

The Die Hards



THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

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THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(57th and 77th)

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.

"Mysore," "Seringsapatam," "Albuhara," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vitoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsular,"
"Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02,"
The Great War—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914," "La Bassée, 1914,"
Messines, 1914, "17, '18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915, '17, '18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Fresenberg,"
Bellewaarde, "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme," 1916, '18, "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood,"
"Pozières," "Ginchy," "Flers-Courcelette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916, '18," "Bapaume,"
1917, '18, "Arras, 1917, '18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917, '18," "Arleux," "Ploeghem," "Lamemarck, 1917," "Menin Road,"
"Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917, '18," "St. Quentin," "Roslères," "Avre,"
"Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Bailleul," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal
du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy,
1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suva," "Landing at Suva," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915,"
"Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18,"
"Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murrman, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

Regular Battalion

1st Bn. (Amalgamated with 2nd Bn. 1948).

Militia Battalions

5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia). } In suspension.

6th Bn. (Royal Middlesex Militia). }

Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Infantry Records, Warwick.

Pay Office—Old Infantry Barracks, Canterbury.

Territorial Army Battalions

7th Bn. (1/7th Bn. and 2/7th Bn. amalgamated after 1920-45 War.

8th Bn. Now 11 Bn. The Parachute Regiment (8th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) T.A.).

9th Bn. Now 595 L.A.A./S.L. Regt. R.A. (9th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment, (D.C.O.) T.A.).

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Officer Commanding 1st Battalion: Lt.-Col. J. E. F.

Willoughby, O.B.E.

Officer Commanding Depot: Major P. D. H. Marshall.

Officer Commanding 7th Battalion: Lt.-Col. W. D. Ellis, T.D.

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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

"The Die-Hards" is published in March, June, September and December, and copies may be obtained by application to the Editor.

All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE TYPED IN TRIPPLICATE, AND BE ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY, and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish the contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts, etc., will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. The Editor will thankfully receive Contributions from past or present members of the Regiment or others interested, but necessarily reserves to himself the right of publication. All communications concerning the paper, including Advertisements, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, The Middlesex Regiment, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

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Chief Editor: Major D. C. L. Nolda
Asst. Editor (Business): Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E.

EDITORIAL

This month we celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of Albuhera. When we come to commemorate the gallantry of those heroes who died in that desperate fight a hundred and thirty-three years ago, let us remember that our enemy then is to-day ranged alongside us in the present fight against tyranny and let us pay tribute to his epic stand at Dien Bien Phu.

We trust that this heroic sacrifice will not have been in vain and that the Allied negotiators at Geneva will not accept a compromise solution for Indo-China which will betray the causes for which the free world must continue to fight, if Communism is to be kept at bay.

On the eve of Albuhera, the Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and their two children, returns to London, after an absence of six months. As the whole nation joyfully prepares to welcome the Royal family's homecoming, we take this opportunity to express, on behalf of all members of the Regiment, our deep admiration of the steadfastness the Queen has shown throughout her exacting tour, which has taken her so many thousands of miles away from her home and children.

In a world of gloom and foreboding, our Sovereign's triumphant progress through her Dominions shines like a beacon to rally the Commonwealth in their fight for freedom, while her selfless devotion to duty sets an example for us all to follow.

The Golf Spring Meeting

A full description of the Golf Meeting appears elsewhere in the Journal, but we feel that special mention must be made of the Cocktail Party which was held in the Depot Officers' Mess to mark the culmination of the meeting.

The Mess was looking its best with an especially lavish display of silver which sparkled and reflected the rich colours of the portraits of some of our more illustrious members. Of great interest was the recent acquisition by the Mess of a head and shoulder portrait of a Capt. Waugh, who served in the 1st Battalion in the American War. Col. Browne is to be congratulated for the part he played in securing this handsome picture which has slipped so naturally into place with our other portraits.

The buffet supper provided by Major Heywood was excellent and altogether it was a most enjoyable evening. It was distressing, however, to find that so many friends whom one had hoped to meet were absent. Despite the

pressure of time and finance on most people's lives, we feel that more effort should be made by those members of the Regiment serving at home to support our Regimental functions.

D.C.L.N.

UNITED SERVICE CLUB PALL MALL, S.W.1

All Regular officers in the Regiment should take note that the Junior United Service Club is now amalgamated with the Senior United Service Club under the title shown above.

All former members of the Junior, irrespective of their type of commission, were eligible to join, and the great majority have done so.

As a life member of the Junior and the Club as now styled, I can without reserve state that the amenities provided are excellent, and include single bedrooms and a Ladies' portion of the Club.

There were always large numbers of our officers who were members of the Junior and thus any member is certain to meet friends if he so wishes.

Very favourable reduced terms are provided for junior officers and for members stationed overseas away from London (depending on distance in miles).

I must add that only Regular officers are now permitted to be members, and that the Club is not open to officers holding other types of commission, unless they were previously Regular officers or were members of the Junior at the time of the amalgamation.

Full details can be obtained on application to the United Service Club secretary, or to myself, and I can support any formal application for membership.

Col. M. BROWNE.

"MIDDLESEX"

The Clerk of the County Council has asked that the attention of readers be drawn to the new edition of the book on our county.

This edition is bound in blue linen and is well illustrated. All aspects of county life are written up and past history is very interesting. Of special interest to our readers is the very first article in the book, "The Middlesex Regiment."

The cost of the book is 10s. 6d., plus 9½d. postage, and can be obtained from the Clerk of the County Council, Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.1.

Forthcoming Events

Officers' Club Dinner and At Home

United Service Club, 116 Pall Mall, S.W.1, on Tuesday, June 29, 1954.

Autumn Golf Meeting

North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, September 25 and 26, 1954.

Regimental Reunion

Seymour Hall, October 29, 1954. Full particulars will be circulated at a later date.



Capt. N. E. G. Willoughby
1914



Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E.
1954

Like his son Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, Capt. N. E. G. Willoughby also held a Regular Commission in the Middlesex Regiment. Capt. Willoughby served in the South African War with the 2nd Battalion. His son holds the distinction of having commanded the 2nd Battalion in 1943, and is now commanding the 1st Battalion. Another son R. W. H. Willoughby also served in the Regiment in the 1939-45 War, when he saw service with the 1st Battalion.

1st Battalion Notes

BATTALION EDITOR:—MAJOR J. W. G. ORMISTON

Change of Command

With the end of the quarter came the departure of the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. R. A. Gwyn, and his wife. To both of them we owe a debt which it would be difficult ever to repay and we shall miss them more than we can possibly say. Col. "Roly" had been with us for nearly four years, of which three were spent in command. His tenure spanned a difficult period, but may safely be said to have been outstandingly happy and successful. Neither he nor Mrs. Gwyn ever spared themselves in working for the comfort and welfare of us all and the last issue of the Journal described but a few of the amenities, which we at present enjoy, for which we are in large measure indebted to them. Their last week was a hectic whirl of farewells which must have tested even their stamina. On March 30 the Colonel made his farewell address to the Battalion drawn up in hollow square. After saying good-bye to

the married families, he and Mrs. Gwyn were drawn in an open Land Rover by the Warrant Officers and Colour Sergeants through lines of cheering troops while the Regimental Band and the Corps of Drums played "Auld Lang Syne" and the Regimental March. It was a most moving occasion and all ranks join, not only in congratulating Colonel "Roly" on his excellent appointment on the staff of the British Joint Staff Mission in Washington, but in thanking him and his family for all that they have done for us in the past and wishing them everything they wish themselves for the future.

It is our great good fortune that Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby should have been appointed as our new Commanding Officer. Both his father and his brother were in the Regiment and he himself is too well known to require any introduction. He left the Battalion after commanding a Company in Korea only some three years ago, since when he has been filling a most respon-

sible and difficult appointment as G.S.O. 1, Headquarters, 3rd Infantry Division. It is a measure of his success that he should have been awarded both the O.B.E. and a brevet lieutenant-colonelcy at the end of his tenure of office. We wish him equal success in command. He can rely upon the unstinted loyalty of all ranks, who bid him and his family a very warm welcome.

Annual Administrative Inspection

Suitably enough, shortly before the change in command came the Annual Administrative Inspection by the G.O.C.-in-C., Maj.-Gen. R. E. Urquhart, C.B., D.S.O., accompanied by a somewhat awe inspiring array of eight staff officers, on March 19. An extremely hectic period of "spring cleaning" preceded the great day as the Battalion had been very much dispersed until the beginning of the month and the snow did not clear from the drill square until some ten days beforehand. The Commanding Officer and 2 IC put all Companies and departments through the hoop with a series of rigorous preliminary inspections (in the course of which "A" Company distinguished itself by winning first and second places in the Battalion kit-laying competition; Ptes. Major (64) and Sheppard are to be warmly congratulated). The Regimental Sergeant Major's efforts were rewarded by a ceremonial parade on which the drill and turn-out fully reached the high standard we have come to demand and expect. The parade was followed by sundry activities which are fully described in Company notes. Suffice it to say that a very satisfactory report was submitted on the Battalion.

Training.

Conditions during an Austrian winter by the nature of things put something of a premium on field training. When the thaw first arrived, the main accent was necessarily on administrative affairs. Immediately the Annual Inspection was over, however, the great cadre machine sprang into life with a vengeance. Changes in establishment had aggravated the normal losses of specialists through release and discharge and the M.T. and Assault Pioneer platoons were particularly affected. The arrival of Lt. Cain, as M.T.O., fresh from Bordon with an "A" on which he is to be heartily congratulated, was an asset, and our most grateful thanks are due to 60 Company, R.A.S.C. (M.T.), our companions at Zeltweg, and Capt. Mumford, their commander, for so kindly undertaking the training of over twenty new drivers on our behalf. In addition to ten separate N.C.O.s' and specialist cadres, over fifty N.C.O.s and men have, in view of the fire-raising gremlins who appear to frequent these parts, been put through special fire courses. Rifle Companies meantime have been energetically occupied with tactical training in the foothills, and the ranges and the gas chamber have filled in any spare moments.

Ceremonial

There has been the usual quota of ceremonial as, apart from the G.O.C.-in-C.'s parade on March 19,

February was a "chairmanship" month in Vienna. Few International Guards can have experienced such bitterly cold conditions as "A" Company, with Guards commanded by Major G. O. Porter and Lt. I. G. Thomas, when it took over from the Americans on February 1. The temperature was some thirty-eight degrees below freezing and, in the circumstances, the Guard and the Band and Drums acquitted themselves most creditably. On March 1 "B" Company Guards, commanded by Lt. W. M. M. Deacock and Lt. I. S. Rutherford, handed over to the French, certain modifications to the normal ceremony being required in view of the light infantry pace of the Chasseurs Alpins.

"B" Company had a busy week-end on this occasion for on February 27 His Excellency Sir Geoffrey Wallinger, K.C.M.G., the newly-appointed British Ambassador and High Commissioner in Austria, paid a formal call on the Commander Vienna Garrison at Schönbrunn Barracks. A further Guard of Honour was staged two days later when Gen. Berusov, a four-star General commanding the Southern Group of Russian Armies, called upon the G.O.C.-in-C. 2/Lt. Lobb was the colour ensign on all the above occasions and each Guard was complimented by the Inspecting Officer on its smartness and precision.

We are now expecting, and looking forward to, a visit from His Excellency at Zeltweg and are hoping that it may be possible for him to be with us on Albuhera Day. His predecessor, Sir Harold Caccia, K.C.M.G., was a very good friend of the Battalion and a charming and complimentary message was received from him on his departure to take up an appointment of the highest importance at the Foreign Office.

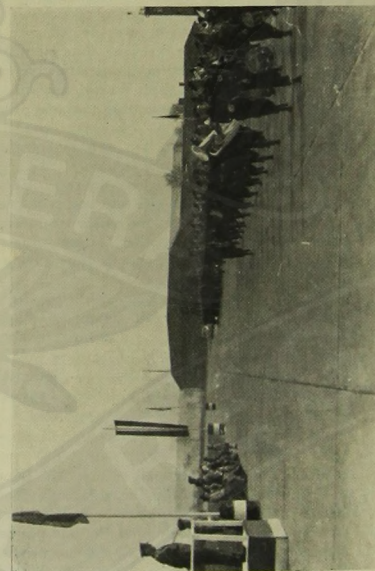
Sport

Throughout January and most of February ski-ing continued to be the order of the day. The B.T.A. Championships formed the climax of the season. After a disappointing result in the Patrol race, the Battalion team ski-ed into second place in the Langlauf and easily won the Class "B" Downhill and Slalom events. By the conditions of the competition, we were limited to entry in the Novices' section as it was our first season. As things turned out most of the team were well up to the standard of the Class "A" and Open sections. Lt. Hayward and Pte. Brain did particularly well.

