Coy and party prepare a surprise for the enemy on Ex Anglian Artist

Right: LCpl Hindle and friend



Command and control? A Coy Ops room on Ex Anglian Artist

News from the 6th Battalion



BATCO message over LCpls Huk and McGlynn WRAC from OC
B Coy's Command Group



CSgt D J George, D Coy, after
receiving his BEM



Pte Whiley after receiving his
Royal Navy LS & GC medal
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Farewell presentation to WO2 V C Collinson after 43 years in uniform

News from the 6th Battalion



WO2 P J Budds receiving his TEM from Col P W Raywood



WO2 E G Thorpe and Mrs Ross handing over a cheque for £1,345 to Mr Bob Hinsin, secretary of the Addenbrooks Patients Kidney Association

Association to help ex-officers

THE Officers' Association provides services which are available to ex-officers and their widows and dependants, including those who held commissions in the Women's Services.

The association also bears the title of "The Officers' Benevolent Department of the Royal British Legion".

Services include:

EMPLOYMENT - An efficient employment department to assist ex-officers of all ages and ranks to find suitable employment, both those just leaving the services and those who have lost their civilian jobs.

FINANCIAL HELP - assistance including cash grants to those in financial distress, continuing allowances to those with very small incomes, help towards homes fees to those who through age or infirmity can no longer run their own homes and can find no suitable homes within their means.

HOMES ADVICE - advice on homes for the elderly.

A COUNTRY HOME - running Huntly, a delightful country home at Bishopsteignton, South Devon, which affords comfort and security for lonely ex-officers at or over the age of 65, both male and female, who do not need special nursing care. Selection is made with due regard to need and service record. Personal contributions are assessed according to individual's means.

BUNGALOWS - running a 12-bungalow estate at Leavesden, Herts, for disabled ex-officers and their families.

The association has offices in London and Dublin and the Scottish Branch has offices in Glasgow and Edinburgh.

All enquiries should be made to the general secretary, The Officers' Association, 48 Pall Mall, London SW1 5JY. (Tel: 01-930 0125).

**Regimental
Shop
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7th Battalion



Shooting successes

THE highlight of the year for the battalion was Exercise Keystone in October. We took more than 600 to Germany for a 12 day gruelling and at times fast moving exercise. After the exercise we recovered to 2 Queens at Minden prior to returning to UK. Shortly after arriving in Minden we entertained 30 guests at a champagne cocktail party at the Garrison Officers' Mess. The move back to UK was uneventful except that the CO's staff car ruptured its petrol tank at Harwich and had to be abandoned at the dockside.

Under the watchful eye of WO2 Mick Blanchard the battalion has scored some notable shooting successes. We won the GPMG, SMG and Pistol events in the TARA Non Central Competition in December.

In April we had a successful battalion SAAM at Colchester won by HQ Coy - again. At this event Maj Peter Barnes presented Capt Ray Hazan with a cheque for £2,000 for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Half of this sum paid for Ray's new guide dog. Happy.

Further success at Colchester Ranges at EDSAAM in May was achieved by D Coy winning the Section, SMG and Falling Plate Matches and coming 1st overall out of 25 teams, winning the Championship Trophy. HQ Coy came 3rd and LDY Coy 7th with Pte Nicholson as the highest scoring Young Soldier in the Roupell Cup.

We welcome Maj George Tomlin who has taken over from Maj Peter Barnes as Training Major and wish Peter well in Kenya and Bermuda.



Princess Alice re-opening the TA Centre at Loughborough on 15 May after the Centre's major rebuild

HQ Coy was taken over after camp by Maj Allan Hemmings, who has since been made an offer he could not refuse to work in Saudi Arabia, leaving HQ Coy in the capable hands of Maj Geoffrey Taylor. We have also said goodbye to Capt Huw Edwards the Recce Pl Commander who has transferred to 6/7 Queens, his place being taken by Capt Nick

Page from our LDY Company.

B Coy is now commanded by Maj Jeffrey Matthews from 3RRW, the previous OC, Maj Geoffrey Newmarch being transferred to HQ 49 Inf Bde as a watchkeeper

Maj Luke Smith now commands LDY Coy having taken over from Maj Martin Mee who has moved to the Regimental Recruit Training Team.

We have been joined by two new SPSIs, WO2 Ev Leyland and John Ellingford who replace WO2 David Smith and Mick Scott of LDY and D Coys respectively.

To those who have left us we offer our thanks and appreciation for their dedicated services and we extend a warm welcome to those taking up their new appointments.

The whole battalion assembled at Beckingham early in December for the annual Bounty Test Weekend and Christmas festivities, where we were visited by Brig Firth (Commander 49 Inf Bde) and the then Brig Stone. The weather was perfect and a good time was had by all despite the Saturday night entertainment arriving over an hour late, testing almost to breaking point the patience of even the least ardent members of the audience.

A Coy have had two individual success stories from Grimsby in Pte Ivan Darker who was selected as goalkeeper for the TA football



Princess Alice talking to CSgt Starbuck after re-opening the Loughborough TA Centre

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News from the 7th Battalion



Sgts Freddy Beaumont and Andrew Rippin with their life-saving MIRA night sight



Lt Col Brett flanked by Brigs Firth and Stone and Beckingham Camp

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team which toured BAOR and Pte Andrew Toyne who passed out as the best recruit as Bassingbourn

B Coy won the Champion Company Competition, again, arousing its PSAO Capt Peter McNaughton to renew his frenzied quest for "B for Best" superlatives.

LDY Coy in response to a call from the police to assist in finding a lost person in Bradgate Park one February drill night, deployed the Milan Platoon with its MIRA night sight. By using the night sight from a helicopter the missing person was located, suffering badly from hypothermia but rescued in time to recover in hospital.

LDY and D Coys took part in March in Exercise Polar Dawn run by 49 Bde on Catterick Training Area. Good use was made of helicopters in a rapidly moving exercise and LDY Coy in particular had ample opportunity to brush up its search techniques.

D Coy's practice of booking Lydd and Hythe most weekends, together with the shooting prowess of Lt Ian Mitchell and his team and the able assistance of WO2 John Ellingford, has paid off at EDSAAM and they will be looking forward eagerly to Bisley in July for further success.

E Coy's commander, Maj Albert Pryce-Howells, relinquished his command of our HSF Company having reached retirement age and he is to be congratulated on a difficult job well done, having raised the company and guided it during its formative years.

The company is based at our Drill Halls in Leicester and Lincoln and is only open to those with previous Regular or Territorial service. Although well recruited we are always looking for new blood especially from ex-members of our Regiment who have settled in our area.

HQ Coy, always taken for granted, has had its share of good fortune as well. CSgt Garry Bliss won the Veterans Trophy in the Army Motorcycling Trials, Exercise Split Link, held at Arborfield in April.

Our cooks Cpl John Harvey and LCpl Richard Ainge (with driver LCpl Lol Mann) came second in the District Catering Competition.

The company also entered a team of nine for the Fleet Army half marathon at Aldershot and while not collecting any prizes all finished with respectable times. This race was also a sponsored fund-raising event for the Leicester Royal Infirmary at the request of LCpl Ball's widow. LCpl Ball of the Recce Platoon sadly died of cancer earlier this year.

Having passed through a busy post camp period we are now looking forward to camp in 1988 in September in Scotland at Barry Buddon and Kinlochleven.

News from the 7th Battalion



Above: Capt (Retd) Ray Hazan and Hoppy receiving a cheque on behalf of the Guide Dogs for the Blind from Maj Peter Barnes

Left: LCpl Mann receives a taste of LCpl Ainge and Cpl Harvey's cooking in the District Field Cookery Competition

Below: Maj Luke Smith and Lt Rod Burns on Ex Polar Dawn

Close links strengthened at dinner

ON 9 Mar 88, the Lord Mayor of Leicester, Cllr Gordhan Parmer, kindly gave a dinner for the Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment at the City Rooms, Leicester. The close links between the City and its Regiment were further reinforced on this most enjoyable evening.

The following were guests at the dinner: The Colonel of the Regiment, The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Maj Gen Pollard, Brig Stone, Cols Blyth, Holloway and Wilkes, Lt Cols Brett, Dawson, Heggs, Longland and Wilson, Majs Barnes and Brogan and Capt Pollard.



News from the 7th Battalion



The officers, tired but cheerful after Ex Keystone, in the Minden Garrison Officers' Mess



D Coy shooting team with EDSAAM championship trophy, cups and tankards. Back row WO2 Ellingford, CSgt Harris, Pte Bond, WO2 Stuart, Ptes Phelan and Oliver and Cpl Kilby. Front row Cpl Lucas, Ptes Phelan and Wells and Sgt Phillips

News from the 7th Battalion

Glasnost comes to the 7th

By Maj. P. Barnes

HAVING sited and dug a complete battalion defensive position, with overhead cover, run a mini recruit cadre and fielded 23 visitors in the first four days of Exercise Keystone, we felt we had achieved quite a lot, especially as a few days previously, 99% of the battalion had been hard at work at their civilian jobs back in England.

However, as so often happens, our smug self satisfaction was short lived. The signal from Brigade HQ read "BE PREP TO HOST CDE VISIT ON FRI 16 OCT FROM 1500-1600 HRS. DETAILS TO FOLLOW" And follow they did! We were quickly made aware that this was a visit of the very highest profile. Each of the 16 words in the signal must have generated at least 100 man hours of work for the battalion. The race was on to make this an exceptional occasion. Each and every officer and soldier had to be briefed as to what CDE (Stockholm Conference Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe) was and its importance to NATO. Then every man was given a list of topics on which they could and could not speak and finally a series of example questions and the suggested responses.

Platoon Commanders were seen to age ten years since they were the ones to be held responsible for ensuring their men were correctly briefed. All over the battlefield small groups of highly motivated men were to be seen huddled over scraps of paper learning their lines and hoping that it would be their mate who was going to be the one to meet the Albanian Colonel, not them.

At last the great day arrived. We had secured the local sports hall for the initial briefing by the CO, guides were in position, men were briefed and the visitors were on their way. Even so, nothing had prepared us for our first sight of visitors.

They arrived in three luxury coaches headed by German traffic police outriders with sirens blaring and lights flashing. This motorcade swept into the car park and within seconds we were surrounded by anxious escorting officers, interpreters and what seemed like 10,000 senior officers from countries as far apart, both politically and geographically as Bulgaria and Canada.

Some wanted the loo, others wanted to get on with it and some wanted their interpreters who wanted and had found the loo.

After several fraught minutes we finally assembled everyone and to our relief noticed two friendly faces in a sea of strange uniforms. To see Lt Col Terry Taylor and Capt Mike Godkin, who were both acting as escorting officers, in the audience made us feel easier - at least there would be two officers on our side.



Lt Terry Mendies with a group of CDE Generals

As the CO started his short briefing it became immediately apparent that another small detail had been omitted from the briefing pack, after his first sentence the interpreters took to their task with a will, each translating to their guests the CO's every word. The sound was a cross between the Women's Institute and the Tower of Babel.

The noise notwithstanding, the briefing was an immediate success and we were soon shepherding our guests back on their coaches to meet the soldiers.

As ever the soldiers were marvellous. They fielded questions from friend and potential foe with their customary good humour and common sense. They could not be drawn on the frequency ranges of our radios, but were only too happy to tell the East German and Russian officers how much they enjoyed training and how much better our equipment was than anything the Warsaw Pact possesses.

We were left in no doubt by both the escorting officers and the CDE party that they were

all most impressed by the quality of our volunteers and their morale. And so they should have been. As any Regular Soldier who has served with the TA will tell you, the joy of working with volunteers is that they are self motivating.

As the visit drew to a close several hundred hands were shaken and compliments flew thick and fast. We were pleased with our efforts and can be certain that two Ministers, 3 Major Generals, one Brigadier, 15 Colonels, 6 Lieutenant Colonels, 2 Majors and one Captain in the Norwegian Navy (how did he get there and how much did he understand?) from 17 different nations enjoyed their visit. We are not saying we would volunteer to host another visit from CDE but we are confident we did, in our modest way, our bit for glasnost.

Countries represented on the visit were: Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, East Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States, USSR.