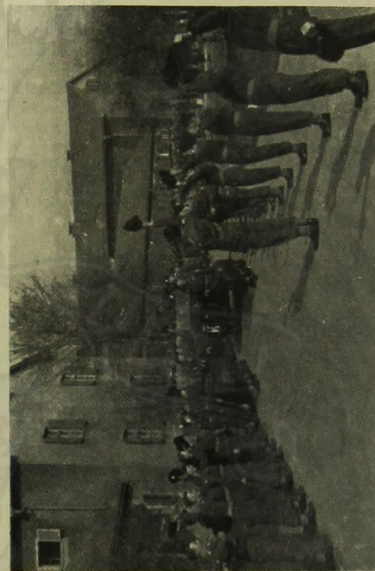
Small bore shooting continued to arouse great enthusiasm and competitive interest. Each of the four monthly shoots in the Command miniature range competition was won by one of the teams from the Battalion and "H.Q.," "C," "D" and "S" Companies therefore qualified for the final. As we go to press this has just taken place and will be reported in more detail in the next issue of the Journal. "C" Company, by consistent shooting, gained a narrow victory over "S" Company, the result being in doubt until the last detail.

The end of the snow brought its inevitable resumption of feverish activity in the more normal fields of sport. This is fully described elsewhere, but certain highlights are deserving of special mention. The Battalion rugby team returned from an invasion of Trieste bearing with them the BETFOR Inter-Unit Seven-a-side trophy.

DEPARTURE OF LT.-COL. AND MRS. R. A. GWYN
MARCH 30, 1954



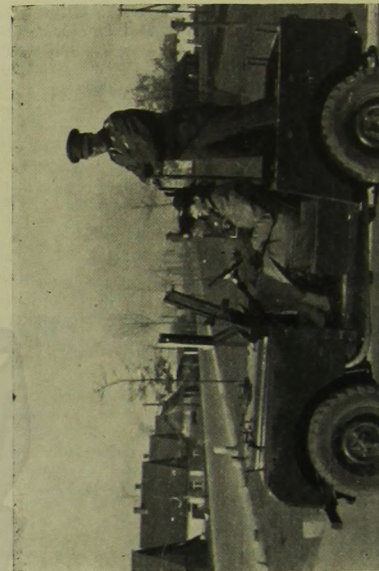
The March Past



Lining the Route



Goodbye to the Old and Bold



And finally away...

The Battalion boxers won every single title in the B.T.A. Individual Championships and none of our entries was defeated in any round except by another member of the Battalion. L/Cpl. O'Rawe and Pte. Howard (95) also distinguished themselves in the Army Championships at home. The hockey team recently beat a H.Q., B.T.A., side composed almost entirely of the team which inflicted such a severe defeat on the B.A.O.R. XI last year and which itself had not been beaten for three years. Stop press news is that the Battalion "A" team has just carried off the Command six-a-side competition, a description of which will be included in the next Journal. H.Q., B.T.A., were beaten in a thrilling final by three goals and three corners to three goals and one corner, the winning goal being scored by R.S.M. Tarrant as the whistle for no-side was blown. Particularly pleasing and encouraging was the performance of our "D" team, entirely composed of young soldiers, who were only beaten 1-0 by the "A" team in the semi-finals.

With six out of the nine competitions completed, the contest for the Albuhera Shield, 1953-54, remains an open issue between "H.Q." Company and "C" Company, who are only half a point behind them. It may well be that the final result will not be decided until the Athletic meeting on Albuhera Day itself.

Opening of the New Cinema

After a year of waiting in patience, the new "Globe" cinema was formally opened with due ceremony by the G.O.C.-in-C. on March 26. The General spoke for all of us when he said how pleased he was that the opening was able to take place before the departure of the Commanding Officer to whose energy and determination, in conjunction with the splendid work of the A.K.C. staff and the Garrison Engineer to whom our grateful thanks are also due, the completion of the project may largely be attributed. Needless to say, the cinema makes an immense contribution to life at Zeltweg and the G.O.C.-in-C. particularly, and we fear justifiably, asked us not to burn it down!

Personalia

We have been delighted to welcome two new drafts from the Depot during the quarter and very glad to see the Adjutants of the Depot and the 7th Battalion, Capt. Moore and Carter, as draft conducting officers. Both very sensibly combined pleasure with business and spent a short spell of well-earned leave in Austria. Another most welcome visitor was Lt.-Col. Henderson, late Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who took temporary command of our 2nd Battalion in Palestine in 1947. He spent a fortnight with us, partly in Zeltweg and partly in Schmeltz, after a ski-ing holiday at Kitzbuhel and was able to renew a number of old acquaintances. He was gratified to find L/Cpl. Stamp still at the wheel of the Commanding Officer's car.

Somewhat less conventional visitors were two parties of French troops, who each spent a fortnight at Schmeltz in March and a Russian mission who paid us a brief visit en route for Klagenfurt on March 10. Their aim, which was not achieved, was to retrieve a deserter who

had sought political asylum. The party, which consisted of the head of the M.V.D. in Austria, a representative of the Military Directorate and a third who, to judge from his emotions, was the deserter's Commanding Officer, was entertained in the Officers' Mess, where they unfortunately evinced much interest in our collection of medals and the photograph of H.M.S. *Unicorn*. As many of the former were won in the Crimea and the latter took the Battalion to Korea, our tact was severely tested!

Finally, we bid the warmest possible welcome to Major Hutchings, who has joined us from being D.A.A. and Q.M.G. of 3rd Infantry Brigade in the Canal Zone, Capt. Cowan from West Africa, Lt. Cain from the Depot, 2/Lts. Humber, McManus and Lloyd from the R.M.A. Sandhurst, 2/Lts. Walden and Langford from Eaton Hall and last but not least to Miss Morrogh who has taken Miss Love's place in the W.V.S. room. Our losses during the quarter have not been severe numerically, but what they lack in quantity they make up in quality. We wish the very best of luck to Major Ayre in his appointment as A.Q.M.G. of Q.M. (11) at the War Office, and congratulate him on his promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel, and to Lt. Clayden, who has left us to become Adjutant of the Depot. We are the poorer for their going.

"H.Q." COMPANY

The first three months of the year were spent in preparing for the Annual Administrative Inspection. On the day, the G.O.C.-in-C. inspected all our stores and remarked on the amount of paint which Companies seemed able to procure before inspections. The corner stones of the porch had been decorated with red, white and black paint for the occasion, thus giving the Company a rather bilious but we hope effective appearance. The signal storeman, L/Cpl. Wheat; the arms storeman, L/Cpl. McDonnell; the clothing storeman, Pte. Wright; the Band storeman, Cpl. Stevens; and the Drums storeman, L/Cpl. Purdon, are all to be congratulated on having produced a first-class show.

We have had some success on the miniature range this season, having obtained one first and two thirds in the monthly competition, for which we received appropriate monetary awards. Sgt. Harris, our coach, has proved a great help to us and we now have great hopes of winning the final on April 23.

We are very sorry to lose L/Cpl. Sansom, who has returned to his civilian employment as solicitor's clerk. We feel that this must be a comparatively easy task after documenting "H.Q." Company. We welcome Capt. A. R. Cowan as 2 IC and Sgt. LeMaitre as Company Orderly Sergeant. Both have spent long periods in Africa at one time or another.

Regimental Band

After an all too short spell of leave, the Band returned to Vienna at the end of January for another International Guard Changing Ceremony. The weather on this occasion was bitterly cold, and if it had not been for the generous supply of anti-freeze alcohol provided by the American Band neither the instruments—nor the players

would have lasted as long as they did. As it was several members nearly exploded by trying to breathe in all the time.

On our return from Vienna, L/Cpl. Holt, Bdsm. Ingram, Dawson, Torrie and Marriott, together with two of our boys, Hazel and Andrews, packed their rucksacks, shouldered their skis and set off with a party from "A" Company for Schmeltz to try their hand. Apart from one broken leg and two bad sprains they all returned fit from the fray.

On February 23, we again travelled up to the big city where, on the same evening, we played at the Forum Cinema for the showing in Vienna of the film of the Royal Tour in New Zealand. For the next few days (very early in the morning) the R.S.M. took us for a "little bit of drill" in preparation for a Guard of Honour on the 27th of the month for the new British Ambassador and High Commissioner in Austria, Sir Geoffrey Wallinger, K.C.M.G. On March 1, we were again at the Hofburg Palace for yet another International Guard. This time the weather was more favourable. That afternoon saw us on the square in Schönbrunn Barracks with "B" Company, who supplied the Guard of Honour for the Soviet Commander, General Beriusov—the Cossack General—a famous defender of Stalingrad. On March 2, we returned to Zeltweg where we stopped the night before travelling down to Klagenfurt the following day.

Our first engagement in Klagenfurt was a Military Band Concert at the Crusader Club on the 4th, and we must here pay tribute to the Drums for their enthusiastic support. The Dance Band's concert the following night was a huge success. Our new lead trumpet, "Dicky" Bird, must be congratulated on a fine performance. On the 6th, we joined forces with the R.A.S.C. at H.Q. B.T.A. for their Guard of Honour for His Excellency the Ambassador.

Our first public concert of the year was given in the Festival Hall at Judenburg to an audience of over five hundred. The proceeds, which amounted to over 2,000 Austrian Schillings, went to the Austrian Avalanche fund. A week later we again entertained the locals, this time in the form of a Retreat-beating in the main square at Knittelfeld, which as usual was warmly appreciated.

In the sporting line the Band are again well to the fore, with Bdsm. Torrie and Carson joining Sgt. Grogan in the Battalion football XI. A team has yet to be found to beat our basket ball champions, who again beat "S" Company by 56 points to 14 when they last met. The hockey match between the Bandmaster's XI and a team picked by the R.S.M. resulted in a 7-3 win for the Band, whose forward line must be congratulated on a very fine game, so, too, must the opposing defence on its steadfast opposition. We have just received the very latest sporting news, in the result of the hockey match played between the Battalion and the famous B.T.A. Camp H.Q. team. At the final whistle the score was 1-0 in the Battalion's favour after a very hard fought game. It is worth mentioning that no fewer than six members of the Band were playing, and Band Sgt. Hannam distinguished himself by scoring the only goal.

This quarter we welcome four new arrivals, namely

Bdsm. Bird and Boys Andrews, Hazel and Poole. We have lost C/Sgt. Street temporarily, as he has been posted to the Depot pending discharge; he will, however, be rejoining us for a short spell during our forthcoming tour at home. In conclusion, we say farewell to L/Cpl. "Pete" Inwards and his wife "Gerry," also to "Our old pal Charlie Fry," who have left us for "Civvy Street." We wish them the best of fortune in their new life.

Corps of Drums

Once again we must record another successful "change-over" of the International Guard in Vienna. This took place on March 1, and was watched by the now familiar crowd of Austrian civilians and representatives of the four occupying powers. Later on that day the Band and Drums had the privilege of leading the March Past for the Russian General Beriusov when he visited Schönbrunn Barracks.

There have been some changes in our "family" within the last three months. The long form of Cpl. New is now in the wilds of "Civvy Street" with L/Cpl. Humphries and, by the time this edition of the Journal comes out, L/Cpl. Purdon will have joined them. We wish these three stalwarts all the very best of luck for the future. We welcome Cpl. Poulter to the fold. Some of the older members of the Battalion may remember his father, Drum Major Poulter. We also welcome two younger brothers of present members—Drms. Stannard and Jeffries.

We settled down at Zeltweg to a long period of normal training on our return from Vienna. For those among us who can shoot well there is sniper training to relieve the common ground. The younger members are being introduced to the mysteries of the flute, which has caused some occupants of the married quarters to enquire whether or not the Battalion had purchased some more pigs. However it was not long before we were back to ceremonial duties. The parade for the Annual Administrative Inspection went off well and the G.O.C.-in-C. visited our stores. The General nearly caused one of our members to have heart failure by asking to see the inside of his locker, but all was well.

We have beaten Retreat twice recently; once at the opening of the new Cinema, by ourselves, and once with the Band in Knittelfeld. They were both successful and the occasion in Knittelfeld was marked by the vast crowd of civilians who turned out to watch. We had planned to beat Retreat within the Garrison, but this was unfortunately cancelled due to bad weather.

Signal Platoon

Whilst we were enjoying our short stay at Schmeltz during December the Battalion was busily engaged in the reshuffle of accommodation necessitated by the recent fire. We now find ourselves in Block III with the wireless, battery and line stores, cadre room, R.S.O.'s Office and N.C.O.s' sleeping accommodation on the top floor and the two barrack rooms on the floor below.

February was mainly spent in the cadre room brushing away the winter cobwebs on our knowledge of "matters Signalling" and it was not until March that we managed our first voice procedure exercise with some notable

humorous results. One enthusiast returned to the stores so late that we imagined him frozen to his set, a constant warning to those sinners who omit to calibrate! However, by mid-March the snow was beginning to vanish and we managed to get out on local exercises more frequently, spending a lot of our spare time on the football pitch and in "moving" the garden.

We were visited over the period of the administrative inspection by the G.O.C.-in-C. who inspected both our accommodation, and us in P.T. kit. L/Cpls. Wheat and Morley were at hand to answer the General's many interesting questions in the wireless and battery stores, a feat which they performed nobly. Cpl. Freeman was away in Vienna for this period but has since returned to aid the Battalion soccer team, with L/Cpl. Colston in goal and Pte. Young at half-back. Only the R.S.O. plays rugger for the Battalion which is a disappointment as in the past we have been proud of our prowess at this sport. However, perhaps next season we shall do better. L/Cpl. Small keeps the platoon up to the mark at basket ball and we have an above average soccer eleven, considering ourselves unlucky to lose to the M.T. by the odd corner in the Easter inter-platoon six-a-side competition.

Sgt. Bailey is at present busily engaged in teaching on the seven week cadre that started on March 22, and will certainly have earned the U.K. leave he hopes to take with his family in the summer. Cpl. Cheesman after six weeks leave is about to start his course at Hythe and should return to us in August. We wish him luck. Cpl. Mead is on leave in U.K. and we all join in congratulating him on his recent marriage. Cpl. Freeman too is in U.K. but we hope to see him still single on his return if only to avoid disappointing the Zeltweg girls. Cpl. Turner is a veritable Geoff. Duke keeping the motor cycle section up to standard whilst Cpl. Forey has been working very hard with the cadre and well deserves his promotion.

We have just said good-bye to Pte. Smith (41) who left us to take up a job on the R.S.O.'s home telephone exchange; interesting work! We lose quite a number of our older stalwarts and the whole of the "Queen's draft" in the summer and shall be very sorry to see them go. We have quite a few new N.C.O.s to congratulate on their appointments—L/Cpls. Colston, Morley, Fulton, McCorry and Small, the last named having just done exceptionally well on the N.C.O.s cadre.

We now look forward to exercise "Ploughboy" in May, a five-day Battalion exercise in June, Warmbad Classification and Schmelz, with cricket and swimming for good measure. One never knows, though; perhaps our next report may come through loud and clear by bush telegraph.

"A" COMPANY

"A" Company spent the first month of the year as "Duty Company" in Vienna. In early February we moved to Schmelz for three weeks winter training and finally returned to the Battalion at Zeltweg after an absence of what, surprisingly enough, has been a quarter of a year. At Zeltweg we joined "C" Company to make up the two rifle companies in station for the Annual Administrative Inspection.

The programme for the Company's second tour of duty in Vienna contained, in sobering fact, a fair amount of work. Emphasis was placed on the C.S.M.'s daily drill parades, held in preparation for the International Guard Changing Ceremony on February 1, when we formed the British Guard for the take-over from the Americans. Drilling on the garrison square was made impossible by the presence of what the newspapers were calling "the white death." This resulted in most of these parades being held in a rather unsuitable M.T. hanger, until—with the aid of picks, shovels and an improvement in the weather—the square became usable once more, just in time for the arrival of the R.S.M. with the Band and Corps of Drums. Incidentally, the G.O.G.-in-C., Maj.-Gen. R. E. Urquhart, C.B., D.S.O., watched part of one of these final rehearsals and complimented the Company on the standard of the drill. We had expected cold weather on February 1—but no one had expected the cold weather we actually got. A sub-zero temperature created an almost arctic freeze, the bands found difficulty in playing their instruments in key, and even the hot tea and rum which C/Sgt. Bream had brought along with us seemed powerless against the cold. But, in spite of this, the ceremony and march-past went very well and everybody was pleased by a fitting close to our two months in Vienna. Major G. O. Porter and Lt. I. G. Thomas commanded the Guards and 2/Lt. D. E. Lobb was Ensign to the Regimental Colour.

On February 9, we were taken to Schmelz in the swaying cars of what must be the longest aerial-railway in Europe. The long, silent journey high above the Austrian countryside was an interesting experience.

While we were in Vienna most of us had attended a first-class ski-ing course under excellent instructors. So when we went to Schmelz we were not exactly unaware of what we were being let in for. However, we soon discovered the secret of ski-ing—which is this: you are going to fall down anyway, so you might just as well get as close to the ground as possible and then let your skis go... and you *should* go with them. You will probably begin by waddling around like a penguin, but there is always a chance that after three weeks you will be skimming like a swallow. Anyway, only four of us failed to pass the final tests. When the time came to leave we all had our photographs taken in front of the "log cabins," looking very healthy and tanned. The daytime at Schmelz was spent very actively, but in the evening—if you were able to do something more energetic than sleep—there was the canteen in which to eat, drink and be merry, films twice a week and, of course, the W.V.S. We want to thank the Camp Commandant, his staff, and the "early pioneers" from "S" Company, for their transformation of Schmelz into a holiday centre.

Returning to *terra firma* on March 2, we moved into new accommodation. Our individual role in the Annual Administrative Inspection was twofold; we were to demonstrate the duties of an "Internal Security" Platoon, and secondly the Company Block was to be inspected by the G.O.C.-in-C. From somewhere or the other C.S.M. Wild produced several large tins of paint in the Company colour, and very soon the Block and everything standing within a wide vicinity had been either painted red or scrubbed white, with the inevitable

result that some said we looked like a fire station. The "Internal Security" demonstrators were divided into two parts; the platoon, commanded by 2/Lt. Riches, and the "mob," enthusiastically led by Sgt. Partridge and Cpl. Martin. The platoon could never tell what the "mob" would do next, and showed resource in dealing with the highly unexpected. It was a thoroughly sound demonstration and helped to make our part in the inspection go smoothly and satisfactorily.

Since going to Vienna last December we have had little time for tactical training, and in preparation for the forthcoming Command Spring Exercise, we have been out on a series of small schemes. In the first of these, a 36 hours exercise, 2/Lt. Walden led a composite platoon into the hills. Late at night he was attacked by Major Porter and a band of picked "enemy." The "enemy" claim to have passed the sentries and reached the heart of the camp, but the sentries claim to have heard them coming when they were at least half a mile away. As the "enemy" wished to retreat to their beds at Zeltweg they called an early armistice, and the sentries returned to their sentry duties.

We congratulate L/Cpls. Butcher, Mills, Pollecutt and Speck on their appointments, and—for a rather different reason—we congratulate also Pte. Hills, who disappeared on leave to England and, while there, took the opportunity of getting married. Congratulations too to Ptes. Major 64 and Sheppard, who on March 20, found themselves chosen as the best "kit-layers" in the Battalion.

Comings and goings slowed down for the first two months of the year, and "membership" of the Company remained fairly static until March, when Sgts. Partridge and Redmond, and Cpls. Spenceley and Butterfield, wandered away as the result of well deserved promotions, and we were joined by Sgt. Edey, Cpls. Silley and Ebbage. During the general dearth of subalterns owing to leave, courses etc., 2/Lt. Walden joined the Company on posting and ably coped with the bewildering amount of platoon work that promptly became his "lot in life."

Owing to the snow we concentrated on ski-ing during our last month in Vienna, and the only sporting fixtures, apart from inter-platoon matches, were against the Garrison R.M.P., whom we beat in competition 22 shooting and at basketball. Throughout our stay at Schmelz there were of course no fixtures at all, and so our sporting life did not really begin until we returned to Zeltweg in March.

At Zeltweg we kicked off the football season in fine style by defeating the Band 2-1 in a "friendly." Since then we have beaten "S" Company 4-0 in a league game, but in two further league games lost to "B" and "C" Companies. Cpl. Martin and Pte. Stanley have both proved of value to the Battalion football XI, and Pte. Wheat is another fast player. At the moment he is captain of the Company team.

The strength of the Company hockey team is in its very firm defence. This is mostly because of the sound "stopping" by Major Porter and he and Pte. Drewett are the only members of the Company who regularly turn out for the Battalion team. Although the punch in the attacking line has recently been increased by the addition

of Cpl. Silley, the Company's need at the moment is to increase this punch still further. Probably as a result of this need two of our four league matches have been drawn (2-2 against "C" Company and 3-3 against "B" Company). Of the other two league matches, one was lost against the redoubtable "H.Q." Company side, to the tune of 9-0, and we in turn gained the other by beating "S" Company 5-1 in a very fast and clean game.

Under C.S.M. Wild the Company basketball team trained very hard while we were in Vienna. Since our return our only fixture has been against "S" Company on March 23. This game was notable for the outstanding triangular passing between C.S.M. Wild, Cpl. Martin and Pte. Wheat. The final scores were "A" Company 26 points and "S" Company 16 points.

Pte Rogers, a welter weight with a fine easy style, still holds the excellent record of having won every match in which he has boxed for either the Company or the Battalion. He last fought for the Battalion against an Austrian team, the E.S.V. Knittelfeld, and helped to earn the Battalion's 13 points, although unfortunately this did not prevent the E.S.V. winning the tournament by a margin of 4 points. At present he captains the Battalion team.

At the moment we are in training for cross-country running. L/Cpl. Mills, Ptes. Gosden and Bockhart have proved themselves outstanding when in competition with the rest of the Battalion. We are confident of being able to produce a running team strong enough to challenge all comers.

We should like to end these few sports jottings by saying how sorry we were to say goodbye to Cpl. Martin in March. Throughout his National Service Cpl. Martin has been one of the Company's outstanding all-rounders. His prowess on the sports field will be missed by both the Company and the Battalion.

The Company's immediate programme, as we have already said, is full of tactical training in preparation for the Spring Exercise. Later on we shall fire the annual range course at Warmbad. In the summer we hope to return to Vienna.

"B" COMPANY

The beginning of this quarter saw the Company at Schmelz, where business and pleasure were combined in affording us an ideal winter holiday thinly disguised as duty. The members of the Company met with varying success. For instance Capt. Hodge spent the two weeks permanently headfirst in a snow drift, his crossed skis making a perfect X to mark the spot. C.S.M. Thom soon adjourned to his bed with his manuals to try and find out just what it was that went wrong with that stem turn. Cpl. Lowater, L/Cpl. Brain, and Ptes. Palmer and Newton, however, all gained places in the Battalion team which later in the season carried off the B.T.A. ski-ing trophy.

On our return from Schmelz we were busy preparing for our move to Vienna, where on February 1, in bitterly cold weather a combined guard from "A" and "B" Companies took over the International Guard duties from the Americans. A month later we handed them



Guard of Honour found by "B" Company for General Berusov at Schonbrunn Barracks, Vienna, on March 1, 1954. Lt. W. M. M. Deacock in command.

over to the French. During our tour of duty we found Guards of Honour for H.M. Ambassador and for General Birusov, a visiting Russian General of considerable standing. Photographs of this latter guard have already appeared in the press at home as a result of which we are daily expecting to hear that both Mr. J. Arthur Rank and Mr. Sam Goldwyn are seeking the services of the handsome officer who figured so prominently in them. On both occasions we were warmly congratulated on our drill and turnout and credit is due to all those who formed the guards and the warrant officers who succeeded in teaching us to drill as one man.

We are now back in Zeltweg and the bright lights are only a pleasant memory. The Casanovas of the Company should remember that we have a party line in our Company office set-up and therefore the cooings into the telephone of their lady-loves in broken English can all be monitored.

In the world of sport we have not done too well except as soccer. We think we will carry off the Soccer Competition, and four of our Company team, Cpls. Teer and Longman and Ptes. Ward and Osborne have gained their place in the Battalion team. Among our victories was a resounding win by six goals to two against a representative team from the rest of the Battalion.

We congratulate Sgt. Edey, Cpls. Teer, Longman, Lowater and Ebbage, and L/Cpls. Darville, Stamp, Halsey and Friend on their promotions but we were sorry that in three cases this promotion also meant their departure from the Company. We welcome the 50 new arrivals to the Company and wish Ptes. Butters and Cocksedge success in their return to civilian life.

And now with the surrounding hills a mass of wild flowers and spring obviously upon us, we are looking forward to the field training of which so far we have only heard whispers.