News from the 7th Battalion

Picture goes home

The Royal Signals, the Royal Anglian Regiment, the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, the VKK and the Germany Infantry School would seem to have little in common but stranger things do happen.

The PSAO of C Coy 7 Royal Anglian is ex-Royal Signals and in his capacity as Officers' Mess secretary in 1983 at Salisbury Plain met Major Eberhard Albrecht of the 354 VKK. In late 1984 he was involved with Capt Alwyn Smith, the assistant Regimental Secretary (Lincolnshire), in the transfer of the Lincolnshire Regiment Museum into the Museum of Lincolnshire Life.

A charcoal drawing of a horse's head, inscribed on the back "The Grenadier Regiment 1222 wishes their Division Commander a Happy Christmas 1944" was found covering an air ventilator in the museum. It was agreed that the PSAO should try to return it to its original owners.

By contacting Maj Eberhard Albrecht of the 354 VKK and enlisting his help, a contact



was made with Lt Col (Retd) Heinz Hofman of the museum of the German Infantry School at Hammelburg.

In 1987 the 7th Battalion returned to BAOR on Exercise Keystone and after the PSAO had ended his duties of looking after the Battalion VIP visitors and the pressmen, he was given permission by the CO to go to Hammelburg and present the picture to the museum. On the morning of "the day" the help of Cpl Lock ACC B Coy was sought - Cpl Lock speaks fluent German. Twenty odd marks to the

Bundespost on a phone-call ensured that we would be met on arrival at the barracks at Hammelburg.

After an uneventful four-hour drive by courtesy of Cpl Sidsaph of B Coy we arrived and were met by Col Gerhard Elson who spoke perfect English. We were followed into the barracks by a number of German pressmen.

At the museum we were met by Lt Col Heinz Hofman (curator) Lt Col (Bob) Kershaw PARA, the British Liaison Officer and Capt Eberhard Martens, another fluent English speaker. Finally the Deputy Commandant of the Germany Infantry School, Col Eberhard Munz, arrived to accept the picture on behalf of the museum. He made a short speech and in return presented the PSAO with an old-fashioned picture of Hammelburg duly endorsed by him to commemorate the event. He also made the PSAO an honorary member of the Germany Infantry School and gave him a badge. Then the champagne was opened and a small celebration took place. The British party was given a conducted tour of the museum by Col Elsen and Capt Martens after a very pleasant couple of hours we were on our way back to Minden and Exercise Keystone.

The sequel to the story is that the British party appeared in the papers and became celebrities. Lt Col Heinz Hofman has discovered that 1222 Grenadier Regiment was put into position on the Neider Rhein at the end of Oct 44 and together with the 180 Infantry Division it took part in the battle near Venlo in Holland.

Further research and inquiries are being made. If any former Lincolnshire Regiment soldier can throw any light on the matter, both Col Munz and Capt McNaughton would be delighted to hear from him.



Commander 49 Inf Bde on the battalion ARU. From left: Brig Firth, Lt Mitchell, Lt Col Brett and Maj Sweeney

Depot Queen's Division

Working to capacity

A HIGH SCAMF figure for the last six months and our exercise commitments to Home Defence (HD) this year, have kept the Depot busy and working to capacity.

The SCAMF for Apr-Sep is also high at 520, though it appears doubtful whether the recruits to fill this quota will be found.

In Oct 87-Mar 88 400 adult recruits and 62 ex-Junior Soldiers have been trained including 121 and 31 Royal Anglians respectively. We have also run a full schedule of courses for the TA including a Section Commanders' Cadre attended by 6 JNCOs from the Bermuda Regiment (including females) who acquitted themselves very well, even in inhospitable Brecon; we were very happy to see them and hope that attendance on our TA courses by members of the Bermuda Regiment will continue.

In addition the Depot has been preparing itself for its HD role which we will be practising in September in a District HD FTX when we stop training for two weeks and deploy two coys and two TAOR HQs in the field.

As a build-up, EDIST held a CPX on 6-8 May and the Depot held a successful HD Study Day on 22 Apr to which a number of outside speakers and guests were invited.

The Depot is now training with the SA weapon system and we are very impressed with the results being achieved by recruits. Most pass their APWT Phase 1 on their first attempt, and it is not uncommon to find 40% of recruits achieving marksmanship standards.

Our SAAO and 4 Trg Cpls attended a 94mm LAW (alias LAW 80) training cadre at Warminster and returned much impressed with the weapon and especially its accuracy. Their task now is to train the trainers and we hope to start teaching recruits the 94mm LAW in the autumn.

We are also looking at ways of refining aspects of the adult recruit training programme to include a new four-day adventurous training package over a long weekend.

We remain concerned at the continuing high incidence of lower limb injuries (LLI). We have made some modifications to the PT syllabus to reduce the amount of running done by recruits in the earlier part of their programme and we are also experimenting with a new type of insole.

The rehabilitation of recruits taken out of training (TOT) suffering with LLIs is also a problem as this can take many weeks. Such recruits, known in the Depot as TOTs, can easily become discouraged and waste out.



Brig Millman, with three ex-Vikings in tow, inspects Burma Platoon

To combat this we have formed a new (rehabilitation) platoon, known as Kohima Platoon, which specially caters for the training and remedial needs of TOTs, including a full morning's programme of physiotherapy every day.

The second of our six-month Drums Training Courses ended on 31 Mar and 15 Drummers, including seven Royal Anglians, returned to their battalions well trained in musical and GPMG (SF) skills. A new course is now underway and we welcome the 17 men from the Division's Regular Battalions who have returned to the Depot for this course.

March also saw the holding of the Depot's SAAM which produced much good shooting despite the dank weather. For a second year running HQ Coy swept the board with their C' and B' teams coming first and third respectively. The CO, Lt Col M K. Goldschmidt, Sgt Slevin, Cpls Dickinson and Keegan,

LCpls Ringer and Havercroft, all Royal Anglians, as well as WO2 Armes RAPC (but an ex-Viking) all featured in the Depot's Rifle 10.]

As a result of this SAAM a Depot squad, led by 2Lt James Lewis, took part in EDSAAM on 13-15 May. The Depot came third overall in the Regular Army Championship, and won the Falling Plate Cup. Cpl Dickinson was the top scorer in the LMG Match (firing LSW) and won the Pistol. 2Lt James Lewis was the Best Young Officer Shot. As a Minor Unit, the Depot squad qualified for RASAAM. Other Depot successes include Cpl Keegan winning the Best Overall Land-Rover Driver award in the EDIST Driver of the Year competition, and our chefs winning the No 6 Catering Region Field Cookery Competition (WRAC).

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News from the Depot



HQ Coy's winning Dep SAAM 88 team. From left: Cpl Havercroft, Cpl Keegan, LCpl Ringer, Lt Col M K Goldschmidt



Cpl Keegan with the trophy for best Land-Rover driver in the EDIST Road Safety Competition

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On 16 Feb we were privileged to receive a flying visit (literally!) from The Prince of Wales, who landed by helicopter en route to a local engagement. He was met by the CO, and many Depot personnel and families had a chance to see him.

Another brief visitor was the Military Secretary, Lt Gen Sir Patrick Palmer who visited on 2 Dec 87.

The Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, Mr. Roger Freeman, visited on 17 Mar and was the Inspecting Officer at one of our Passing Out Parades. He saw some training and was entertained in both the WO/Sgts and Officers' Messes. Other Inspecting Officers at POPs have included Brigs H.C. Millman (Colonel The Queen's Regiment) - who witnessed our first SA80 parade - on 17 Dec 87, Patrick Stone on 18 Feb 88, PRG Williams (Comd 54 Int Bde) on 31 Mar, and Col D A B Williams (COS HQ EDIST) on 5 May and the C/lt Dr C M. Atwood, chairman of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

The Depot was also visited on 19 Feb by Geoffrey Ashcroft the DUS (Finance) who was briefed on the Depot's Executive Responsibility Budget matters and visited training.

Mr Matthew Engle of The Guardian newspaper spent a week at the Depot during 14-19 Feb following the progress of Anzio Platoon on their first week of training. A good article was published on 5 Mar describing his experiences and he has since made another visit to check Anzio's progress.

The process of increasing awareness in what the Depot does and how it goes about its business is also extended to members of the local civilian community and we continue to hold our quarterly Bassingbourn Briefing Days during which our visitors are briefed on the Depot's role, visit training and our facilities, and are entertained to lunch.

Our involvement with the local community remains a high priority and we do what we can, when we can, to help. Many local clubs use our facilities at weekends and recently the Royston District Riding Club held their horse show here, a dog show in aid of Hearing Dogs for the Deaf was also held on 2 May.

Each platoon undergoing training also undertakes a weekend sponsored activity in aid of some local or national charity. Some examples of monies raised by Royal Anglian-led platoons in this reporting period are: Burma Pl (WO2 Clarke, ex-Vikings) £50 for BLE: SMA, Ypres Pl (CSgt Cunningham, ex-Pompadour) £1050 for the Leukaemia Ward of Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge; Quebec Pl (Lt Dicker, ex-Vikings) £522 for Great Ormond Street Hospital. On average each platoon raises about £750 for charity.

This year is the golden jubilee of the Services' occupation of Bassingbourn Barracks and to celebrate this a commemorative service was held in the Depot Church on Sun 27 Mar (50 years and one day since the RAF arrived in 1938). This was attended by officers, warrant officers and Senior NCOs and their wives, as

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News from the Depot

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well as a number of guests including several former COs, RSMs and RAF Station Commanders.

A commemorative window was presented to the Church.

Maj Peter Ferrary is now 2IC and we welcome Maj Tim Power and WO2 D.C. Smith as OC A and CSM B Coys respectively. WO2 Dowd has been filling in as our SAA QMSI until his posting to the TA in Jun. and we have a very good share of Regimental Subalterns with us at present including Lts Vincent, Dicker, Lewis, Wormald, Gosling and Dean.

Stewardship Contracts started in both our Messes on 25 Mar; it is beginning to settle down and we are determined to prevent standards dropping. We look forward to the completion in the autumn of the two large buildings (providing accommodation, offices, and stores for two training companies).

Our cross country team have again done very well, finishing as EDIST Minor Units Champions and taking part in the Army Championships at Tweeseldown in which we finished 8th, an improvement by one place on the previous year.

Our runners include Lt Adrian Gosling, CSgt Pallant and Sgt Keeble. Depot road runners led by Sgt Slevin have also been very active and have had many successes in half marathons/fun runs mainly in East Anglia; Depot teams came 1st and 2nd in the Royston fun run and three of our runners also took part in the London marathon.

The Depot's orienteering team, led by Lt Dennis Vincent, did very well winning the EDIST/Zone Championships. They also took part in the UKLF Championships on the 14/15 May but unfortunately the team was disqualified on a technicality. Individually some good results were achieved and all team members have qualified as individuals for the Army Championships at the end of May.

Our rugby side has notched up some notable victories (alas in friendlies!) against some major units' teams including 1 WFR and 9/12L. Our hockey teams was beaten in the semi-finals of the Infantry Cup.

All our teams play in local and RAF leagues as well as the EDIST leagues. The EDIST rugby seven-a-sides were held at the Depot on 21 Apr. with our 'B' team reaching the finals of the Plate Competition only to be beaten by 7 (V) R Anglian.

A successful parascending weekend course was held at the Depot in Nov and six of our recruits did their first ascent/descent here. Another course is to be repeated in June. The Depot cricket team is now in full swing, and four Regimental fixtures will have been played here by early Jun.



Cpl Saywell, ex-Viking, has a word with Mr Roger Freeman during Talaver Platoon's POP



WO2 Threadwell and Cpl Skate happy to be out of the rain during the Depot's SAAM

News from the Depot



Five ex-Vikings pictured at the Depot in traditional uniformity



Cpl Archer having been presented with his LS & GC medal by Brig Patrick Stone



Cpl Havercroft of the winning HQ Coy team at Dep SAAM receives his trophy from Mrs Michael Goldschmidt

JIB, RIT, Schools

Changes at Shorncliffe

SINCE the last time of writing a number of changes have taken place at Shorncliffe and Royal Anglians have come and gone.