"C" COMPANY

After the Christmas and New Year revelry, we settled down to prepare for Schmelz and three weeks ski-ing. The Company made the most of the nursery slopes both at Zeltweg and further afield. When Sgt. Smith, L/Cpl. Hartard, and Ptes. Brand, Cairns, Hillier and McBrinn returned from Schmelz, where they had been receiving pre-course instruction, they astonished the Company by turning on skis at a time the height of ambition for most of us was to go ten yards without falling over.

On January 19, we moved up to Schmelz for three weeks. The baggage party was greatly intrigued by a small box marked "Fragile," which seemed to weigh a ton, and was accompanied by a massive iron bar. On inspection it turned out to be 2/Lt. Gedye's box of weights which he had brought up to Schmelz for training. For the first few days a blizzard swept the upper slopes, and forced the Company to concentrate on the lower, more sheltered slopes, which were soon covered with falling bodies. After reaching minus 25 degrees Centigrade the temperature started to rise steadily, so much so that the snow began to melt towards the end of our course.

The Company progressed by leaps and bounds. This was largely due to the skill and perseverance of the instructors, and also to their oft-repeated and even more oft-obeyed injunction, to drink schnappes and beer to "make you more keen," as Walter put it. The instructors tried to make this injunction as easy as possible to follow, since wherever they took their squads there always seemed to be a convenient Gasthaus at the end of a climb up a mountain, and just before a run down.

On the Sunday before we returned to Zeltweg, the Company "sat" for the B.T.A. ski-ing test. Thirty-

two out of 41 passed, C.S.M. McMillan personifying the Company's determination to pass by the way he had practised the previous Saturday afternoon, and then passed all the tests first time. Congratulations must also go to 2/Lt. Crumley, L/Cpl. Simons, Ptes. Abrams, Holmes, Greenwood and Redmond who competed so well in the Battalion Team at the B.T.A. Championships.

After Schmelz, Cpl. Butler and L/Cpl. Shinn left the Battalion to go to the Depot as Training N.C.O.s. There they will join Cpls. Pryor and Buckley who left the Company last November. We have also lost two storemen, Pte. Danks who has been demobbed and Pte. Day has gone to "D" Company as groundsman. "Pop" Day incidentally was the only member of the Company to ski from Schmelz right down to Judenburg. His explanation of this feat was that he got stuck in a rut in the road at the top and could not stop until he got to the bottom. Our best wishes for the future go with these four.

In exchange we welcome Cpl. Lowater, who comes to us from "B" Company, and Cpl. Wood and the new draft, who after many delays and postponements finally joined us in Vienna. We also welcome Major Dawson who joined us in Vienna as our new Company Commander, and 2/Lts. Langford, McManus and Humber on first appointment. Major Dawson had had temporary command of "B" Company for about five weeks, and previous to that had been the Local Garrison Adjutant.

Congratulations to C/Sgt. Bartle on his promotion to W.O. II, L/Cpls. Hart and Hartard to full Corporals and to Ptes. Norris, Redmond and Willson to L/Cpl. C.S.M. Bartle was one of the mainstays of the Company .22 shooting team, and he will also be a great loss to the Company hockey team. As C.Q.M.S. in his place we welcome C/Sgt. Thorogood from "S" Company.

On our return from Schmelz, everyone was kept busy preparing for the Annual Administrative Inspection. Apart from the purely administrative side of the inspection, the Company had to provide a mass P.T. demonstration for the General and this kept us both very fit and very occupied.

With all this work going on we still found time to compete in the Albuhera Shield competition. At soccer we beat "A" Company 6-0 and "S" Company 5-1, but lost to "H.Q." Company 2-3. Outside the competition we also beat a "D" Company-cum-60 Company R.A.S.C. side 7-5. We still have to play "B" Company. The side appears to be equally strong both in defence and in attack. Pte. Bentley has been very successful as captain and coach of the team which consists of:— Cpls. Lowater and Dyson, L/Cpl. Redmond, Ptes. Bentley (captain), Blay, Frost 06, Griffin, Wilson 45, Harrison, Cairns and Carter.

The six-a-side indoor hockey which the Company played before going up to Schmelz had improved our stick work and ball control enormously as the smooth floor of the hanger made it doubly difficult to control the ball. We drew with "A" and "B" Companies and beat the hitherto unconquered "H.Q." team. We lost in a non-Albuhera competition game to the "D" Company and 60 Company R.A.S.C. side, which had been strongly reinforced by the Band. The team

consisted of:— Capt. Leonard, 2/Lts. Crumley and Gedye, C.S.M.s McMillan and Bartle, Sgts. Smith and Potter, Cpls. Dyson and Lowater, L/Cpl. Redmond, Ptes. Bentley, Elford, Blay and Fullman. Our XI was undefeated in the Albuhera league and finished second to "H.Q." Company.

The basketball team under Sgt. Potter's guidance is flourishing. To date we have only lost one game against "H.Q." Company and are second in the league. The following who constitute the team are to be congratulated:— Sgt. Potter, Cpls. Hart (31), Hart (91), McIntosh, Ptes. Gregory, Cater, Frost 06 and Frost 95.

The .22 shooting team looked full of promise before we went up to Schmelz in January. It is true that we came third in the monthly competition as opposed to being first in December, but our actual score was 13 points higher. In February and March however our scores and positions fell dismally, possibly owing to the fact that in February we had little time between Schmelz and the competition. We hope to do better in the future.

At present we are in Vienna and looking forward to our two months here.

"D" COMPANY

In this the shortest quarter of the year, it is surprising how the personnel of our Company, the smallest in the Battalion, has changed. Since the New Year we have welcomed the following from various companies and E.R.E. postings elsewhere in B.T.A.:— W.O.II Butcher, R.A.E.C., Sgt. Turner, L/Cpls. Skippon, Richardson, and Ptes. Burns, Blaydon, Clayden, Cornew, Goldsmith, Lythaby, Palmer and Whithread. Over the same period we have said *au revoir* to the following who have left us in the search for better employment and prospects:— C.S.M. Firman, C/Sgt. Colebeck, L/Cpl. Silley and Ptes. Ambler, Bockhart, Hersant and Lightfoot.

Our congratulations go to "D" Company Office, Sir, Pte. Sacker speaking" on passing his Grade B II Clerk course and on his subsequent appointment as Lance Corporal, and also to L/Cpls. Berrill and Richardson on taking the first step up the ladder to fame and a Field Marshal's baton.

In fact the notes for this quarter comprise a mass of congratulations to a variety of the members of the Company for their part in an even greater variety of skull-duggery. We congratulate the Company .22 shooting team on reaching the finals of the B.T.A. Small Bore Competition by winning the February round with a score of 942 out of a possible 952. Our chances in the final will be hampered by the absence of two of our best shots Cpl. Bunnage and Pte. Whithread on leave in the U.K. but, undaunted, we go forward in the full knowledge that with the material at hand we are bound to come in the first four (the other three being the other finalists).

Major Martin, who is now enjoying a well earned spell of leave, was a keen skier and it must have been a great joy to him to hear that S/Sgt. Heydon had won two events in the B.T.A. Ski-ing Championships. We congratulate him and Cpl. Atkinson who was also placed in the Open Event. Still showering these congratulations on everybody we now turn to another branch of

sport—the Sports Quiz which is so popular with the producers of the B.F.N. programme (but not necessarily with the troops). The Battalion decided to enter a team in the inter-unit knock-out tournament which was recently started. Apart from the fact that the whole team was drawn from the Company, it may be judged how truly representative of the Regiment the team was when we congratulate the four concerned—S/Sgt. Heydon, R.A.O.C., Sgts. Kitching, R.E., Lewis, R.A.E.C. and Howorth, R.A.O.C.—on the excellent show they put up in the first round when they just lost to a team from Klagenfurt. Congratulations also go to Sgt. Lewis on being picked to play for the Battalion rugby team on the Trieste tour and on being selected to play for B.T.A. in their match against Trieste's best.

So far this year the Company has played four games of hockey, our only success being the rather surprising defeat of "C" Company by three goals to one. It is only fair to say that it was mainly due to some outside help from the Band that we managed to field a side at all that day, although it was a member of our own Company, L/Cpl. Aird, R.E., who scored all the goals.

Our football season opened slightly more favourably as after losing our first game with "S" Company 3-1, the team soon settled down together and in the next match beat "A" Company by 8-4. Since then they have not looked back, neither have they lost any more matches. The Company team at present is as follows:—S/Sgt. Heydon, Sgt. Fry, Cpl. Atkinson, L/Cpls. Aird, Berrill and Rudd, Ptes. Ilbury, Burns and Whitthred, Dvrs. Taylor and Cuddily (60 Company R.A.S.C.).

Last but certainly not least in our long list of congratulations is a warm welcome to the newly born son of our C.S.M., C.S.M. Goodge. It is understood that the new arrival has all the attributes of the good Sergeant Major since he has been yelling at all and sundry since the day of his arrival. There is no truth in the rumour however that his name has already been entered on the Colour Sergeants Shadow Roll.

The next quarter, bringing with it some better weather, should produce much activity. We shall soon be celebrating Albuhera Day, and also firing the Annual Range Course at Warmbad. That, together with anything that the higher-ups may think up for us should give us plenty to write about in our next notes.

"S" COMPANY

The chief highlights of the last quarter were the arrivals and departures, the Annual Administrative Inspection and, of course, our Winter Sports (on a no cost basis).

Our Officer Commanding, Major Ayre, left us in February for the rigours of the War Office where we understand he is becoming an indispensable cog in the Cabinet planning machinery. He handed over to Major Allott, who in turn handed over to Major Clayton on his return from the School of Infantry. Despite the fact that the latter two officers are brothers-in-law, we are pleased to announce that the hand over and take over passed off without incident! At the moment Major Allott is on temporary loan to "D" Company, but we are delighted to hear that he is still qualified to shoot for us in the final of the B.T.A. .22 Competition.

Lt. Cain arrived in March, hot from an M.T. course and took over the reins as M.T.O. He obtained an "A" on his course which is no mean feat and we most heartily congratulate him.

C.S.M. Budden left in January with his family and chose to get involved in a series of avalanches on the way home. We are most relieved to hear that neither he nor his family suffered any ill effects but we feel that, after his successes on wireless and T.V., he now has a gnawing desire to replace Gilbert Harding in "Whats My Line"!

C/Sgt. Kenrick returned from leave and was promoted C.S.M. vice C.S.M. Budden. We are very pleased particularly so as he remains in the Company. Congratulations.

C/Sgt. Burgess arrived from "A" Company in the New Year and is proving himself a veritable wizard with all types of Quarter mongery. In addition he has been the driving force and inspiration behind our very successful .22 shooting team.

Sgt. Thorogood has most deservedly been promoted C/Sgt. but, alas, he leaves the Company in April to join "C" Company. The M.M.G. platoon and Company sports teams will miss him greatly.

The Company has been split to the four winds since Christmas and only really reassembled as a Company in March. For most of the time 50 per cent. of the Company were at Schmelz and the remainder doing the daily chores at Zeltweg. Our skiing prowess increased by leaps, spills and bounds but our sporting ability on the football and hockey fields went haywire. We feel rather ashamed of our lowly position in the sporting world but are grimly determined to do or die in the future. Our boxers retrieved our reputation in the B.T.A. Boxing Championships and did extremely well. We congratulate L/Cpls. O'Rawe and Petrie and Pte. Kent for winning their weights, and Ptes. Hayden and Blackwell for magnificent losing fights in the finals. In addition L/Cpl. O'Rawe won the light middleweight boxing championship of London District.

The return of half the Company from Schmelz was the signal for the most intensive preparation for the Annual Administrative Inspection. We emerged triumphant from the storm and the inspection itself proved mere child's play compared to the rehearsals.

Intensive Mortar, Machine Gun, Assault Pioneer, Driving and Maintenance, Carrier Driver and Carrier Driver Conversion cadres started on the Monday following the inspection and are still in full swing. We hope that these cadres will enable us to keep the Company up to full strength until at least the end of the year.

We are extremely proud of our .22 shooting team which won the monthly B.T.A. competition in March and so qualified for the final in which we have the greatest hopes. The team has done very well indeed not only individually but as a team.

Finally, to end on a sad note, the whole Company offer their very deepest sympathy to Sgt. and Mrs. Moyse on the grievous loss of their youngest child.

Motor Platoon

The New Year started for us up at Schmelz still acting as administrative party, but all of us knew that

we were nearing the end of our tour. Some of us who came down to Zeltweg were able to welcome our Platoon Commander back from leave, but soon to be taken away from us to act as 2IC of "B" Company in Vienna.

We then started to prepare ourselves for the Annual Inspection when we gave a demonstration with our indispensable weapons by firing sand-filled bombs. The G.O.C.-in-C. seemed suitably impressed!

On March 22, we started our first cadre of the year, training replacements for our "demobees." Notable amongst those leaving us in the near future are L/Cpl. Howe and Pte. Osborn.

Sgt. Power is a recent newcomer to the platoon and after some pre-course instruction has now left us for Netheravon where we wish him every success.

We are now looking forward to field firing at Schmelz in the summer but sincerely trust that there will not be so many long carries this year.

Machine Gun Platoon

During the months of January and February the platoon as such was virtually non-existent due to the fact that the majority of members were at Schmelz revelling in the snow. By March 19, we were again in one piece and successfully weathered the Administrative Inspection. On the sporting side Ptes. Kent and Spurge travelled with the Battalion rugby fifteen to Trieste, and L/Cpl. O'Rawe must be congratulated on winning the light middleweight section of the London District Boxing Championships. Sgt. Young has achieved his ambition by taking over as Platoon Sergeant on the promotion of C/Sgt. Thorogood. A M.M.G. cadre has been running since March 22, and the Platoon is going all out this year to win both Machine Gun Cups.

Anti Tank Platoon

As was expected, the termination of the 120 mm. conversion cadre meant that the Platoon would very largely become split up, and "Zeltweg routine" would become the order of the day rather than training. Several members departed with Capt. Pike for the Schmelz Ski Training School to join the permanent staff; others were fortunate enough to proceed home on leave, while the remainder stayed at Zeltweg for the normal duties. However, nearly all the members of the Platoon did have the opportunity to visit Schmelz at periods between January and March, where it was not all work and no play judging from the great proficiency achieved by various members in ski-ing. In addition it may be recorded that the Anti Tank Platoon had no ski-ing casualties, which was not the same story with other platoons in the Company.

At the beginning of March, Schmelz was closed and the Platoon gradually came together again. The impending Annual Administrative Inspection left us no time to idle, and what with checking tools, cleaning guns and carriers, Battalion and Company fatigues, not to mention rehearsals for the parade, every one had plenty to do. The Platoon, in conjunction with other platoons of the Company, put on a demonstration for the G.O.C.-in-C., who showed the greatest interest in the 120 mm. and expressed his appreciation of what he saw.

Personalities come and go, and the Anti Tank Platoon has been no exception in this respect. Quite recently we bade farewell to Cpls. Bunce and Forcey, and wish them well in "Civvy Street." New arrivals from rifle companies have been sent to swell our ranks, and they seem to have settled down to everyone's satisfaction, including the C.S.M.'s! In addition Ptes. Taylor and Evans 37 are to be congratulated on their recent appointments as Lance Corporals, while Pte. Hayden must also be congratulated on his grand work with the Battalion boxing team.

In conclusion we must unfortunately end on a sad note. All ranks were sorry to hear about Sgt. Moyse's grievous loss of his youngest child and all would like to offer their fullest sympathy to him and Mrs. Moyse in their bereavement.

Assault Pioneer Platoon

After a very busy year the Platoon happily packed up their military impedimenta and went on leave *en bloc*. This was timed to cover the Christmas period.

Our return found the Company at Schmelz. Amidst wonderful Alpine scenery we tried our hand at ski-ing. Falls were frequent and though we were most often down spirits could not have been higher.

Now that the Platoon's establishment has risen considerably, cadres are the order of the day. Drivers are studying wheeled vehicles ready for the changeover. Friend and foe are remarking "What is 'S' Company coming to." There is no doubt that the carriers will be handed back with mixed feelings.

It was thought that we would be bidding goodbye to Pte. Armstrong in this issue but with two days left we are glad to say he re-enlisted.

M.T. Platoon

The past quarter has been spent repairing the ravages which "Mudlark" caused to the vehicles and preparing for the arrival of our new vehicles.

Now that "S" Company are about to lose their carriers in favour of jeeps and trucks, Driver Training cadres are flourishing under the auspices of 60 Company R.A.S.C. In the M.T. Platoon we are eagerly awaiting the arrival of new vehicles and new drivers to make up our many losses during the past few months.

During the quarter the M.T. had the honour to provide a Land Rover for the G.O.C.-in-C. to ride in while inspecting the Battalion. A few days later the same Land Rover carried Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Gwyn on their farewell journey through the Battalion lines.

Since the last edition the platoon has lost the acting M.T.O., Major Allott, Ptes. Spencer, Boreham, Ward and Cfn. Mackerell and Murray. We wish them all good luck in their new surroundings.

In their place we welcome Lt. Cain as M.T.O. and the new drivers and craftsmen. We are also pleased to welcome another veteran of M.T. in L/Cpl. Males from the Depot.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The members of the Zeltweg Garrison W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess extend to Sgt. and Mrs. Moyse their deepest sympathy in their recent sad bereavement.

This quarter has seen several new faces appear in the Mess and the following are to be congratulated on their promotion to Sergeant—Sgts. Partridge, LeMaitre, Marable, Edey and Redmond. Our congratulations also go to W.O. II Bartle and C/Sgt. Thorogood on their respective promotions. Early in the New Year we said farewell to C.S.M. and Mrs. Firman who left Austria to join the 7th Battalion and C/Sgt. Street and Sgt. Simpson were also given a rousing send-off as they left for their respective destinations. Sgts Edey and Steward left us to go to the School of Infantry at Hythe where they are attending a Platoon Weapons Course and Sgt. Power has gone to Netheravon for a 3-in. Mortar course. We all hope that they may do as well as Sgts Simmonds and Partridge who brought back two "B" gradings from their Hythe course for which we offer congratulations which also go to C/Sgt. Burgess and Sgt. Weller who each passed three subjects towards their first class certificate and to Sgt. Cubitt who obtained two subjects in the same examination. It is hoped that the results of the March examination will give them all a complete certificate.

On March 31, a farewell party was held for C/Sgt. Street and Sgt. Simpson both of whom were leaving the Battalion after having been with it for some considerable period. C/Sgt. Street, with his musical ability and his cheerful manner, will no doubt be as much a success in civilian life as he was in the Regimental Band—the good wishes of all members go with him in his new venture, and in remembrance of his long service and ability to maintain the bar accounts at their usual level the Mess presented him with a beautiful Austrian musical cigarette box suitably inscribed. Sgt. Simpson, who has still a few years left to serve, has been posted to the Depot for onward routing to West Africa.

At the beginning of April, we said *au revoir* to Lt-Col. Gwyn on completion of his tour with the Battalion. The outgoing and incoming Commanding Officers together with some of the senior officers of the Battalion were invited to the Mess one evening for a quiet drink and in order to "ring out the old, ring in the new." On behalf of the Mess members the R.S.M. presented Col. Gwyn with a beautiful glass domed Austrian clock suitably inscribed, and in a short speech relived some of the past four years during which the Colonel had served with the Battalion.

At the same time, on behalf of the Mess the R.S.M. welcomed back to the Battalion an old friend in Lt-Col. Willoughby, who for some time was with the Regiment in Korea and Hong Kong, and the R.S.M. assured him of the loyalty of the Mess and said how pleased they would be to serve under him. In his reply Col. Gwyn said how grateful he was for all the work done by the members of the Mess that had helped to make the Battalion run efficiently and well throughout his tour of duty. He went on to say how pleased he and his wife were with the presentation of the clock and in return a shield bearing the Regimental Crest and suitably inscribed was presented to the Mess.

As is the custom from time to time the Corporals' Mess were invited to the Mess one evening during the quarter to match their skill with the Sergeants at a variety of

games. As was to be expected, playing on their home ground as they were, the Sergeants came out as easy victors but it was decided that our sporting guests could not leave the Mess without a trophy of some sort so with all due ceremony the R.S.M. called on the President of the Corporals' Club, Cpl. Metzger, to accept on behalf of the members of the Sergeants' Mess a small token of their regard for their worthy opponents. The trophy was a really first-class bit of workmanship, being a globular shaped plastic container with a beautifully ornamental handle on one side to which the Corporals will no doubt give a place of honour in the Corporals' Club.

The quarter, which apart from the above has been rather quiet, ended on a lively note when we entertained some of the Mess members of the Klagenfurt Sergeants' Mess after the Battalion had defeated the B.T.A. team at hockey by one goal to nil. This was no mere pyrrhic victory since the H.Q. B.T.A. side has remained unbeaten for the past three years and were all set to tear the pants off the Battalion team. The game was fast and furious with lots of mid-field play and it was only due to the truly great feats of Sgt. Marable in goal that no goals were scored against us. The Battalion team played very well and congratulations go to several members of the Mess who were playing and especially to Sgt. Hannam who scored our one goal.

With Easter upon us once more one of the humourists on the Entertainments Committee decided that in order to save that tedious dressing up in one's Sunday best to go to the Mess on a Saturday night, a "Tramps" Ball would be held in lieu.

The Ball was a great success, and much credit was due to the work put into the Mess beforehand by the members of the Committee who spread sawdust on the floor, stuck empty beer crates round the walls for the weary to recline upon and lit candles in the necks of empty beer bottles so that the discriminating could see what it was they were drinking. The prizes for the worst dressed tramps were awarded to C/Sgt. Perry and Mrs. Griffiths (1st) and Sgt. Warner and Mrs. Jackson (2nd). A good time was had by all and it was comforting to know that the crate you were sitting on would at least stand up to a little knocking about which put it above the ordinary Mess furniture straight away.

On Easter Sunday a party from the Sergeants' Mess, using the Regimental bus, took a trip to "Snow White's Castle" from which Walt Disney got his ideas for the film "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." There is no doubt that the castle is one of the prettiest in Europe and we are very fortunate in being stationed so nearby that we can enjoy a picnic in its surrounds whenever we wish. The day was very nice, spoilt only by a chilly wind, and all who went thoroughly enjoyed their outing in the sometimes all too fresh air.

Throughout the quarter darts has proved a great favourite with the Mess members and in spite of the fact that there are few opportunities of meeting worthwhile opponents, C/Sgt. Perry and Sgts. Burns, Marable and Moran are to be seen most weekends surreptitiously fleeing the other would-be darts players in the Mess.

All members congratulate Sgt. and Mrs. Walden on

the birth of a son, and all will join in saying *au revoir* to Mrs. Padley, wife of the Drum Major, who recently

returned to the U.K. and whose wit and humour will be sadly missed by many.

THE BATTALION SKI TEAM Winners of the B.T.A. Novices Trophy, February, 1954



Standing (left to right): 2/Lt. D. E. C. Vince, 2/Lt. W. G. A. Crumley, Mrs. Gwyn, "Rudi," Lt. M. V. Hayward, Pte. Newton, Lt.-Col. R. A. Gwyn, Pte. Holmes, L/Cpl. Simons, Cpl. Lowwater. Kneeling: Ptes. Harrison, Spurge, Greenwood, Palmer, Brain and Abrams.

SPORTS

Ski-ing

Shortly after the New Year we had several heavy falls of snow, and ski-ing began on the slopes near barracks. One instructor was kept down at Zeltweg to instruct those unfortunate people who were not able to go to Schmelz. At the ski camp the first heavy fall of snow was greeted with great enthusiasm. "B" Company were able to go much further afield for their training instead of being cramped together on one slope where there had been just sufficient snow. Snow fell every three or four days for about a fortnight, and "B" Company had to spend several hours treading down snow before being able to ski.

In the middle of January, Lt. Hayward was at last dragged away from his "Ski-ing Paradise" and Capt. Pike replaced him as Camp Commandant. His first task was to get the camp in ship-shape order for the

G.O.C.-in-C's visit at the end of January, and by dint of everyone working overtime and the prompt assistance of the Quartermaster this was accomplished to the General's expressed satisfaction.

In spite of the cold (on many nights the average temperature was 30 degrees below 1) and the very many heavy falls of snow, the camp continued to flourish. Rifle Companies found Schmelz a welcome change from the routine of Zeltweg, enjoyed their inexpensive ski-ing holiday, and found the air (and appetites) most bracing. Accidents did happen, but fortunately none was fatal and the camp M.I. Room proved equal to all emergencies. Shortages of fuel created something of a problem but by shutting down certain rooms and generally contracting the camp, the difficulty was eventually overcome.

Each Company went up to Schmelz for a period of three weeks ski training under seven expert instructors.

"C" Company followed "B" Company in the middle of January. The snow conditions were by then very much better, and very little new snow fell so that ski-ing progressed well without having to be interrupted by the treading down of slopes. In the middle of February "A" Company took over from "C" Company and were almost immediately greeted with warm sunny weather, although it was still cold at night. Spring snow began to form making ski-ing even more pleasant. They had however rather more minor accidents than the other two companies probably due to the faster snow conditions.