WO1 RSM Potter has returned to the 3rd Battalion as RSM and we wish him every success in his new post. Lt Dyer (3rd Bn) has taken over from Lt Weightman (2nd Bn) as a Platoon Commander with Cpl Ruddock (1st Bn), Cpl McCulloch (3rd Bn), Cpl Hawkins (3rd Bn) and Cpl Glover (3rd Bn) assuming Section Commander positions and Cpl Rooney (1st Bn) arriving at the Medical

Centre.

Time passes swiftly at Shorncliffe and we all have a busy summer ahead of us, especially with all the Junior Leader Platoons preparing for their annual Battle camps. We bid a fond farewell to those who have left and hope that our new members settle in quickly to the different environment of a training establishment and a lot of hard work.

JLCpl Attwood gives his first impressions of Shorncliffe: Arriving at Shorncliffe was one of the most terrifying experiences of my

life. Everything was so big - even the bed and lockers dwarfed me. Our mum and dad rolled into one' Section Commander introduced himself and he was one of the biggest people I've ever come across. He smiled and said everything would be ok. I smiled back thinking differently!

The vast amount of kit issued to me brought home the adjustment I had to make to Army life. Suddenly the massive locker appeared to have shrunk and all my kit wouldn't fit in. The corporal assured me it would. Suddenly it did.



Ipswich School, winners of the 1987 log race - Cadets King, Lee, Stoton, Nicholson, Burgess and Sawyer with the RCO

SINCE last writing, the RIT have hosted field days at Bassingbourn for Merchant Taylors, Oakham, Kimbolton, Framlingham, Berkhamsted, Wymondham and St. George's Stowmarket. All CCFs participated in the log race and the prizes for the team with the winning time will be presented after further visits in October. Schools wishing to take advantage of the excellent facilities at the Depot should contact the RCO.

A successful Undergraduates Gathering took place on 22 Mar at the Depot. We were pleased to see Nicholas Palmer (Bursary), Robert Stoddart (Bursary), Andrew Foster (Cadetship), Lance Gerrard-Wright (Cadetship), Daniel Barden, Tom O'Driscoll (Bursary), Ian Astley (Bursary), Ben Runciman

(Bursary), Edward Taunton and Paul Bailey.

Affiliated schools are visiting Regular Battalions this summer as follows: Greshams - 1 R Anglian, Framlingham - 1 R Anglian, Uppingham - 2 R Anglian, Kimbolton - 2 R Anglian, Haileybury - 3 R Anglian.

So far this year we have sent 11 potential officers on visits to Gibraltar and Germany. Many more are hoping to be attached to 1 R Anglian during Ex Hightide. This is in addition to undergraduates, who are in the OTC, being attached to battalions during their summer vacations. We thank the battalions for hosting all these visits.

The RITs have been busy with CCF Field Days at Bassingbourn and ongoing attendances at ACF Drill nights. They also help

local charity events such as the 'It's a Knock-out' competition held at Peterborough in December in aid of The Children in Need appeal where the RIT helped to raise £960.

We now move into our busiest period, the 'show season', and still in need of up to date, action packed, colour photographs for our displays. (Thank you 1st Battalion for your photographs).

We say goodbye to LCpl Simpson who has completed 22 years service with the Regiment and also a farewell to LCpls Piper and Thompson, we wish them all the very best for the future. We welcome to the RIT LCpl Bee, Ptes Watts, Ellis and Tabrum.

Around the Branches



THE major event from Norfolk has been the visit by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Cllr Garry and Mrs Joan Wheatley to the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar, 15-17 Feb. This successful visit allowed the battalion to show itself carrying out all its activities including a pancake race run for the families.

The Lord Mayor was interviewed on Gibraltar Radio and he was able to remind the Gibraltarians of the close links that both the Norfolk and Suffolk Regiment had with the Rock.

Readers may recall that the Royal Norfolk Military Heritage Appeal was launched by the Regimental Trustees under the chairmanship of Maj David Jamieson VC at Norwich on 18 Jun 85. The aim of the appeal was to raise £150,000 to cover the costs of moving and re-displaying the Regimental Museum Collection in Norwich under the sponsorship of the Norfolk Joint Museums committee. Since our last progress report in July 1987, when the sum raised stood at £112,000, the appeal has now reached its target of £150,000. This includes the anticipated income from outstanding covenants and bank interest up to 1990.

The chairman and members of the Heritage Appeal Committee wish to thank the many Regimental donors who have so generously supported the appeal.

Action is now in hand to implement the plans, prepared by Robin Wade and Pat Read, for the setting up of the new Regimental Museum in the Shirehall, Norwich. At this stage it is clear that our new home will provide scope for improvements that will greatly enhance the museum's appeal and make it a worthy memorial to the fine achievements of the county regiment.

The appeal executive committee would, therefore, like it to be noted that contributions towards the additional expenses envisaged will be gratefully received, and may be sent to the following address: Regimental Secretary, The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association, Britannia Barracks, Norwich, NR1 4HJ, Norfolk.



The Lord Mayor of Norwich inspects the Drummers Guard found by the 1st Battalion when he visited them in Gibraltar

News from the Branches



OUR Officers Sobraon Weekend was held in Sobraon Barracks on 16/17 Apr and 29 past and present members of the Regiment dined on the Saturday night and had a most enjoyable meal prepared and served by members of B Coy, 7 R Anglian.

Among those present were Maj Gen Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, Col Dale, Col Harris, Col Sanders. Col John Gleadall presided.

This year's reunion will be held at the Beacholme Holiday Camp at Cleethorpes on 10/11 Sep. Details will be published in the near future. Anyone interested in attending should contact the Lincoln office at Sobraon Barracks, Burton Road, Lincoln, LN1 3PY.

Since last going to press the following have passed on: Mr A. Andrew, Mr Barber, Captain Hounan, Mr Jay, Mr N. Johnson, Mr. E. Knight, ex Sgt Peacock, Mr Wilson, Captain M. Wilkinson, Pensioner L. Webb, Mr. Tillson.

Just a reminder, our Regimental Collection is now housed in the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, The Old Barracks, Burton Road, Lincoln. The museum is open seven days per week and is situated quite close to the rear of Lincoln Castle.



Following the St. George's-tide Eucharist in the Regimental Chapel in Ely Cathedral, the Ely branch annual meeting was held in Archer House. Before commencing the business a short period of silence was kept in memory of deceased members, among them Col John Beckett and Leslie Suttle.

Col J.R. Ennion was chairman and elected president in succession to Col Beckett, while Mr Alan Edwards took

over as chairman. Other officers re-elected were Mr H.R. Hitch secretary and Mr J.R. Stubbings treasurer.

The secretary reported a normal year when the chief activities centred on hosting the annual Service of Remembrance in the cathedral and representing the Association at the Westminster Field of Remembrance and like ceremonies. Members also welcomed and entertained the weekly batch of F.E.P.O.s passing through the Princess of Wales's (RAF) Hospital for check-up.

Some thought was given to the future of the association when it was agreed to recommend that no change in rules be made for the present, but closer liaison made with the successor Regiment within the next 5-10 years and progressively as required.

At the next reunion the salute would be taken by Maj Gen A.J.G. Pollard and the address given by the Rev Canon George Youell former Chaplain with the Grenadier Guards.

The City of Ely Military Band is to play for the parades to and from the cathedral and the service at 1.45 p.m.

There is still no news of the whereabouts of the old Drum Major's Sash & Mace. These were presented by the ladies of Cambridge in 1900 and should be in the Regimental Museum at Ely.

They may still be in the areas as they seem to have disappeared at the handing over of the Regimental Drums on the amalgamation with the 4th Suffolks to form the Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regiment TA.

The Regimental Chapel Trust Fund was initiated in Nov 84, the aim being to raise a fund which would provide a source of income for the upkeep of the Regimental Chapel in Ely Cathedral for the foreseeable future, the sum aimed for was £10,000. We are now approaching our target. To all those who gave, our grateful thanks.

Items in hand are the provision of communion rails, new kneelers and some change to the lighting arrangements.

The annual dinner of the Officers Club was held at the University Arms Hotel, Cambridge on 9 Apr. The guest of honour was Lt Col A.C. Taylor, the CO of the 6th Battalion. In the chair was Col R. Shervington who proposed the toast of the Regiment which was responded to by Maj D. Denson, Company Commander of "D" Coy, 6th Royal Anglians.

Within 48 hours of an unexpected

transatlantic phone call, a retired Army Major was winging his way to the United States to keep an appointment with President Ronald Reagan.

Maj James Forsythe of Burwell, undertook the trip in his official capacity as vice-chairman of the World Ship Trust.

He met President Reagan in the Oval office at a presentation of his organisation's Maritime Heritage Award to the USS Constitution - the oldest commissioned warship still afloat.

The Trust selected the Constitution, built in 1797, as an award winner in the early part of last year, but due to a series of difficulties, Christmas approached and the medal had still not been presented.

Past recipients of the award have included the Mary Rose at Portsmouth.

Maj Forsythe is the president and one of the founders of the Norfolk Wherry Trust and he served with the Cambridgeshire Regiment.



AT St. Anne's Church, Luton on 10 Apr 88, a new Luton Branch Standard was dedicated by the Vicar.

The congregation of more than 300 included the Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, the High Sheriff, the Mayors of Luton and Dunstable, the chairman of South Bedfordshire Council and Lord Luke of Pavenham who presented the first Standard to the branch in May 47.

The Regimental Association was represented by the President, Brig Angus Robertson, the vice-president, Maj "Donald" Girdwood, and the secretary, Maj David Thorogood. All branches were strongly represented and it was especially pleasing to see a contingent of Thurrock and District Branch of The Essex Regiment.

All branches brought their Standards. No fewer than eight local ex-Servicemen's organisations attended and their Standards brought the total on parade to 18, which, together with the uniforms of the Luton Town Band who played during the service and the Corps of Drums of the Hertfordshire (Royal Anglian) A.C.F., who led the Parade,

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created an air of colour and pageantry.

The Service began with the playing of the Valse "Destiny" which was the last piece of music played by the Band of the 1st Battalion, The Bedfordshire Regiment before it left for France in Aug 14, since when it has been regarded as sacred music to be played only on very special occasions.

During the singing of the last verse of the Regimental hymn, "Who would true valour see..." the new Standard was brought to the Chancel steps where it was dedicated by the Chaplain. The "Last Post" and "Reveille" were then sounded by a member of the Luton Town Band.

In a stirring address the Chaplain emphasised the significance of Regimental Colours and Branch Standards.

The Service ended with the reading of the Regimental prayer and the playing of the marches of the Royal Anglian Regiment and The 16th Foot.

The parade marched back to the Royal Naval Association Club where the salute was taken by the Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire prior to refreshments in the club.

This year's association dinner and dance was held at Sele School Hertford, on 7 May.

Each lady was given an orchid and Mrs Dodd and Mrs Robertson were each presented with a basket of flowers.

All branch Standards were present and were played into the hall with the Regimental march "Mandolinata".

The guests included the Deputy Colonel, Brig Bill Dodd and Mrs Dodd; Miss Gudgion, Deputy Mayor of Hertford and Mr and Mrs James Sandilands. Mr Sandilands is treasurer of the London branch of the Royal Scots. It will be recalled that the 16th Regiment of Foot was formed by Col Archibald Douglas and a small cadre of the Royal Scots and we were especially pleased to welcome a representative of that famous Regiment.

Brig Angus Robertson thanked Mr Stan Mansfield for all the hard work he had put into the organisation of this most impressive and enjoyable event.

The evening ended when the branch Standards marched out of the hall to the Regimental march of the Essex Regiment, "The Pompadours".

Copies of the recently published "Story of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment" are still available from HQ Warley at the following prices: Soft

cover, Volumes 1 and 2 £10.00. Hard-back, Volumes 1 and 2 £25.00. Hard-back with box £30. Postage £5.00

Orders for the Tercentenary Plate may be placed with the Regimental Secretary.

A Tercentenary Commemorative Service conducted by the Vicar, the Rev N. Coulson, BD, was held in St Paul's Church, Bedford on 15 May.

The congregation of more than 300 included the Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, the High Sheriff; The Mayor and Mayoress of North Bedfordshire and civic dignitaries of Bedfordshire; Sir Trevor Skeet, MP for Bedford and Mrs Skeet; the Deputy Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment, Brig W.T. Dodd; the Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Bedfordshire, Maj J.P. Wetherall; the chairman of the 16th Foot Association, Brig A.F.F.H. Robertson; Lt Col A.C. Taylor, Commanding Officer, 6th Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment and Mr J. Gray, Assistant Chief Constable of Bedfordshire.

The TA Band of 5th Bn was present as were the Standards of the Bedford branch of the Royal British Legion and Bedford and Luton branches of the Regimental Association. The Standards were under the control of Mr C.C. Wells MBE, MSM, who will be 89 years old next month.

The object of the Service was succinctly explained in the opening sentences of the Bidding Prayer, led by the Canon Peter Hartley, who served as an NCO in the 5th Battalion throughout the war:- "We come into this church in the presence of Almighty God to give him thanks for the 300 years of distinguished service rendered to this nation by the officers and men of the 16th Foot.

"We thank God for the patriots, the courage and the comradeship of the men who, in the different centuries, formed first the 16th Foot, then the Bedfordshire Regiment, subsequently the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, and most recently, the Royal Anglian Regiment."

The first lesson was read by the Lord Lieutenant and the second by the Deputy Colonel.

The address was given by the Bishop of Bedford, The Right Reverend David Farnbrough, who gave a brief but vivid outline of The Regiment's history and stressed that we should remember the tragedy and sorrow of it as well as the glory.



ON 13 Mar the 4th Battalion Comrades Association held a memorial Service in the Regimental Chapel, Warley, at which two plaques were dedicated to Col Sir Arthur Noble, KBE, CB, DSO and Maj J.E. Beasley, MBE TD.

The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Barnes of St. Mary's Church, Ilford. The address was given by Maj Gen D.A. Beckett.

Col Sir Arthur was with the 4th Essex throughout all their campaigns, except on the rare occasions of sickness. He was president of the Comrades Association until his death.

Maj Jack Beasley joined the battalion at Benghazi and served with them in North Africa and Italy. He became chairman of the association and served in that office for 16 years.

On Fri 18 Mar an interim reunion 'get together' was held at Regimental Headquarters, Warley when members and their ladies took the opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. Two days later the branch held their annual Gaza Day parade in London when they marched passed the Cenotaph, where a wreath was laid.

This parade not only commemorates the 4th Battalion's battle for Gaza in World War I, but also the battle for Cassino in which so many of the 4th Essex comrades gave their all.

Honorary membership has been offered to all the widows of members and many have been pleased to accept.

Member Sir Austin Bunch (Apt 'Tiny' Bunch, ex A Coy) has now retired from active work and looks forward to joining in all the activities once again.

The 1988 dinner of the 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (TA) Officers Dinner Club, was held on 4 Mar in the RAMC Headquarters Officers Mess, Millbank, London. The guests were the High Sheriff of Essex, Mr J.A.S. Neave, Brig

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W.T. Dodd and Lt Col N.H. Kelsey TD., CO 5th Royal Anglian.

Although the numbers of club members were less than usual, it was gratifying to have members from 5th Royal Anglian present. The RAMC Headquarters Mess is splendid and they provided very good service and an excellent meal. It is hoped to hold the 1989 dinner in the Officers Mess of 3rd Royal Anglian at Colchester.

1988 will see the Chelmsford & District Branch celebrating its 25th anniversary with a dinner and dance at the County Hotel, Chelmsford on 22 Oct. This follows 25 years of hard work by the committee running monthly dances during the winter months and family days and outings during the summer which, not only helped to raise funds for welfare, but did a lot to maintain the excellent spirit of comradeship within the branch.

Much credit is due to all those who have served on the committee but age is creeping up on them and most have passed the age of retirement. The branch urgently need younger members to come forward from The Royal Anglian Regiment, Regular or TA, to ensure that the branch continues into the next century.

Life membership only costs £1.50. All you have to do is to contact Gordon Gilder, 2 Baker Street, Hatfield Peverel, Chelmsford, CM3 2LH.

On 12 Nov 88 there will be a reunion for anyone who served in 1/5th Essex during 1939-1946. This reunion has been held for 27 years and is regularly attended by more than 70 people and is held at the home of the old Battalion HQ in the Drill Hall, Victoria Road South, Chelmsford.

Due to lack of numbers, the annual dinner of The Eagle & Gun Association (formerly 7th/59th Essex Regt OCA), had to be cancelled in 1986, which was a great disappointment to those who would have liked to attend.

It was realised that some alteration had to be made to the time if this function was to continue and members agreed that a luncheon would be more suitable. On 20 May 87 a luncheon was held in the Officers Mess of the Inns of Court and City Yeomanry and proved to be a great success. The 1988 luncheon was held in May.

On 8 Nov 87 the annual act of remembrance was held, at the Cadet Training

Centre, Forest Lodge, Whipps Cross. The service was again taken by Col. R.F. Kemball. The association, apart from the luncheon, meets only twice a year - the annual reunion and the Remembrance Service.

In Oct 87 30 members of the Thurrock branch made a six day tour to Volkenburg, The Netherlands. All the days were fully occupied; a trip down the River Rhine, seeing various castles and the remains of the Remagen Bridge; visits to various war cemeteries, both British and American; a day shopping in Brussels; seeing a disused coal mine and local caves. Highlight of the last evening was a great surprise for Peter Giggins, when the hotel provided a birthday cake for his 70th birthday, a splendid end to the holiday.

On 13 Nov a successful annual dinner & dance was held at the Chadwell-St-Mary Working Mens Club. Apart from an excellent dinner and dancing, extra entertainment was provided by the Dagenham Girl Pipers Band. Guest of honour was Brig W.T. Dodd and his lady. Other guests came from The Netherlands for the occasion.

The annual meeting of the branch was held on 27 Jan at RHQ Warley.

Capt Charles Barnes was re-elected president, with Harry Conn chairman and Peter Giggins secretary.

On 15 Apr a buffet dance was held at Chadwell-St-Mary - another successful evening.

Branch meetings are now held on the last Wednesday of every month at RHQ Warley starting at 7.30 p.m.

Further branch events include:- Trip to Edinburgh Tattoo 26 Aug (3 days); trip to Volkenburgh, 9 Oct (6 days - price £140 provisional, day trips to the Rhine, Brussels and Arnhem); annual dinner-dance on 18 Nov at the Chadwell-St-Mary Working Mens Club.

that splendid occasion, however, the association has not lain dormant for, as well as the normal winter functions, planning for 1988 has continued.

While the association cannot celebrate a tercentenary we can, at least, have a 300th birthday party.

On 31 Oct 87 the 1st (old 8th) Battalion Reunion was held as usual at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road. Once again ex RSM John Dean played a leading part in the proceedings and largely due to his efforts and the contacts he continues to maintain with ex members of the battalion the attendance at this reunion holds steady over the years.

We are extremely grateful to the RSM and members of the WO's and Sgts Mess, 7 R Anglian, for allowing us to use their Mess.

The Hindoostan Club held their annual dinner on 7 Nov 87. Members were particularly delighted to welcome Lt Col Derek Watson as a guest of the club and to find him in such good form.

The annual luncheon for officers and their ladies took place in London on 5 Dec 87. The continuing success of this luncheon was reflected in the increased attendance. In 1988 the dinner club is holding a celebratory dinner at Uppingham on 29 Oct, but the luncheon will be held as usual on the first Saturday of December.

It is with great regret that we have to report the deaths of two stalwarts of the association. Ex RQMS F.W. Wells, who was appointed an honorary life member of the association in May 1965, died on 31 Jul 87. He will be remembered with great affection by many members, particularly those of the London branch. Ex CQMS 'Ted' Gibbons died on 23 Apr 88. He was a well known Regimental character and was serving as a member of the general committee at the time of his death. He will be greatly missed.



On reading the December issue of Castle, it seems that Royal Tigers Weekend 1987 was but a few weeks ago. Since

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THE bravery of the late Sgt (later Lieutenant) WE Boulter of the 6th (Service) Battalion of the Regiment at the battle of Trones Wood, on the Somme, on 14 Jul 16, for which he won the Victoria Cross, has been held up as an example and an inspiration to every recruit to the Regiment: a yardstick against which all young soldiers would aspire to measure up.

It follows therefore, that the gift of Sgt. Boulter's Victoria Cross to the Regimental Museum as a legacy in the will of his widow, Mrs. Alice Boulter, was bound to create immense interest among all former members of the Regiment.

This gift, which clearly reflects the wishes of the late Sgt. Boulter himself, is an act almost unprecedented in today's world and is an example to all of us. It is the more remarkable when we recollect that Sgt. Boulter was not a household name in the Regiment; nor was he a long-serving soldier. He was an ordinary, patriotic citizen of the county, called upon to enlist and do his duty and we are, all of us, truly grateful to Mrs. Boulter for her generous gesture, also our thanks to Major Donald Baxter, whose astute appreciation of likely events and advice, led to the medal eventually being bequeathed to the museum.

The presentation of the Victoria Cross will be made by a member of Sgt. Boulter's family to our president, General Sir John Akehurst, at a ceremony preceding the Regimental Church Service on 3 July, and our president hopes that as many Comrades as possible will attend the Service.

The Peterborough branch annual reunion dinner was held at The Drill Hall, London Road, Peterborough, on 31 Oct 87. Branch president Major Richard Hill presided and 118 Comrades and ladies sat down to what has long been one of the most popular events in our regimental calendar.

The Regimental TA Band played during the dinner and Maj. Hill welcomed the new Bandmaster, WO1 Roger

Francis, and wished him well in the years ahead.

The annual Officers Burma Reunion and dinner was held in the Officers' Mess, Depot Royal Pioneer Corps, Northampton, by kind permission of the Commandant Depot RPC, on 9 April.

Officers present were: Brig. Ted Taunton, Gordon Adnitt, Jack Britten, Reggie Clayton, Victor Harding, John Haselwood, Stanley Hincks, John Hopkins, Roger Hughes, Peter Kelly, Ted Kelly, Harry Lees RA, Keith Malby, Charles McFettridge RA, Terry Molloy and Peter Noakes.

The 42nd annual reunion dinner of the Officers of the "New" 4th Battalion, was held in the Officers' Mess, Depot Royal Pioneer Corps, on 7 May by kind permission of the Commandant.

Among those present were: Bill Bayley, Norman Bending, Jack Boardman, Jack Burbidge, Norman Geary, George Gould, Bill Green, Victor Harding, Ted Kelly, Graham Martin, Ronnie Pugh, Peter Scopes, Jock Shearer, Arthur Smith, Jack Stoneman, Roy Sykes (presiding), Charles Thorpe, Tony Walker, Alfred Webb, "Tiny" Webb and John Young. Finally, the annual reunion takes place on 2 and 3 Jul. We are looking forward to another well attended dinner and church parade service at this weekend.



MAJ F.A. Godfrey has written the fourth and final volume of the Regiment's history - The History of The Suffolk Regiment 1946-59 - covering the last dozen or so years before amalgamation. The book will be launched at the Minden Reunion on 31 Jul; price £12.50. When it appears in the shops, it will cost more.

Over 230 copies have already been reserved. If you want to make sure of yours - and you have not already done so - please reserve it now and, if possible, pay in advance.

Your copy will be ready for you to collect at The Keep on Minden Day. If you want it to be posted, please add £2.00 to cover postage and packing for addresses

in Great Britain and BFPOs. For overseas addresses please add £2.95.

Your cheque should be made out to The Suffolk Regiment OCA and sent to assistant treasurer, Mrs Anstace Gilson-Taylor, 3 Harefield, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk., CO10 9DE. If you need a receipt, please include a stamped addressed envelope.

The Regimental Chapel committee has launched a scheme to provide new hassocks for the Chapel. Some will bear the Suffolk Regiment badge and some that of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The scheme is co-ordinated by Mrs Anstace Gilson-Taylor and if you are interested as a canvas worker or as a donor, please let her know.

The cost of each hassock will be about £18-£22. The hassocks come in kits, complete with stamped canvas, wools, filling and backing and a label to put the donor's name on the base. The work is simple, so hassocks can be made by both experienced and inexperienced canvas workers.

The Chapel committee expect that a few volunteers will be willing to do more than one hassock, so that anyone who wishes to participate, but who cannot embroider will be welcome as a donor.