At most week-ends, numerous visitors from Zeltweg (and further afield) made the somewhat alarming and perilous journey to Schmelz on the cable railway, but were generally "unfrozen" by hot tea in the messes or by Sgt. Simpson's special brew from the canteen. Among the visitors were Col. and Mrs. Parker of H.Q. B.T.A., Lt.-Col. Henderson, Royal Warwicks, and a merry party from the 1st R.H.A. stationed in B.A.O.R. All, it is believed, had a very enjoyable stay and expressed the hope of returning next year.

At the beginning of March, it was decided to close down Schmelz, leaving a small rear party of one N.C.O. and five men to "caretake" the camp. The sad occasion was relieved by a grand Sergeants' Mess social and the ski instructors were given a "bumper" party in the Officers' Mess to finish off the proceedings.

On February 13 and 15, the B.T.A. Patrol and Langlauf races were held at Klagenfurt. Our teams had been training at Schmelz for these gruelling races during "C" Company's period there. In the Patrol race we had bad luck in that one of our competitors was taken ill. However, we managed to gain fourth place which was a reasonably creditable performance considering the circumstances. Two days later we entered ten competitors in the Langlauf race and gained second place. Conditions were not easy as a partial thaw had set in. On February 16, the Downhill and Slalom teams went to Schmelz for five days extra training before going to the Kanzel for the Command championships. Snow conditions were perfect, and the two instructors put us through some very strenuous training. While training at the Kanzel prior to the B.T.A. Meeting we stayed at Klagenfurt. Once more snow conditions were perfect and we made full use of the four ski lifts which saved endless time and energy and enabled us to do far more ski-ing than is possible in a comparable time at Schmelz.

Being our first winter in Austria we were qualified to enter only for the Novices events. The Downhill race took place on February 25. Tension ran high as this was our first competitive ski-ing and we were not sure how high the standard would be. The team however did very well winning both the inter-unit and individual competitions. We had also secured a fair number of points towards the B.T.A. Novices Ski Trophy, but we knew it was necessary to get a lot more in the Slalom on the following day. The Slalom course was very easy and once again we managed to win both competitions and so secure the trophy.

Our placings in the various competitions were as follows:—

Team Events.—Patrol Race, 4th; Langlauf, 2nd; Downhill, 1st; Slalom, 1st.

Individual Events.—Langlauf—4th, Pte. Palmer; 8th, Cpl. Lowater. Downhill—1st, Lt. Hayward; 3rd, Pte. Brain. Slalom—1st, Lt. Hayward; 2nd, Pte. Brain.

The teams were:—

Patrol.—2/Lt. Crumley, Cpl. Lowater, Ptes. Palmer and Newton.

Langlauf.—2/Lt. Crumley, Cpl. Lowater, Cpl. Hindin, L/Cpl. Simons, Ptes. Palmer, Abrams, Greenwood, Holmes, Brain and Musgrove.

Downhill and Slalom.—Lt.-Col. Gwyn, Lt. Hayward, 2/Lts. Crumley and Vince, Cpl. Lowater, L/Cpl. Simons, Ptes. Brain, Spurge, Harrison, Abrams, Greenwood, Palmer and Newton.

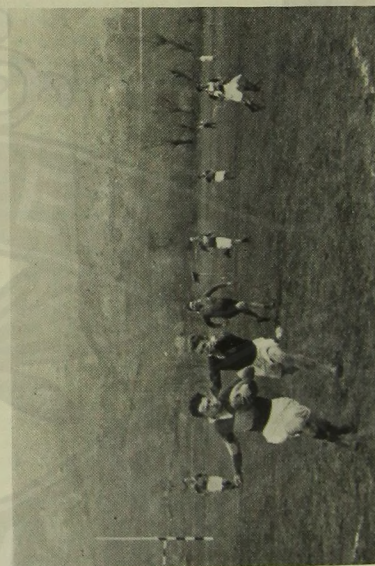
Rugger

The second half of the season opened on March 17, with a Garrison trial game. Though not producing a very high standard of play it was a useful preliminary to the Zeltweg, Vienna, and Graz Zone B.T.A. trial on March 20, and the final B.T.A. trial on March 27, as well as giving some idea of the potentialities of the Battalion team to tour Trieste from April 1 to 7.

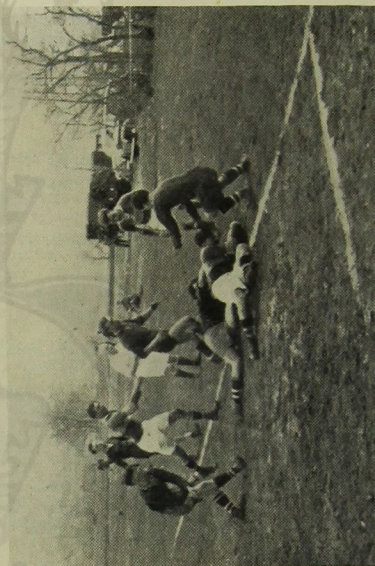
The touring side, 19 strong, left Zeltweg in the small hours of April 1, and spent the whole day travelling, arriving in Trieste that evening. The BETFOR seven-a-side competition for which we had entered two teams was played the following day with the final on the Saturday. In the first round the "B" team were beaten 9-3 by the Suffolks due largely to faulty tackling by the three quarters. 2/Lt. Lloyd played a good game in the forwards and Pte. Kent played well at stand-off to score our only try. The "A" team were given a walk over by the R.E. team in the first round and were faced with the difficult task of beating the two best home teams in the draw to reach the final. The V.G. Police were the first hurdle and the Battalion won a hard game 13-5. The whole team played exceptionally well with the three-quarters employing the kick ahead to good advantage. In the semi-final we met the Suffolks "A" team whose strength lay in their outsides, all of whom represent BETFOR. In beating them 5-0 most of the praise must go to the threequarters who using the same tactics as against the V.G.P.F. never allowed the opposition to warm up. In both these matches the tries were shared by Sgt. Lewis and Pte Dixon with Sgt. Lewis kicking a good penalty and making a lot of ground with his touch finding. In the final we played the R.E.M.E. and were perhaps a little overconfident. It was a scrappy game and not up to the standard of the previous two matches, though we eventually won 11-5. The scorers were Lt. Pollard, whose try was converted by Sgt. Lewis; Pte. Dixon, a very fine run-away try; and Sgt. Lewis who kicked a penalty. The Chief of Staff BETFOR presented the Cup to the team and at the end of his speech of congratulations said he hoped we would be able to defend our title in April, 1955.

The day following the Sevens the whole team spent the day by the sea at Miramare celebrating on scamp, ravioli, and spaghetti much to the amusement of on-

WINNERS OF THE BETFOR SEVEN-A-SIDE RUGGER TRIESTE, APRIL 3, 1954



Pte. Dixon breaking away in the semi-final v. 1st Suffolk "A"



Lt. Pollard crossing the line in the final v. R.E.M.E.



The Winning "A" Team. Standing: Pte. Green, Pte. Dixon, Lt. J. S. B. Pollard, Lt. W. M. M. Deacock. In front: Pte. Gate, Sgt. Lewis, 2/Lt. W. G. A. Crumley



Enjoying the "fruits" of victory. Ptes. Kent, Green, King, Elliott, Gate and chianti and chianti

lookers more practised in the art of eating these dishes. On the Tuesday we played a fifteen-a-side match against the 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment and lost a hard game 16-3. The score however hardly does us credit. In the forwards we had the best of the set scrums and line-outs, with Lt. Deacock using his height to good advantage and our outsides played well despite the absence of 2/Lt. Crumley through injury. Only in the loose were we really beaten and then with the Suffolk outsides running and passing well our defence made a gallant attempt to hold their more experienced opponents. Pte. Green at full back and Pte. Kent in the centre tackled well and Pte. Tate provided his customary sound service from the base of the scrum. The Suffolk team played very well together and made maximum use of their fast threequarter line. Had 2/Lt. Crumley been fit and Pte. Green able to play in the scrum we might well have made the score more respectable.

Six of the team remained in Trieste to play for B.T.A. against BETFOR and the V.G.P.F. on April 10 and 11—Lts. Deacock and Pollard in the scrum Pte. Tate and Sgt. Lewis at scrum-and-fly-half respectively and Pte. Dixon and Cpl. Stevens in the threequarters. Against BETFOR the B.T.A. team seemed to be put off by the elements—a howling gale and a sun baked pitch full of ruts—and never got going though Lt. Deacock, Sgt. Lewis and Pte. Tate played well. For the match against the V.G.P.F., B.T.A. fielded an "A" team captained by Lt. Pollard which put up a far better performance against heavier, faster opponents to lose 6-14. Sgt. Lewis kicked two excellent penalties.

As a result of the poor showing by B.T.A. against BETFOR in Trieste, for the return match at Zeltweg on Easter Saturday 2/Lt. Crumley was brought in at centre and 2/Lt. Lloyd played in the forwards. We thus provided eight of the Command team. Again BETFOR outplayed us though in the forwards we were on top for most of the game. The tackling of the outsides was poor in defence and generally the threequarter line was playing below its best with Sgt. Lewis tending to kick too much. Our one try scored by Cpl. Stevens and converted by Sgt. Lewis was no answer to BETFOR's 27 points.

On Easter Monday we fielded a Garrison team against BETFOR "A" and were beaten fairly soundly 16-3 though at half-time we were only three points down. We were without Cpl. Stevens and Pte. Dixon, but Pte. Kent proved a useful substitute. Pte. Tate and Sgt. Lewis again worked well together as they have throughout the season and in the forwards L/Cpl. Pride, 2/Lt. Lobb and Pte. Elliott were prominent.

We have now only the B.T.A. seven-a-side to play before the season ends on May 1. We have entered two teams and hope that Capt. Jordan who has captained B.T.A. this season will be playing for us. With the Company in Vienna also providing some of its Battalion rugby players whom we have not seen since our return from Trieste we should be able to field two fairly strong teams.

The season viewed as a whole has been an encouraging one. We have built up a good pack and now lack only a threequarter line thoroughly reliable in defence. The tour to Trieste was most enjoyable even if not one

hundred per cent. successful due in both cases to the 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment who entertained us most royally for a whole week in their barracks and provided us with our only defeats! We hope we shall be able to entertain them here next year.

Soccer

We have made rather a disappointing start to the second half of the season but there is every hope that we should get together as good a team as we had before the snow by April 17, the date of the semi-finals of the B.T.A. knock-out competition. Three of the prospective Battalion team have been in Vienna and our goalkeeper L/Cpl. Colston and Pte. Mercer (A.C.C.) have been away on leave. Pte. Ward of "B" Company should prove to be a valuable asset to the team since we hear that he has played for "Spurs" "A".

We have played one game against a local team, that of the mining village of Pöls, and four in the B.T.A. "A" League. The following scores tend to be misleading since opposition has been very weak except for that of R.E.M.E.: v. Pöls, won 5-2; v. F.S.S./R.A.P.C., won 7-3; v. R.E.M.E., lost 1-2; v. Camp H.Q. B.T.A., drawn 1-1; v. Royal Signals, won 3-1.

The Albuhera Shield Competition is now in full swing and it is expected that the best struggle of all should be between "H.Q." Company and "B" Company.

Hockey

Our last hockey notes found us in the middle of a six-a-side league being played in No. 2 Hanger.

Unfortunately, owing to commitments at Schmelz and Vienna, some teams were unable to complete their fixtures with the result that the league was abandoned in the middle of January. As expected, the Sergeants' Mess team was leading at that time, being undefeated in the five matches that they had played. The runners-up were "C" I, with four victories to their credit.

Hockey was then forgotten for a while, as most people seemed intent on trying to break their legs (or necks) on skis rather than on the hockey field. However, as soon as the thaw set in the two pitches on the air-strip were cleared and re-marked, and after each Company had had the opportunity of holding trials in which to select representative sides, competitive hockey started in earnest in the form of the Albuhera Shield Inter-Company League.

The first game was played on March 15, and the whole programme was completed in just under a month.

"H.Q." Company were the winners once again, but although they had easy victories over "A" and "S" Companies, they only managed to beat "B" Company 2-1 (in the closing stages of the match), and were held to a draw by "C" Company. "C" Company were actually leading 2-1 two minutes from time, but their defence had to concede the equaliser to Sgt. Hannam, in spite of a very gallant display.

Highlights of the competition were: (a) the hard-fought game between "B" and "C" Companies in Vienna (the only game to be played away from Zeltweg), which ended in a draw 5-5. Pte. Spittles of "B" Company, who led their attack, distinguished himself by

scoring all his team's goals. Then (b) the consistent goal-scoring record of Sgt. Hannam, making him top scorer of the competition with 11 goals, and (c) the wealth of talent unearthed by C.S.M. McMillan in "C" Company's team.

Albuhera Shield, 1953-54.

Hockey Inter-Company League Results

"A" Company.—Lost to "H.Q." Company, 0-9; drew with "B" Company, 3-3; drew with "C" Company, 2-2; beat "S" Company, 5-1.

"B" Company.—Lost to "H.Q." Company, 1-2; drew with "A" Company, 3-3; drew with "C" Company, 5-5; beat "S" Company, 3-0.

"C" Company.—Drew with "H.Q." Company, 2-2; drew with "A" Company, 2-2; drew with "B" Company, 5-5; beat "S" Company, 7-1.

"S" Company.—Lost to "H.Q." Company, 0-7; lost to "A" Company, 1-5; lost to "B" Company, 0-3; lost to "C" Company, 1-7.

"H.Q." Company.—Beat "A" Company, 9-0; beat "B" Company, 2-1; Drew with "C" Company, 2-2; beat "S" Company, 7-0.

Coy.	Pld.	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Agst.	Pts.	Position	Pts. for Shield
"H.Q."	4	3	1	0	20	3	7	1st	5
"C"	4	1	3	0	16	10	5	2nd	4
"B"	4	1	2	1	12	10	4	3rd	3
"A"	4	1	2	1	10	15	4	4th	2
"S"	4	0	0	4	2	22	0	5th	1

Now that we are the only major unit in Austria, it is rather difficult to arrange outside matches. But in hope rather than in expectation, we arranged a series of Battalion trial games to select the team for this season, having to replace, among others, Lt. Clayden, who was one of our most regular players, and who had done so much, as Officer i/c hockey, to improve the standard of hockey in the Battalion. We shall miss him a great deal, but he will, of course, add strength to the team at the Depot.

As a result of our trial matches, the following team represented the Battalion in our first fixture of the season, against the formidable Camp H.Q., B.T.A.: Sgt. Marable, Major Porter, Bds. Ingram, R.S.M. Tarrant, Bds. Dawson, Bds. Rose, Pte. Smith (98), Bandmaster Jackson, Sgt. Hannam, Sgt. Grogan and L/Cpl. Taylor. There were no representatives from "B" and "C" Companies, as they were busy handing over/taking over guard duties in Vienna.

The grass pitch in the centre of the athletic ground was in perfect condition. The match was held as part of a series of B.T.A. trial matches to select a team to play BETFOR in May, and great interest was aroused because the opposing team contained quite a number of established B.T.A. players. Added to which, they had not been defeated for three years.

To the delight of our many spectators and ourselves we emerged the victors by the only goal of the match, which was scored from a short corner. The scorer was Sgt. Hannam. It was indeed a thrilling match.

Our defence played heroically, and special mention

should be made of Sgt. Marable's superb anticipation as goalkeeper. He retrieved many a desperate situation by first-class kicks, which invariably reached the half-way line and initiated another attack by our forwards.

This win has given us great confidence and we now look forward to the coming B.T.A. knock-out competition and the six-a-side tournament with even more keenness than before.

Boxing

Our first fixture after Christmas was in the form of a return match with the E.S.V. Knittelfeld, the local Austrian Club. The venue was the Volkshaus in Knittelfeld, and it was obvious from the start that our opponents were out to revenge their previous defeat. Despite the absence of four of our usual boxers, the Battalion team put up a very plucky show, losing by 17 points to 13. Pte. Rogers and L/Cpl. Petrie won their respective bouts, the former beating the Styrian champion quite easily. Pte. Mathews was awarded a somewhat dubious "draw" by the Austrian officials after his fight, while many of the other bouts proved very near things. The E.S.V. presented us with a mounted banner, for which we thanked them in rather startling, if correct, German. The banner now resides in the Sergeants' Mess.

L/Cpl. O'Rawe and Pte. Howard (95) went home to the U.K. to compete in the Army Individual Championships. The former lost in the final of the Eastern Command Championships, while Howard won through to the Army semi-finals.

After the E.S.V. match, Pte. Rogers was appointed team captain and L/Cpl. Petrie vice-captain, and we started full-time training for a match against the 2nd Battalion 350th Infantry Regiment, U.S. Army. Unfortunately the fixture had to be cancelled at the last minute, due to the Americans' insistence that boxers must wear headgear in the ring. We hope, however, to hold the fixture later, should the problem be resolved.

We ended our season with an entry of fourteen in the B.T.A. Individual Championships, which were held in the NAAFI at Zeltweg on April 9 and 10. We did very well, but the competition was rather starved of outside entries.

The results of the finals were as follows:

Feather ..	Pte. Matthews (Mx.) beat Pte. Hayden (Mx.).
Light ..	Pte. Howard (96) (Mx.) beat Pte. Blackwell (Mx.).
Light Welter ..	L/Cpl. Petrie (Mx.) beat Pte. Finch (Mx.).
Welter ..	Pte. Rogers (Mx.) beat Pte. Boyne (R.A.S.C.).
Light Middle ..	L/Cpl. O'Rawe (Mx.) beat Pte. Gaylor (Mx.).
Middle ..	Pte. Kent (Mx.) beat Signm. Scrivner (R. Sigs.).
Light Heavy ..	Pte. Newlands (Mx.) beat 2/Lt. Lloyd (Mx.).
Heavy ..	Dr. Stannard (Mx.) w.o. Pte. Jones (Mx.).

The performances put up were first class, particularly by Pte. Rogers and Pte. Mathews among the winners and by two very plucky losers in 2/Lt. Lloyd and Pte. Blackwell.

Thanks are due to all those who helped to train the team and run the various meetings this season. We have had a fine boxing spirit, but unfortunately very little outside competition on which to expend it.

Depot Notes

It is often truly stated that when people have nothing to say they talk about the weather. If we begin with the weather here it is not because we have nothing better to discuss, but because in the period under review the subject was very much in the forefront of our thoughts. A pleasant December and early January raised hopes of a mild winter; but the end of January was cold and threatening, and February proved to be the worst for many years. Bitter winds, snow and sub-zero temperatures dominated all our activities, and cut down training very considerably. Our high and exposed position, and the respectable antiquity of our plumbing arrangements made us particularly vulnerable. Although forethought preserved the most essential services, there were few taps, cisterns, and pipes that escaped the big "freeze-up." The 21st Intake of recruits, who arrived on February 4, must all most heartily have wished that they had been born a few months later. Everything possible to alleviate hardships was done, and everyone carried on with their work cheerfully.

The thaw, although welcome, brought with it the usual tally of burst pipes. C.S.M. and Mrs. Budden were the most unfortunate, being literally swept from their house by a sea of water. Winter memories are fading now in the enjoyment of a really lovely spring. Easter leave coincided with a spell of the finest April weather imaginable.

Training

Intakes of recruits have been rather reduced in size. On February 19, the 20th Intake passed out 46 strong, at a parade taken by Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E., and attended by many relatives and friends of the recruits.

Medals were awarded as follows:— Best Recruit, Pte. Mahoney; Best Rifle Shot, Pte. Woolley; Best L.M.G. Shot, Pte. Mahoney; Physical Efficiency, Pte. Hughes.

The Service which followed the parade was the first to be held since the redecoration and refurbishing of the Garrison Church. Its greatly improved appearance is due largely to the efforts of our Padre, Rev. J. M. Scutt, M.A., and 10 Command Workshops, R.E.M.E., who made the new furniture and to the Garrison Engineer for certain alterations. We are indebted to the Regimental Association for a generous grant of £75 and to Col. Rooke who gave the sum of £5 towards the expenses of equipping the Chapel.

The 21st Intake passed out on April 14. The parade was taken by Lt.-Col. C. M. Man, M.C., who commands the Army Air Training and Development Centre.

Medals were awarded as follows:

Best Recruit	Pte. Anton.
Best Rifle Shot	Pte. Fletcher.
Best L.M.G. Shot	Pte. Homer.
Physical Efficiency	Pte. Homer.

We are most grateful to the Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion The Coldstream Guards and 3rd Battalion The Grenadier Guards, who gave permission for their Corps of Drums to play at these parades.

The 22nd Intake will have passed out by the time these notes are published. Their entry into the Army was heralded by a somewhat unusual event. The B.B.C., who were about to add a National Serviceman to the ever-increasing family of "Mrs. Dale's Diary," spent some time here collecting material. When the new Intake arrived, they joined Pte. Ashton at the gate and followed him around all day, taking notes. Pte. Ashton is to be congratulated on his game survival of this ordeal.

The next two Intakes, which are due to arrive in May and June, are each expected to be over 70 in number. It looks as though we shall be fully extended throughout the summer.

The only major alteration in training has been the introduction of new rifle and L.M.G. courses; these are much less elaborate than the former courses, and would appear to give a clearer indication of the firer's true ability with his weapons.

On a different plane the Depot took part in an exercise on March 19 in which the operational role of London District was tested. The only disturbing moment was when a very senior and very irate Staff Officer arrived in the small hours of the morning, and demanded to know why a particular order had not been carried out. Luckily the Adjutant was able to show that the order had not been passed to us, and the weight of the Olympian wrath was transferred to the unfortunate Signal Officer of District Headquarters.

SHOOTING

Open range shooting started in earnest in February for all members of the Depot Permanent Staff. The reason for starting early in the year was to enable us to select a Depot team to shoot in the London District Rifle Meeting. In addition, it has given opportunity to all ranks to practice firing the "new" Annual Range Classification Course, introduced this year for trial. Firing took place at the same time as the Recruits did their Instructional and Qualifying Courses on Purfleet and Rainham Ranges.

The London District Rifle Meeting was held on Pirbright Ranges between April 20 and 23. The Depot entered teams for the four matches that were open to Regular units on the strength of London District. Members of the Depot team were:

Major P. D. H. Marshall, Capt. J. S. C. Flavell (team captain), C/Sgt. Dodkins, Sgts. DaCosta, Mason and Beeslee (R.E.M.E.), Cpl. Willmoth, L/Cpl. Giles, Ptes. Gifford, Murray, Miles, Rowe, Homer, Fletcher, Crowley, Ilbury and Rowson.

On the first day, nine members fired off individual matches and although the weather conditions were not perfect, good scores were made which were well above the average obtained throughout the day. A total of £7 18s. od. in prize money was won.

The remaining three days were devoted to the team matches and although we did not start off too well, we finally "pulled it off" by winning the "Household Cavalry and Special Reserve Challenge Cup."

This very fine trophy is competed for by all units other than Battalions of the Brigade of Guards. The competition is fired at 300 yards and is divided into three practices which are fired consecutively without the competitors leaving the firing point. These were:

- (a) Timed—10 rds. in 4 mins. at 4ft. target.
- (b) Rapid—10 rds. in 40 secs. at 4ft. target.
- (c) Snap—10 rds., 6 exposures of 22in. snap target.

This team competition was the only one of the four

fired in which straightforward shooting was required and it was therefore more than gratifying that the team was successful and won the best cup in the Class open to us. In addition, the team received the total of £20 11s. 10d. in prize money for scores and positions throughout the whole of the meeting.

Detailed results of team matches were as follows:

Household Cavalry and Special Reserve Challenge Cup.—1st, Depot Middlesex, 668 pts.; 2nd, Guards Depot, 663 pts.; 3rd, H.C.T.C., 593 pts. Total of eight teams entered.

The District Units Challenge Cup.—1st, R.A.S.C., London District; 2nd, Depot Middlesex; 3rd, 10 Command Workshops, R.E.M.E. Total of four teams entered.

Company Fire and Movement Competition.—Depot Middlesex, 9th place. Total of 22 teams entered.

The Dewar Trophy.—Depot Middlesex knocked out by Guards Training Battalion in the 1st Round.

DEPOT RIFLE TEAM

Winners of the "Household Cavalry and Special Reserve Challenge Cup" London District Rifle Meeting, Pirbright, April, 1954.



Photo by J. J. Chivers, New Barnet

Standing (left to right): Pte. D. Murray, Cpl. P. Willmoth, Pte. B. Gifford.

Seated (left to right): Sgt. A. Mason, C/Sgt. R. Dodkins, Capt. J. S. C. Flavell, Sgt. A. Da Costa, Sgt. A. Beeslee (R.E.M.E.).