We now have six OCA branches, Bury St Edmunds, Ipswich, Hemel Hempstead, Beccles, Felixstowe and now Stowmarket and District. Congratulations! Branch officers are: President - Maj Bobby Mayes, chairman - Mr S. Paul Sykes, secretary/treasurer - Mr Jim W. Smith, committee member - Mr W.F. Rowe.

There is another important event - we have found a successor to Maj Tommy Warren as chairman of the Minden Reunion Committee. He is Capt F.C.L. Slinn.

An Ipswich man, Tim Slinn joined 1 E Anglian in 1961. He served through the ranks in 1 R Anglian including RSM and QM and he has been a PSI with 6(V) R Anglian.

Attendees at our Minden Reunions know what a debt of gratitude we owe to Tommy Warren. He and his committee have worked very hard on our behalf and have never failed to produce an outstanding day - regardless of the weather. We thank him and them and wish Tim Slinn every success in Tom's stead. We will give him all the support he needs.

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Remember - the Minden Reunion this year will be on 31 Jul.

On 16 Jan Hemel Hempstead branch held its annual dinner. More than 60 members and their wives attended a most enjoyable evening. We were delighted that our president, Col Pat Hopper and vice-president, Mr. Michael Lunn, were present.

The big one was on 9 Apr when we hosted the Regimental dance at the Pavilion in Hemel. We were happy to see more than 400 people in this superb building, all bedecked in red and yellow. Bury branch again did us proud by arriving by the coachload. What a pleasure it was to have our own Col Pat Hopper and Mr Mike Lunn with their ladies together with Brig Bill Deller and Brig Joe Starling, the latter in some danger of getting lock jaw after meeting so many chaps from his old platoon.

Other people travelled from as far as Bodmin in Devon, Leicester, Yarmouth, Sussex and Essex. The whole thing was the work of our two action men, Ray Picton and Mike Murphy, who also organised the tombola.

Later in the evening, Ron Wingfield presented Col Hopper with a shield and the Colonel in his turn presented Ray Picton with a Regimental Shield on behalf of RSM Kevin Duffy, who he had recently visited in Cornwall.

It would have been nice to have seen some people from other branches, but we still did well. The music for the evening was provided by the branch's own band, Three-of-a-Kind.

We are very happy to report that Kevin Duffy has had his hip replacement operation at last. He is now at home convalescing in the care of Peggy and his daughter, Ellen. We look forward to seeing him soon.

On 11 Jun the branch visited the Royal British Legion at Dagenham for a night out. This year we will be in even greater numbers for the Minden week-end, so much so that it has been a headache for Mike Murphy to find enough hotel accommodation.

Beebles Branch

The notice from Col Pat that the branch notes must be on his desk at sunset reminds me of Gladstone speaking in Parliament: "You cannot fight against the future. Time is on our side." I wonder?

Now well-established in our new



In 1940, A Coy 70 Bn the Suffolk Regiment guarded Honnington Airfield. On 27 Sep 87 three ex members of A Coy were invited by the Station Commander to the 50th anniversary of the formation of Honnington. They were Dave Woodhouse (who has since died), John "Blondie" Goodfield and Ron Wingfield. Picture by East Anglian Daily Times

home, the Caxton Club, the Beebles branch are 'cummin along nicely'. The attendance at monthly meetings averages 45.

The first birthday has passed and this was the occasion of our AGM. It was a pleasure to have with us our midwife Maj Duncan Sutor. He made our birth one year ago an easy business. The celebration was of the best order even the birthday cake! The most reassuring business of the meeting was that all the officers were re-elected.

Thanks to efforts made by the branch and the RBL, the town's War Memorial will have the names of those who died in the last 'dust up' and subsequent conflicts added to those of the Great War.

We are proud of our welfare work conducted in conjunction with the local RBL and there is a very warm welcome to anyone who cares to come along to our meetings at the Caxton Club Beebles on the second Monday every month.

The social programme is in motion and the major event on our horizon is the Minden Reunion. If this year's is half as good as last, it will be a cracker. We must all be appreciative of the endeavours and dedication of Maj Tommy Warren who will not be in the driving seat this year due to the old enemy - age. Capt Tim Shinn is a worthy successor to Tommy.

BURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH

47 members of the Bury St Edmunds branch went to Hemel Hempstead on 9

Apr to a special get-together. We took our Standard with us and Derreck Johnson, our Standard Bearer, did a very good job with other Standard Bearers in a short ceremony of placing the Standards on the stage. It was very good to hear "Speed the Plough" again. A good night was had by all - well done Hemel!

On 26 Apr we had 21 members of the newly formed Stowmarket branch over to see us. They went straight to the Regimental Museum where they were met by Jack Easlea who showed them around. They finished up with us at the Royal Anglian Club and both branches enjoyed the evening.

On 7 May we held our annual dinner at the TA Centre, Newmarket Road. The dinner chairman, Brig Bill Deller, and Mrs Deirdre Deller were escorted into the dining hall by Jack Gingell (branch chairman) to the strains of "Speed the Plough".

We were very pleased that the following invited guests were able to attend: The Rev Canon Michael Walker and Mrs Walker, Col W.A. Heal, Col Peter and Cynthia Dean, Lt Col Pat and Sue Macdonald and Herbie and Mrs Taylor from our friends the Cambridgeshires.

The band Gracious Manner was very good and have been booked again for the Minden eve buffet dance. Everything went according to plan and another good night was had by all.

Our thanks to all who helped as this makes it so much worthwhile.

Sport on camera

Poachers go well on snow

1987-88 saw the formation of a Poachers Nordic Ski team to train for and compete in the Divisional ski meeting in Jan 88.

Lt Simon North was picked to captain the team and a squad of 10 was chosen for training and team selection.

This involved a great many miles of road running, as well as trying to master basic skiing techniques on roller skis around the Celle area (much to the amusement of the rest of the battalion, not to mention the civilian population).

The end of November saw the team - now only six - move to Norway for Exercise Viking Lope (a BOBC run Nordic ski race training course). The fitness training paid off and the team started well, being the fittest of the 15 teams competing.

All in all, the Poachers surpassed themselves, being the first placed team in both the 5 and 10km race. Cpl Stones managed to win both events, beating many of the instructors in the process, and Lt North amazed all present, including himself, by being the first placed officer. The training in Norway was excellent and gave the team a very good start on snow as none (with the exception of Cpl Stones) had been on Nordic skis before.

The team returned to Celle (with their trophies) and were disappointed not to find snow in the Harz Mountains, with the competition period coming close immediately after Christmas they went south to a training camp in Garmisch to prepare for the Infantry ski meeting in Zwiesel, which started on 2 Jan. Zwiesel also had a problem with snow and some of the events became 'runs' instead of 'skis'.

The Poachers best event at the meeting was the 4 x 7.5kg biathlon, a particularly gruelling race, being classed as a sprint. Fortunately this event could be skied. Every 2.5km you enter a 50m range and shoot five rounds at a 50mm disc target - for every miss you must complete a 150m penalty loop which will add approximately 30 seconds to your finishing time. (To be able to control breathing enough to shoot like a marksman, after sprinting 2.5km is not easy but on the day all went very well and we managed to beat all other teams including 2 Queen's and 1 Staffords - both of whom like to think of themselves as 'sking battalions').

We moved to Axams, Austria for the Divisional Championships on 10 Jan only to find that most teams comprised between 10 and 20 people - by this time the Poachers were down



The Poachers' Nordic ski team at Axams. Standing: Cpl Stones and Lt North; kneeling: Pte Gray and Pte Parker

to five. The team captain had a hard time convincing other teams that we were in fact competing seriously....until the first race - the Novice 10kg.

Pte Gray managed an outstanding second place (even more impressive when one realises that he is a junior). Lt North was 7th and Pte Parker 14th. No other team had more than two people in the top twenty - the Poachers had three in the top 15.

The next race, the Novice 4 x 10km relay saw the team take second place to the KOSB's (a team with more than four times our manpower). This appeared to be the case for the following three races - we managed to come second in all, but never made it to first place,

though we did manage to beat both the KOSB's and 1 Div Armd Tpt Regt teams on separate occasions.

With only one race, the military patrol race, remaining the team were frantic - they had come second in all races but had won none. A council of war was held. Cpl Stones was given free rein over the team for the patrol race and was instructed to win, even if he crossed the finishing line with three corpses!

The race started well, if a little fast. Cries of 'Oh they'll never keep that pace up!' were heard from the larger teams and older sweats. Needless to say the team did survive, (with a little help from Cpl Stones' persuasive methods) and finished an unexpected first.

Sport on camera



The Pompadors' hockey team which won the BAOR Infantry Cup Championships. Back row from left: Capt Thurston, LCpl Connig, Capt Wild, CO, Sgt Milgate, Capt Ladley, Maj Godkin. Front row from left: Pte Mitchell, Cpl Harman, Pte Higginbotham, Sgt Wright, LCpl Palmer, LCpl Ruffell, Pte Aldridge.



Pte Martin Gray of the Poachers, selected for the Army Novice Nordic Championships



B Coy (in hoops) in action on the rugby field against HQ Coy

Sport on camera



The Vikings' inter-platoon volleyball champions, QM Pl. Back row: LCpl Taylor, Cpl Henson, CSgt Gamble, Capt (QM) Powell. Front row: Cpl Woods, RQMS Jones, TQMS Vessey, Cpl Woodruff



LCpl Marshall of the Vikings who came second in the Gibraltar marathon



Pompadors' B Coy team for the Vienna marathon. Back row from left: Pte Jones, Pte Debeney-Wright, Pte Townsend, LCpl Alderson. Front row from left: Pte Sayers, Sgt Hughes, Pte Charnley, Cpl Hill



LCpl Lenny Paul of the Pompadors who was a member of the British 4 man bobsleigh team at the winter Olympics at Calgary

Golfers out at Flempton

THE REGIMENTAL GOLFING SOCIETY had 25 members taking part in the spring meeting at our favourite club, Flempton. George Jasper, who never missed a meeting, died earlier in the year and was sadly missed by everyone.

The weather was just right and the course was in superb condition. The prizewinners

were: Medal Handicap, 1st Capt Dave Davidson, 2nd Mr Smith, 3rd Lt Col Harold Moore. Stableford Singles, 1st ex CSgt Mac McAnally, 2nd Mr Templeman and 3rd Maj John Perry. Foursomes, 1st Capt Davidson and Mr Peck, 2nd Mr Smith and Capt Tony Thompson and 3rd Lt Col John Marriott and Col Peter Badger.

Sport on camera



5th Bn HQ Coy cross-country team Back row from left, Capt Aylin (84th), Maj Seed (52nd), WO1 (RSM) Smith (95th), Capt (QM) Ross (30th) Front row from left Capt MacDonald (75th), WO2 Dent (21st), Sgt Callaghan (26th).



Capt Fraser MacDonald of the 5th Bn just ahead of WO2 Eke of SPSI 3 Coy in the EDIST TA Cross-Country Championships

Good showing by 5th Bn in runners mud and ...

THE battalion entered six teams, including one of permanent staff from HQ Coy, in the 1988 Eastern District TA Cross Country Championships, held at Colchester on 30 Jan.

Although the battalion were heavily involved in a training package that weekend, six teams of eight men assembled on the start line ready for what proved to be a very muddy and demanding course of almost seven miles.

The lean, mean looking permanent staff team comprising, the Training Major, QM, Adjutant, Admin Officer, RSM, RQMS and Recce PSI were representing the more worldly side of the battalion but, nonetheless, ready to do battle with the young soliders under their command.

After a very taxing and challenging race, the results were: 4 Coy 4th, PS HQ Coy 5th, 3 Coy 6th, 2 Coy 9th, 1 Coy and HQ Coy overall positions were not recorded. Notable individual results were: 8th - Cpl Parker 2 Coy, 9th - Pte Wassell 4 Coy.

The battalion achieved a creditable result considering that soldiers had a busy training weekend ahead but all who entered did so with spirit and commendable effort, which augers well for next year.

... on the road

On 17 Apr, WO2 Alan Dent, RQMS 5 R Anglian ran his first ever marathon - the big one in London - and achieved a time of 3 hours and 4 minutes. The Special Baby Care Unit at Peterborough Hospital will be benefitting from his efforts to the tune of over £500 raised from many TA soldiers in the 5th Battalion; also soldiers serving with the 1st and 3rd Battalions in West Germany, Depot The Queens Division at Bassingbourn Barracks and from remote pastures such as the Kempstonian Lodge, Royal Antidiluvian Order of Buffaloes, of which his brother, Sgt Kevin Dent, 3 R Anglian is the secretary, and at present, the ACIO at Bedford.

A number of local firms also contributed and to mark the occasion, a charity disco will be held at the Peterborough Training Centre where the amount raised will be handed over to the hospital.

Pushing the Territorials forward in Peterborough is one of HQ 5 R Anglian's main tasks, and close liaison with local communities and firms is vital to expand recruiting within the unit.

Sport on camera

Success for Pompadours

IN SPITE of a busy programme, the Pompadours have been tremendously successful on the sporting field, particularly at rugby, hockey and cross country.

The 1987/88 season saw the regeneration of interest in rugby within the battalion. The season began in October with the battalion just able to field a side and ended in April with two teams playing and winning, on most Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The highlight of the season was the success of the 1st XV in the BAOR Infantry Rugby Football Challenge Cup. The battalion reached the final but was beaten by a much stronger and more experienced side from RRW. Nevertheless, the underlying strength of the side has been the willingness and desire to play rugby, which must bode well for the future.

The 1st XV played 24 games, winning 14. The 2nd XV, the Eagles, played 11 games, winning 7.

A mid-season tour has been arranged during the R & R period after Exercise Medicine Man 2 and the 1988/89 season will begin in October. If the success of the season can be used as a start point, the 1988-89 season should be good for Pompadour rugby.

The hockey season saw the Pompadours entering the league, Army Cup and the Infantry (BAOR) Cup competitions. The team started well in the league, but despite numerous victories they came a close second to 35 Regt RE, the BAOR champions.

The Army Cup Competition saw an early defeat by 71 AC Wksp REME 3-2 after extra time.

Sadly, the team had not reached their best form by this stage in the year and 71 have the well earned reputation of being a strong side. However, our skill and teamwork were better in the BAOR Infantry Cup Competition with wins over 1 RRW, 2 R Anglian and 1 Staffords to reach the final and face 1 R Irish, the BAOR runners up.

The Infantry (BAOR) cup final was played



The Pompadours' cross country team with the season's trophies. Back row from left Cpl Ryan, WO2 Twell, Pte McGrath, Cpl Lake. Front row from left LCpl Brown, Pye Howard, Capt Wadman, LCpl Maynard, Pte Reid.

during battalion field firing at Sennelager on 23 Apr. The Pompadours looked the better side from the start against a hard and enthusiastic opposition. Chances were few in the first half although the Pompadours came close to scoring on a number of occasions.

Early in the second half the R Irish lost an inside forward through injury and, as their midfield tired, the Pompadours were allowed

a lot more possession. Ten minutes into the second half, after the forcing of a short corner, Capt Alasdair Wild slipped the ball to LCpl Simon Palmer who scored from close range. There were opportunities for this lead to be increased, but unfortunately it was not to be. However, the Pompadours won, even if the

Continued Page 68



The Pompadours' 1st XV for the 87-88 rugby season

Sport on camera



The Pompadours' fencing team of Cpl Hunt, Pte Lloyd, Pte Lamkin who came 5th in the BAOR Championships



The 7th Battalion's HQ Coy half marathon team

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scoreline was a little flattering to the opposition, and regained the trophy last won in 1984. A date has yet to be fixed to play the Prince of Wales Division Depot, the UK champions.

In the six-a-side contests, the results were good. After a hard day's competition at Hildesheim in early March, the Pompadours ended as BAOR indoor champions. With an inexperienced team that grew in stature throughout the day, results improved with the RA champions and runners up, 2 and 40 1d Regt being beaten in the semi-final and finals respectively.

The 4 Armd Div outdoor sixes in Apr went well with five wins and no goals conceded before the final v 35 Regt RE. After a tiring day, the game was played at a steady pace with both sides looking dangerous, but 35 Regt scored twice and the Pompadours missed a penalty. The Pompadours scored later but were unable to find that extra edge to get the equaliser and finished the day as runners-up.

Outstanding players were Pte Higginbotham who represented BAOR, LCpl Mark Canning, always very sound in the defence and LCpl Ruffell, the season's most improved player.

The Pompadour cross country team swept the board in the BAOR Infantry cross country championships at Sennelager on the 5 Mar. Out of the top ten, eight were Pompadours. The team then went on to dominate the Quadrant Cross Country League with the team breaking the points record no less than four times.

The trophies won were: Winning Team Cups - All team members, Top 15 individual cups - 1st Lt Wadman, 5th LCpl Maynard, 6th Cpl Ryan, 7th Pte Reid, 8th LCpl Watson, 12th LCpl Brown, 14th Pte McGrath, 15th WO2 Iwell, League Infantry Champion Cup - Lt Wadman, Junior Winners Plate - Pte Reid, Junior Runners up plate - LCpl Brown.

This was a fine end to a season that had seen the team come runners up in the BAOR championships and 5th in the Army championships.

Cricket club still thriving

THE Regimental cricket club continues to thrive and we always appreciate potential officers who are free from school commitments who can play in matches. The following fixtures are to be played v EEL S XI(A) 10 Jul 1130 hrs.

We wish Lance Gerrard-Wright success with the Army trials this year.

Recent results

The Leys Drawn, RARCC 166 for 7, Leys 71 for 8, Maj Graham Duthoit 53 not out, Maj Russell 37 and Graham Bird 43.

Haileybury Drawn, RARCC 168 for 8, Haileybury 179 for 4 declared, Robert White (Oundle) 49, Cpl Brown 37, Lance Gerrard-Wright 1 for 20, Cpl Bradley 7 for 27.

Sport on camera



Vikings in action on the hockey field in Gibraltar



Novice diver Mrs Julia Wilkinson prepares to take the plunge in Gibraltar



Dmr Western of the Vikings going for the ball



LCpl Bishop, LCpl Harman and Pte Bell of C Coy in action at the volleyball net

Sport on camera

Fine effort by Poachers

FOLLOWING the inter-company boxing competition, a battalion squad of 15 was selected for training under CSgt Dowland and the PT Staff. Having narrowly lost the Army Novice Finals the previous year to the RRW (for the first time in five years) we went on full time training to ensure a victory in the 1987/88 Army Novice Championships.

The squad, with the exception of a few from the previous year, consisted of raw novices. Shortly after the rigorous training programme had started, there was a noticeable improvement in fitness and boxing ability. Basic skills were mastered and we then progressed on to combination work, each individual developing his own style. The hardest part of the training for most was not suffering knocks and bruises through the sparring but the dieting!

The first match came in November against the RCT at Bünde. Although it proved a rough competition, the result was a win: 5-4 to the battalion.

Following the RCT came the Divisional semi-finals at home against 25 Engr Regt. With the whole battalion supporting the night on home territory, the team's performance improved remarkably and we looked stronger than our opponents throughout the competition. Again the battalion was victorious and celebrated an 8-1 win before going away on a well deserved Christmas leave.

With Christmas and its festivities behind and the Divisional finals against the Staffords looming in early Jan 1988, the team had to come back early from leave if it was to have a chance of regaining its fitness.

Most people returned remarkably fit and only a few pounds overweight, despite the large quantities of food and alcohol that had undoubtedly been consumed over the festive period.

With only two weeks to go before the Divisional finals the team set about getting back into shape for the competition with endless sweat runs at ungodly hours of the morning, followed by gruelling circuit training and sparring practice.

Unfortunately, on the night the Staffords proved to be much fitter, having prepared themselves over a longer period for the competition, and won 7-2. The highlight of the evening was a knock-out by Pte Matthews, which served to restore Poachers' morale to an extent.

The Staffords went on to win the Army Novice Championships for the second year running. Disappointing though the result was, the team and coaches must be congratulated for all the hard work and effort that they put in throughout the season.

Hopefully next year will be OUR year!



Pte Morson of the Poachers on the attack



Pte Matthews of the Poachers winning his bout against the Staffords

Picture: Eastern Daily Press

Obituary

SIR DOUGLAS HOWARD KCMG, MC

SIR Douglas Howard died at his home in Clophill on 23rd Dec 87. Born on 15 Feb 1897, he was educated at Harrow from where in 15 he was commissioned into 2nd Bedfordshire. In Aug 16 he went to France but was wounded the following month and invalided home.

Nevertheless, he was back in France in time to experience the full weight of the German Spring offensive in 18. Then he saw the turn of the tide and later that year won his MC in action with the British 4th Army in the Preux Mormal Forest just seven days before the Armistice.

After the war he joined the diplomatic corps, beginning his service in Norway in 1922 after which he steadily climbed the diplomatic ladder finding himself in Madrad at the start of the Second World War. Many years after his retirement a radio broadcast tempted him to look up his diary about the first week of war in September and he was astonished to find that during these seven days he had dined with three traitors!

The first was his Foreign Office colleague Donald McLean with whom he dined in Paris on his way back to Spain as First Secretary in our embassy in Madrid. Having arrived there he dined with Kim Philby. The Times correspondent in Burgos and the next day he dined with the French Ambassador in Madrid, Marshal Petain.

Later he served on the Balkans desk in London dealing with Tito Mihajlovic in Yugoslavia.

After the war he became Ambassador in Montevideo. He was appointed KCMG and there he was influential in negotiating meat contracts with the Uruguayan Government when meat was so short in UK.

He left there in 1953 on appointment to the Vatican, a post which he much enjoyed, particularly as he had become friendly with the Pope, Pius XII, during a previous posting in Rome, when the latter was Vatican Foreign Secretary.

On retirement he lived for a short while in London before going back to Bedfordshire from where his family emanates. He loved his house in Clophill and adored showing friends round his beautiful garden.

COL JOHN GOODWYN ALLDEN BECKETT OBE TD DL MA (Cantab)

COL Beckett died on 12 Nov 87. He was the second son of the late Dr. F.H.A. Beckett and was born in Ely in 1914. A nephew of a former CO of the Cambridgeshire Regiment, Lt Col Goodwyn Luddington Archer, he became an Ely solicitor and was a member of one of Ely's oldest families.

Commissioned into the Cambridgeshire

Regiment in Apr 39 he commanded C Coy during the battle of Singapore. Appointed Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion and promoted Captain in 1941. He was a Japanese prisoner of war from 1942 to the end of the war. He rejoined the Cambridgeshires on the re-constitution of the Regiment in 1947 and commanded Q' (Ely and Chatteris) Bty until promoted second-in-command.

The unit was then the 629 (The Cambridgeshire Regiment) LAA Regt. RA.

In 1955 he took command of the 629 (The Cambridgeshire Regiment) Lt Regt RA. TA until Aug 56 when he arranged the conversion back to Infantry as the 1st Battalion the Cambridgeshire Regiment. He was County Cadet Commandant for the Cambridge and Isle of Ely from 1957 to 1964.

Col Beckett's military services earned him the TD and bar (1950) a Deputy Lieutenancy (1951) and an OBE in 1957.

He also had a long and distinguished service in local government: district councillor on City of Ely Urban District Council 1946-74; chairman of the council 1958-1960 and 1969-71; district councillor on East Cambridgeshire District Council 73-87 and chairman 1973-76. He was one of the major movers in bringing about the creation of the riverside walk at Ely. He introduced Ely to its friendship city of Ribe in Denmark.

He was the first chairman of the Ely Millenall and Newmarket Water Board and a member of the Regional Economic Planning Council. He was Mayor of Ely in 1977-78. In May of this year he became an Alderman of East Cambridgeshire District Council.

In 1966 he was 'pricked' by the Queen at a Privy Council meeting to become High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely 1966-67.

LT COL THOMAS DAVID DEAN OBE



It was with great sadness that his many friends heard that Tom Dean had died of cancer on 25 Apr. one day before his 56th birthday.

Tom was born in Ipswich while his father was Adjutant of the 4th Battalion The Suffolk Regiment, attended prep school in Kashmir, while his father was serving with the 2nd Battalion The Suffolk Regiment and completed his education at Greshams School and RMA Sandhurst.

Commissioned into The Suffolk Regiment he joined the 1st Battalion in Malaya in early 1952, where the buzz soon went round the old 2nd Battalion warriors that Sweats' son had arrived! Tom, a true son of the Regiment, excelled in his job of commanding a platoon in jungle operations against communist bandits, quickly gaining the confidence and respect of his men with his charm, strong personality and enthusiasm.

He served with the 1st Battalion in Trieste and Cyprus and then, following in his father's footsteps, he became Adjutant of the 4th Battalion The Suffolk Regiment, starting a life-long friendship with the CO George Springfield, who shared his love of the countryside. Tom was a true countryman, who enjoyed the peace, quiet and thrill of bird watching and energetically pursuing conservation.

After the 4th Battalion, Tom moved to Germany with his new wife Jane to HQ 4th Division followed by a short tour in Harwich with 1 E Anglian, Staff College and two years in Kenya as GS02 BATTKEN from 1965 to Mar 67. A series of Staff appointments followed: DAAG at the Royal Anglian Depot, DAAG A AG2 MOD, GS02 SD/Trg Depot Queen's Div and AAG CRLS HQ Eastern District.

Tom was a keen member of the British Schools Exploring Society and somehow fitted in three long exploring expeditions. He was chief leader of two of these, in one leading a group of schoolboys across Newfoundland.

In Oct 78 Tom took Command of the 6th Volunteer Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment which he commanded with his usual flair and enthusiasm, bringing the battalion to a high standard of fitness and training.

His next appointment was as Deputy Commandant Sennelager Training Area where he quickly established a rapport with the local community and devoted his energies to ensuring that conservation and training went hand in hand. He was appointed an OBE and, in his self-effacing way, hardly showed how proud he was of the honour. In 1984, as Commandant of Stanford Training Area, he chaired the Stanford Conservation Group, escorting many hundreds of people in organised parties so that they could enjoy its wildlife.

Those of us privileged to have known Tom will remember him for his integrity, quiet charm and human touch.

To Jane, and her three children, we extend our deepest sympathy.

A.G.B.C.

Obituary

MAJ J.R.B. PRESCOTT



JACK Prescott, or 'Percy Prescott' as he was better known in the Regiment, was a popular junior officer in both the 1st and 2nd Battalions in pre-war years and a courageous, perhaps somewhat unorthodox, Company Commander during the fighting in North West Europe.

With his death the Regiment has lost 'a character'. There aren't many of his ilk around these days.

The following extract from the Regimental History, recounting the bitter fighting near Tinchebray in Normandy, gives an excellent idea of the man:

"... 'A' Coy were equally successful, due in large measure to the fearless and skilful leadership of the Company Commander, Maj John Prescott. He led his Company straight into the assault and after fierce fighting established it firmly on the cross roads.

He then led two platoons against an enemy in orchards and buildings on the right of the Company objective, cleared them out, took ten prisoners and was only halted by very heavy fire and grenades from a strong point 200 yards in advance. At first light on 13 Aug he successfully attacked these buildings, personally using grenades and leading the house clearing parties.

"...As the battle died away the hens of a neighbouring farm, who had taken cover temporarily, came out and the ducks followed. Posting adequate military protection, Prescott dealt with the situation. "Twenty minutes break. Keep that white duck for me...!"

Jack's connections with the Regiment go back to the mid-nineteenth century when his great grandfather, Col (later Maj Gen) G.F. Walker, commanded the 12th Foot during the Second Afghan War (1878-80). His uncle, Maj Philip Walker also served in the Regiment.

Born in Geneva in Dec 14 he contracted TB

as a boy. After treatment in Switzerland he recovered sufficiently to go to Wellington College and then Sandhurst. Commissioned in Aug 34 he was posted to 1 Suffolk in Plymouth.

A keen follower of the Mhow Hounds, he played in the battalion polo team and, riding his horse, Birdlip, took part, albeit somewhat unsuccessfully, in the Mhow Races. Although not much of a shot he 'bagged' two large panther in the jungle near Mhow.

Perhaps the most challenging exploit in an adventurous life was his virtually solo drive from Central India back to England in early 1939 (Castle Jun 87)

After a time in the UK with 4 Suffolk and 2 Cambridgeshires he served as a Company Commander with the Royal West African Frontier Force. He rejoined 1 Suffolk shortly after the break-out from Caen in Normandy in June 44, and took over 'A' Company. He was awarded the MC for his leadership at Tinchebray.

Posted to 4 DLI in Oct 44 he was wounded at Nijmegen. On recovery he found himself commanding a company of 7 RWF and was severely wounded during the Rhine crossing near Bocholt in Mar 45.

Fit again after many months in hospital he attended the Staf College, Camberley, and was subsequently posted to the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in Egypt.

Back again to Africa, which he loved, in 48. First for three years with the RWAFF in Nigeria, during which period he went on safari with his wife and small son into the Congo jungle and filmed primitive pigmy encampments and big game, then still plentiful. Transferred to the KAR, he served in Kenya and Mauritius until retiring in May 55 at the early age of 42.

Settling near Rye in East Sussex, he devoted his energies to his properties in the Midlands, golf and, being artistic by temperament, got great pleasure from painting, exhibiting regularly until his eyesight failed. With his family he undertook several off-the-beaten-track long tours in the Middle East and along the North African coast in a converted Land-Rover.

He will be remembered by his contemporaries in the Regiment and his numerous friends, with warmth and affection. The world will be a duller place without him.

In his last years he suffered much from his wounds and loss of sight. He died on 14 Jan in Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital, Woolwich.

He is survived by his wife, Meriel, and his sons, John and Jeremy. The latter now a Major in the Royal Anglian Regiment, much to his father's delight.

W.S.B.

MAJOR M.L.A. DUFFIE

Maj Michael Duffie died on 31 Mar, aged 57. He was commissioned into the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in 1952. He joined the Regiment in the Canal Zone and was later seconded as liaison officer at HQ 32 Guards Brigade.

Returning to the UK he served in Tidworth before joining the 3rd Malay Regiment. He rejoined the Regiment in 1958 and served in Dortmund, Ballykinler and Berlin. This was followed by the post of GII(Int) with the Federal Regular Army in Aden; second-in-command of the 4th Royal Anglian Regiment and finally as GII at the Ministry of Defence in the Night Vision branch.

He resigned in 1971 and joined Rank Precision Instruments, subsequently becoming a freelance business consultant travelling extensively in the Middle and Far East.

Mike will be remembered in many ways; as a regimental officer who had the happy ability of getting on so well with all ranks; as a fearless rider as people who saw him hunting in Co. Down will testify; as an astute gambler; as an immaculate dresser; as a lover of good food and wine - but above all he was the kindest of men, countless persons have been helped by him and his generosity had no bounds.

He adored his family and to Nell, Catherine and Alexander we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

W.D.P.

BRIGADIER D.J.B. HOUCHIN DSO MC & BAR

DERRICK Houchin or Houch, as he was usually called, was born in 1906 and died in February this year.

He had a long and varied military career. He first served in the TA, joining the London Scottish in 22, when only 16 years old. He gained a TA Commission in 26 and two years later was granted a Regular commission, being posted to The Northamptonshire Regiment.

For the next eight years he served with the 48th in Malta, Palestine, Iraq, India and Egypt. He joined the 58th in Ballykinlar in 37 and served with them in France and Belgium, during the 'phony war', being evacuated from Dunkirk.

He was awarded an MC and was mentioned in Despatches as the result of defensive actions near Arras and at St Eloi in May 40, when he displayed great powers of leadership and conspicuous bravery.

He spent the rest of 40-41 with the 58th in UK and then went with them as a Company Commander to Madagascar in 42, where he was wounded leading an attack on a pillbox

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Obituary

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behind the French lines. He was awarded his second MC and was evacuated to Capetown for surgery.

Later in 42 he returned to India with the 58th and also served with them in Iraq and Palestine for the second time, and also in Persia as it then was. He went with the 58th to Italy in 43 as 2IC and was in the Anzio bridgehead.

In March 44 he was promoted to command the 7th Bn Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, with whom he won the DSO. He was involved in the Gothic Line battles of August/September 44 and in December was sent to Command the 5th Bn Northamptonshire Regiment, then south of the River Po in NE Italy. He ended up with them in Austria.

He left in 47 to go to the Staff College. He became GSOL in the Sudan and was there until 49, when he was given substantive command of the 1st Battalion (48th/58th). In 51 he was given command of a TA Brigade in South Wales. In 54 he took over command of the East & West Ridings Area in Yorkshire, where he remained until his retirement in 59.

In 60 he was appointed assistant secretary of the Arthritis & Rheumatism Council in London. In 67 he became appeals secretary of the Star & Garter Home for Disabled Servicemen at Richmond and was successful in raising the large amount of money needed to build the now well-known physiotherapy department. He finally retired in 69, when he remarried and went to live at Martin in Hampshire.

Houch's military career covered 37 years, including his TA Service. During his 31 years in the Regular Army he had the distinction of commanding both the 1st and 5th Battalions of the Northamptonshire Regiment, as well as the 7th Bn Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

Brig Houchin was a man of few words and was a strong forthright personality. He was a very practical man and had the ability to get straight to the heart of a problem, discounting the frills. In a crisis he was always cool, calm and decisive.

He did not suffer fools gladly, but could be a staunch friend and often showed great kindness to subordinates. For instance, the present Bishop of Tonbridge, who in 48 was a National Serviceman in the Sudan, after describing Houch's kindness to him writes "...he was somebody who, when he gave his friendship, did so imaginatively and with a warmth that was always disguised behind a certain brusqueness".

Brig Houchin leaves behind his wife, Stella, Elizabeth, his daughter, who married Maj Terrence Knox, grandson of our late Gen Sir Harry Knox and Lt Col John Houchin, his son, of the Regiment and now working in the M.O.D.

G.B.

J.A. HASELWOOD

THE many friends of John Haselwood will be saddened to learn of his death, suddenly but peacefully, at his home on 13 Apr. Four days earlier, on 9 Apr, John had dined with his brother officers of the 48th at their annual reunion dinner when he was in great form; his sudden death therefore, will come as a great shock to those officers.

John was posted to the 48th in 41 and served with the battalion for two years, until being transferred to the staff for intelligence duties, where he remained for the duration of the war in the Far East.

The funeral service for Capt Haselwood was held at the Northampton Crematorium on 21 Apr, when Capt The Rev John Hopkins, formerly an officer of the 48th, officiated.

Among those of the Regiment present at the funeral were: Brig D.E. Taunton, Lt Col J.L. Wilson (Regimental Secretary), Maj D. Baxter, Maj P.F. Keily, Maj E.P. Kelly, Maj H. Lees RA.

WOI (BANDMASTER) SYDNEY WILLIAM ORDE-HUME MBE ARCM

BANDMASTER "Syd" Orde-Hume who died on 4 Mar 88 was the son of the celebrated composer of military music, J Orde-Hume. He was promoted WOI and appointed Bandmaster to the Northamptonshire Regiment on 28 Apr 38 on transferring from the Life Guards and was posted to the 48th, joining the battalion in Dinapore, India, in 38.

On mobilization of the 48th for war the Band reverted to their war role of Stretcher Bearers and Medical Orderlies and Mr Orde-Hume, together with the wives and families of the 48th were evacuated to Ranikhet, in the foothills of the Himalayas, where they remained until the end of hostilities.

On his return to the UK in June 45 Mr Orde-Hume took over the remnants of the 58th Band, at Northampton. Reforming the Band and bringing it to an acceptable standard of proficiency was itself a work of art and it was an unforgettable experience to see, in the initial stages, former Bandmen, then employed as Storemen, P.T. Instructors and the like, taking up instruments again to swell the numbers of the Band on parade.

But his persistence paid dividends and in 47 Mr Orde-Hume and the Band joined the 58th in Germany.

Mr Orde-Hume remained as Bandmaster of the 1st Battalion (48th/58th) until 55 when he was appointed to the Band of the East Anglian Brigade Establishment, at Northampton and it was from here, in 60, that he retired from the Army.

"Syd" Orde-Hume, who was awarded the MBE in 55, will probably best be remembered for his arrangement of the Regimental Quick

March - "The Northamptonshire Regiment (48th/58th)" on the amalgamation of the 48th and 58th in 48, and for his arrangement of the Austrian March "Kaerntnerleider" (Carinthia) which so delighted the Austrian people whenever it was performed. A man of grace and charm, he was truly one of nature's gentlemen.

E.P.K.

BIRTHS

1st BATTALION

LCpl and Mrs Brian a daughter, Stephanie

Pte and Mrs Briggs a son, Gary
Pte and Mrs Bloss a son, Christopher
Cpl and Mrs Caesar a daughter, Janie
Pte and Mrs Clarke a son, Nathan
Pte and Mrs Collins a daughter, Amy
Cpl and Mrs Dade a daughter, Ann
Cpl and Mrs Fox a son, Luke

LCpl and Mrs Harris a son, Callum
LCpl and Mrs Hutchings a son, Ashleigh
Pte and Mrs Hinks a son, Andrew

Pte and Mrs Horner a daughter, Emma
Cpl and Mrs Jones a daughter, Natalie
LCpl and Mrs Jarvis a daughter, Amie
LCpl and Mrs Lund a son, Luke
Pte and Mrs Lord a son, Daniel

SSgt Minchin and Mrs Minchin a daughter, Danielle

Cpl and Mrs Summersell a son, Karl
LCpl and Mrs Taylor a son, Matthew
Pte and Mrs Taylor a daughter, Jennifer
Pte and Mrs Tucker a son, Garth
Pte and Mrs Vilette a daughter, Aimee

Cpl and Mrs Woodruff a daughter, Laura
LCpl and Mrs Walden a son, Alex
Pte and Mrs Wilcox a son, Courtney.

2nd BATTALION

Capt and Mrs Brunt, a daughter Olivia
Sgt and Mrs Collins a son, Joshua
Lawrence

Sgt and Mrs Beighton a daughter, Rosie
Louise

Sgt and Mrs Cousin a son, Scott
Anthony
Cpl and Mrs Doucet a daughter, Melanie
Jane

Cpl and Mrs Carter a daughter, Stacie
Jane

Cpl and Mrs Staines a son, Luke
Peter
Cpl and Mrs Selby a daughter, Emma
Louise

Cpl and Mrs Sargent a son, Jason
Richard

Cpl and Mrs Hammond a daughter,
Anja Alexandra

Cpl and Mrs Iles a son, Andrew
Cpl and Mrs Skelton a daughter, Jaya
Roxane

Cpl and Mrs Athroll a son, Christopher
Jonathan Richard

Births and Marriages

LCpl and Mrs Bull a son, Stephen Carl Ryan
 LCpl and Mrs Norman a daughter, Danielle Anne
 LCpl and Mrs Blayney a daughter, Kerry Ann
 LCpl and Mrs Cox a daughter, Stephanie
 LCpl and Mrs Scrimshaw a daughter, Michaela Louise
 LCpl and Mrs Jackson a son, Brian Scott
 LCpl and Mrs Andrew a daughter, Stacy Jayne
 LCpl and Mrs Markham a son, Andrew Robert
 LCpl and Mrs Colyer a daughter, Stacey
 LCpl and Mrs Thorpe a son, James Lewis
 LCpl and Mrs Harrison a son, Mark Stephen
 Pte and Mrs Barker a son, Luke Michael
 Pte and Mrs Fitzhugh a son, Lee Adam
 Pte and Mrs Martin a daughter, Leigha-Marie Stacey
 Pte and Mrs Fuller a daughter, Lerissa Jane
 Pte and Mrs Parker a son, Dean
 Pte and Mrs Williams a son, Craig Lee
 Pte and Mrs Bratton a son, Steven Alexander
 Pte and Mrs Martin a son, Anthony Lee
 Pte and Mrs Baines a daughter, Callie Anne
 Pte and Mrs Freeman a daughter, Joanna
 Pte and Mrs Coupe a daughter, Chantelle Nicole
 Pte and Mrs Bruce a daughter, Claire Hanna
 Pte and Mrs Aspinall a son, Luke Arthur.

3rd BATTALION
 Pte and Mrs Flanagan a daughter, Sophie
 Cpl and Mrs Smight a daughter, Bryony
 LCpl and Mrs Johnson a daughter, Penny
 LCpl and Mrs Botting a daughter, Belinda-lee
 LCpl and Mrs Spring a son, Craig
 LCpl and Mrs Chipperfield a son, Danny
 LCpl and Mrs Cooney a son, Andrew
 Pte and Mrs Golds a son, Anthony
 LCpl and Mrs Baron a daughter, Laura
 Cpl and Mrs Edmonds a daughter, Nicola
 LCpl and Mrs Rogers a daughter, Roxanne
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 Pte and Mrs Lamkkin a son, Craig
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 LCpl and Mrs Potter a son, Alex
 Sgt and Mrs DeMeyer a son, Ryan
 Cpl and Mrs Reynolds a daughter, Lianne

Cpl and Mrs Tufnail a daughter, Tanya
 Pte and Mrs Crawley a son, William
 LCpl and Mrs Williams a daughter, Jenna
 LCpl and Mrs Whittle a son, Carl
 LCpl and Mrs Driver a daughter, Finola
 LCpl and Mrs Palmer a daughter, Terri
 LCpl and Mrs Perman a daughter, Gemma
 CSgt and Mrs Ritchie a daughter, Amber
 Capt and Mrs Ladley a daughter, Rebecca
 Pte and Mrs Leeson a son, Matthew
 Pte and Mrs Bentley a daughter, Danielle
 Capt and Mrs Jones a daughter, Emily
 Cpl and Mrs Lazic a son, Alexander
 Cpl and Mrs Beagley a daughter, Natasha.

7th BATTALION
 Sgt and Mrs Osman a son, Garath
 Cpl and Mrs Colbourne a daughter, Lee
 Cpl and Mrs Clar a daughter, Laura
 Cpl and Mrs Redhead a son, Niall
 Pte and Mrs Bryant a daughter, Laura

Dmr Western to Allison 4 Dec 87
 Pte Wood to Tracey 24 Oct 87

2nd BATTALION
 Pte Somerton to Miss Y.M. Mead 14 Nov 87
 Pte Parker to Frl K. Kullman 27 Nov 87
 Pte Hind to Miss C.A. Martin 12 Dec 87
 Pte King to Frl Klir Van Horsten 18 Dec 87
 Pte Miller to Miss S.A. Rose 19 Dec 87
 Cpl Thompson to Miss D.M. Ellis 19 Dec 87
 LCpl Mawhinny to Miss M.M. Munson 19 Dec 87
 Pte Coupe to Miss J.K. Brewin 22 Dec 87
 Cpl Cook to Miss L.T. Gladden 6 Feb 88
 Pte Auckland to Miss P. Richardson 2 Jan 88
 Pte Hewson to Miss R.M.A. Hollingsworth 2 Jan 88
 Pte Beesley to Miss M.A. Castle 9 Jan 88
 Cpl Eyles to Miss L.T. Gladden 6 Feb 88
 Pte Welsford to Miss G.D. Carrigan 13 Feb 88
 Pte Inglis to Miss Y.W. Watson 2 Apr 88.

3rd BATTALION
 CSgt Corcoran to Miss S. Paul 21 Nov 87
 Pte Forde to Miss G. Vauth 30 Nov 87
 Pte Bentley to Miss V. Greenhalgh 22 Dec 87
 Pte Gore to Miss S. Bywaters 4 Jan 88
 Pte Cunliffe to Miss J. Daniel 16 Jan 88.

MARRIAGES

1st BATTALION
 LCpl Andrews to Larrissa 28 Sep 87
 Pte Braine to Bronia 4 Jun 88
 Pte Bold to Melanie 10 Mar 88
 Pte Bunting to Evelyn 2 Feb 88
 Pte Brown to Jane 16 Dec 87
 Cpl Cowell to Frances 29 Aug 87
 Pte Coles to Janet 29 Apr 87
 LCpl Dunn to Georgina 23 Nov 87
 Pte Dowine Nancy 23 Oct 87
 Pte Edwards to Rhonda 2 Feb 88
 LCpl Green to Sarah 5 Feb 88
 LCpl Gardner to Suzanne 22 Aug 87
 Pte Godbold to Alison 5 Dec 87
 LCpl Hollingsworth to Lousie 12 Sept 87
 LCpl Hilton to Jackie 22 Aug 87
 Cpl Hope to Sharon 5 Sept 87
 Pte Hoddy to Fiona 23 Feb 87
 LCpl Hart to Theresa 3 Oct 87
 Pte Jackson to Carole 23 Mar 88
 Pte Jepson to Sharon 29 Aug 87
 BdsM Keating to Alison 19 Sep 87
 Pte Lewis to Susan 8 Apr 88
 LCpl Mould to Maria 9 Jan 88
 Pte Pierce to Jaqualine 25 Aug 87
 LCpl Ransome to Heather 5 Nov 87
 Pte Szyinal to Nicola 29 Aug 87
 LCpl Smith to Sharon 19 Oct 87
 Pte Thomas to Jacqueline 16 Apr 88
 Cpl Travis to Susan 27 Aug 87
 Pte Thompson to Lynn 4 Dec 87
 BdsM Ward to Lucy 16 Jan 88
 LCpl Winter to Penny 22 Sep 87
 Pte Ward-Wilkinson to Carol 19 Sep 87



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Note 1. There will also be bars and stalls for hot dogs, ice creams etc and a picnic area if you prefer to bring your own food. Box lunch money will be refunded if RHQ is informed by 18 Jul 88 that you are unable to attend.

NOTE 2. Would OCA Branches please send consolidated returns through Area Secretaries at Norwich, Northampton and Warley as appropriate who will co-ordinate contingents from their area.

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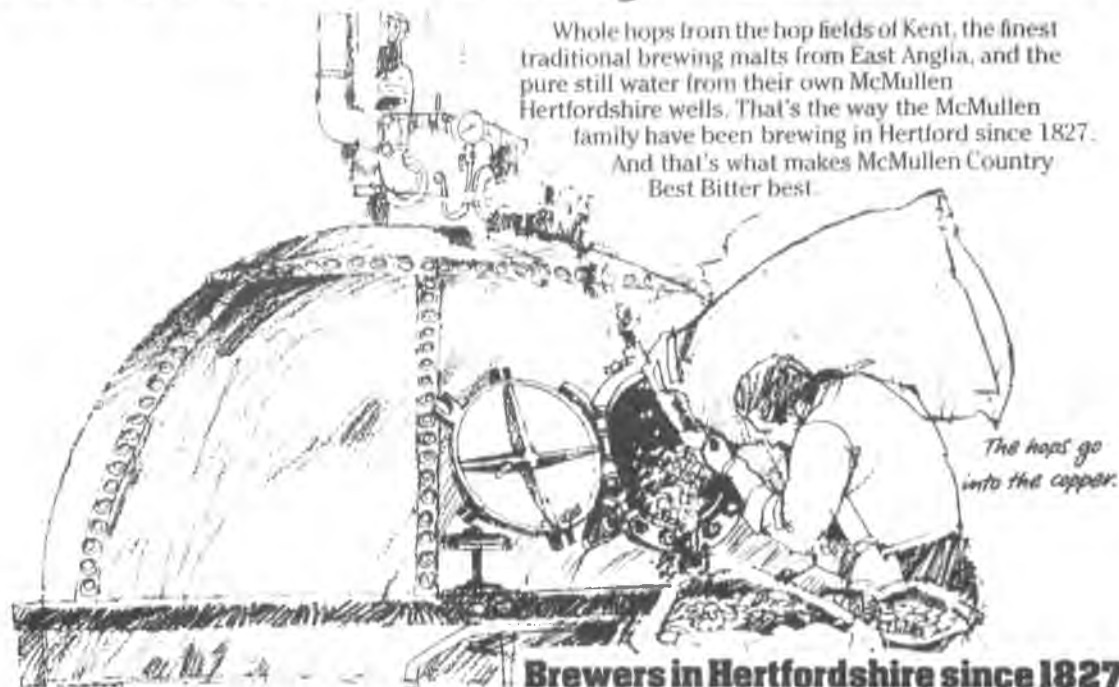


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