OTHER EVENTS

On April 1 we took part in the London District Catering Competition. We were fortunate that the relaying of the cookhouse floor with red tiling was completed in time to give a more cheerful atmosphere to the kitchens. We were awarded a total of 79.8 per cent. The placing of units has not yet been announced, but we feel that we acquitted ourselves well, and the Messing Officer, Sgt. Stubbings and his cooks are to be congratulated.

On April 8 the officers of the Depot were invited to attend a lecture at the 7th Battalion Drill Hall in Hornsey. The subject was the Russian Army and was most effectively and unusually presented. We were rather relieved to hear that the Russian Army has many problems, too!

On April 13 the A.D.M.E. inspected our vehicles. Again the final report has not been received, but the M.T.O. managed to get a look at the examiner's notes, and they appeared to be more than satisfactory.

An occasion of rather less military nature took place on February 9. A blood transfusion team visited the Depot and appealed for blood donors. The response was so tremendous that the team found that they had not brought enough equipment to deal with the flood of volunteers and there was a slight delay while reinforcements were brought up.

Now a new quarter is under way. Our accounts have been audited (without too many comments) and preparations are being made for our Annual Administration Inspection in May, an account of which, will no doubt, (if printable) appear in the next issue of the Journal.

PERSONALITIES

Ave atque vale

The comings and goings of officers and sergeants generally are recorded under their respective Mess Notes.

Here we shall only mention a few of them, Capt. H. J. A. Moore handed over the reins of office to Lt. B. K. Clayden, and sternly set his face towards the rigours of service in Hong Kong. He has arrived there now, and we hope he has become acclimatised to the air-conditioning in his office, cigarettes at 1s. for 20, laundry that returns in a day, gin that is almost as cheap as water, and all the other privations that he must suffer for the next few years. We are all most grateful to Capt. Moore for all the hard work and tremendous enthusiasm he put into his appointment as Adjutant at the Depot.

We congratulate O.R.Q.M.S. Waldron on his promotion to Lieutenant (Q.M.), and on his appointment as Quartermaster of the 1st Battalion. He has been replaced in the Orderly Room by C/Sgt. Redpath, B.E.M., who is now, we are pleased to report, quite well again after his long illness.

C.S.M. Jacques has left us for employment with the Embarkation Staff, Southampton. His successor is C.S.M. Budden, who returned from the 1st Battalion with his family in a train that was snowed up in Austria, and hit the headlines of the Press. On their arrival in England, the Budden family appeared on Television, and cinema newsreels throughout the country.

Other losses to the Permanent Staff were Sgt. Beedle,

to the London Assembly Centre, L/Cpl. Males (after many years stalwart service in the Quartermaster's Office) and Ptes. Meekings, Robinson, and Sargent to the 1st Battalion.

Cpl. Jones and Ptes. Musk, Milton, Jays and Tasker, have all left the security of Army life for the jungle of civvy street. To replace these heavy losses we have welcomed Cpls. Sharpe, Butler and Biggadike, and L/Cpls. Jefford and Shinn from the 1st Battalion.

To all arrivals and departures we wish the best of good fortune in their new duties.

We congratulate the following on their well earned promotions:—

To Corporal: L/Cpls. Stanford, Shinn, Payne and Finnissey.

To Lance Corporal: Pte. Cox.

In Passing

Capt. Adamson arrived from Malaya in March. He is attending a Company Commanders Course at Westminster, and expects to join the 1st Battalion in July, where he will meet many old acquaintances from the 2nd Battalion.

Capt. Gray paid us a visit in April. He has left the Embarkation Staff at Liverpool, and is on his way to a post in G.H.Q., Singapore.

Capt. C. N. Clayden and Capt. S. E. Honess managed to tear themselves away from the Staff College one day in March to pay a call at the Depot. Capt. Clayden has been in hospital with a leg injury, but is now recovered. They both say they are working very hard.

Our latest entry from Sandhurst, 2/Lt. Lloyd spent a few days here before going on to the 1st Battalion.

We were very pleased to see Lt.-Col. Gwyn here for one night in April. He is busily preparing for his new appointment in Washington, which he is taking up early in May. Not the least of his tasks is to get red gorgets sewn on to all his uniforms.

OFFICERS' MESS

We have had only two Guest Nights during the quarter. On February 19, Col. Sykes Wright who succeeded Col. Parry as Commander of the Home Counties Brigade Group, came to dinner and met Col. Willoughby who also visited that evening.

On April 14, we entertained the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk of Finchley. Our guests showed themselves to be far more proficient at billiards and bowls than we were; (and we failed to record even one victory).

As well as the customary visit of each Intake of Recruits, to view the Mess and the silver, we have had cadets from Christ's College, Finchley who were conducted round by Major Smith, who is at present awaiting orders to proceed to Malaya.

The Spring Golf Meeting and Officers' Club Cocktail Party on April 22, will no doubt be reported elsewhere, but apart from the people who attended these functions, we have had a pleasing number of visitors.

Lt. Fothergill put in another appearance and was as usual remarkably cheery in spite of the wretched time he has been through, and we trust we may hear better news of him before long.

Brigadier Green stayed for a brief spell having flown back from Jordan on compassionate leave. He was not in this country long, however, but returned to "Active Service" on the Israeli-Jordan border.

Capt. Stapleton left us for civilian life, and 2/Lt. Milne, just back from MELF will have done the same before these notes appear in print.

Others who have visited us or made short stays include:— Capt. Rendell, General Bucknell, Lt. Wollocombe, Lt. Hickey, Major Nolda, Major Newman, Capt. St. Clair, Capt. Gray, Lt. Fox, Lt. Kitchener, Col. Gwyn, Capt. Mieville, Lt. Beagley, Brigadier Rackham, Major Bellers, Major Worton, Lt.-Col. Wollocombe, Padre Gibbins, Lt.-Col. C. M. M. Man, and Capt. Adamson. Capt. Moore left us to go to Hong Kong to take over the Adjutancy of the Hong Kong Regiment.

Lt. Cain went to the 1st Middlesex (Capt. Carter, recently returned from Austria reports that Rex Cain has settled down well in his new surroundings).

Lt. B. K. Clayden is now the Adjutant here.

Major Lee, R.E., relieved Major Butler who has gone to Japan. The latter met P.G. who unfortunately was admitted to hospital later with pneumonia; we hope we may soon have good news of him.

Lt. Carter, R.A.M.C., is now our M.O. vice Capt. Thomas who has left the service.

The undermentioned officers passed through the Depot and have gone to destinations as shown:—

2/Lts. Langford, Lloyd, McManus, Humber, Talbot and Heming all to 1st Middlesex. 2/Lt. Whitcher to 3rd K.A.R. 2/Lt. Easton to 1st Northern Rhodesia Regiment.

Anybody who knows the Mess well will be interested to know that the kitchen has now been properly done up, including a tiled floor. The large room at the back has had the ancient ovens removed and is being converted into a room for the Mess Staff.

There was a rumour that central heating was going to be installed throughout the Mess generally, but there is no sign of it, neither have we yet got water laid on in the officers' rooms which was planned some years ago, but we still live in hopes.

SERGEANTS' MESS

When Sgt. Nicholson went to face the horrors of civvy street at the beginning of the year, we all had an idea that we had not seen the last of him. Very early one Saturday morning recently, Nick arrived with three companions from Durham in a large but somewhat decrepit-looking car. They had come to see the Amateur Cup Final. They saw it on the Sergeants' Mess television set, so that they could tell their wives if questioned.

Mrs. Markham had a win on the football pools and Sgt. Markham walked around looking like the man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo for a few days. His boys soon reduced him to our level with demands for new clothes. Mrs. Markham celebrated by falling down and cracking her elbow.

After a neck and neck race with Mr. Butler, C/Sgt. Dodkin's wife presented him with a baby daughter on April 3. The fashion now having been set, we have a

couple more anxious fathers sweating it out this quarter.

All Mess members extend their deepest sympathy to C/Sgt. and Mrs. Taylor on the tragic loss of their youngest daughter, Janet.

At the Depot we have had Sgt. Millington for a month or two whilst he was awaiting demob. after considerable service in Africa. Whilst on a pre-release course at Aldershot he asked the Pay bloke if he could draw out his credits. The pay clerk rang the Depot to see how he stood, and passed out cold on being told that the position was dodgy—only about £300 in credit.

Sgt. Clements has extended his service, as he was getting near to the demob. stage. Now he is having a large helping of leave prior to taking another Intake over the jumps.

In the Orderly Room direction, we say farewell and congratulations to Lt. (Q.M.) Waldron (long may he fiddle) and welcome once again to C/Sgt. (Dabs) Redpath. We have had R.Q.M.S. Graham in the Depot Mess for some time, awaiting posting. C.S.M. Jacques came up to see him and performed his time-honoured trick of pulling a cigarette out alight from his pocket, whilst in the midst of a crowd of customers in the "Glory Hole." All Sergeants' Mess members who have ever been frozen in the "Glory Hole," or who have vainly waited for service on the outskirts of a crowd of three people already in the "Hole," will be relieved to know that the R.E.s have actually started knocking the hole in the wall for our new bar. This will enable members to stand in the ante-room and will mean more comfortable elbow room for more customers at any given time.

Our Schoolie, S/Sgt. Roskell, did not stay with us long. He was posted to B.A.O.R. in April. Rumour has it that he was eating the Mess into debt.

Just as in the past two issues we have been able to bring the news that first the O.R.Q.M.S., then the R.Q.M.S., were seen in full dress—medals, sash, side-arms, boots and anklets—so in this issue we have another Mess member, very rarely seen without his civvy shoes, who has made the supreme effort. Yes, Sgt. Bullock, the Officers' Mess Steward, was hauled before a Court Martial as evidence recently. It is untrue that the recruits were paraded and a minute's silence observed to mark the passing of another broken vow: "They won't get me on parade."

Just prior to Easter, nearly all the Mess members went to Purfleet almost daily to try to determine who would represent the Depot in the London District Rifle Meeting. Eventually, after a "C" team of possibles had beaten an "A" team of probables, the team was picked and after Easter went to Pirbright to fire. One large pot, and considerable cash fell into the Depot hands, but the Sergeants in the team were not particularly lucky. Sgt. Beeslee, the Tiffy, lost his own extractor spring in one obstacle race. What maintenance!

Whilst there, we visited the All Arms Drill Wing, to cheer up C.S.M. Kenrick. We equipped him at the Depot, when en route for Pirbright, with rifle No. 83. This has seen more drill courses than most of the instructors, and will be remembered by Sgt. Cubitt and many others as a well "bulled," well drilled rifle. In

passing we looked at photographs of past courses and one rang a bell. We don't wish to detract any glory from Sgt. Beale's "A"—we know, through sad experiences, that it takes a lot of hard work to get a top grading—but, contrary to the 1st Battalion's last quarter's notes, there were no students from the Brigade of Guards on Sgt. Beale's Drill Course.

Our mechanised members have been in the forefront of late. Sgt. Hook changed down from top to reverse at about 60 m.p.h. in his Ford. Sgt. DaCosta went rash and purchased a new engine for his Standard, and C/Sgt. Dodkins put new valves in his B.S.A. Combination. He says that he can hear the knocks much clearer now. At Rainham, Sgt. DaCosta was having a "go" on the B.S.A. and Chair and in a fight to take a corner, brushed the sidcar's wheel against an innocent maiden's skirt. He was held up at a level crossing, and he waited for the lass to crown the driver and/or the sidcar passenger for being fresh. As she went by all she did was to quietly leer.

CORPORAL'S CLUB

In this, our second contribution to *The Die-Hards*, we have very little activity to report, except for changes of face in the Club.

We say "Valete" to those Permanent Staff stalwarts, Cpl. "Jimmy" Marable, Cpl. "Chippy" Wood and L/Cpl. "Bill" Males, who have left us for the activities of Zeltweg and the delights of Vienna. Congratulations, "Jimmy," on your promotion, but we note that you still keep your status as "Camp Millionaire." We hear the Old Comrades are pouring out their own beer since Bill Males left for Austria. Come on you young Lance-Corporals and volunteers!

We were sorry to lose Cpl. Mitchell "3 speed" Gears who has volunteered for service in Malaya. With him go our best wishes—we shall certainly miss his "Oriental Dancing" in the Club.

"Ave" to Cpls. Butler, Biggadike, Sharpe and L/Cpl. Shinn, who have joined us from the 1st Battalion. The last-named, incidentally, has recently tasted some of that accelerated promotion we hear so much about, when the last promotion list was published. Talking of accelerated promotion and young Lance-Corporals, our own L/Cpl. Stanford has finally convinced the Commanding Officer that he is worthy of promotion to Corporal—after only 13 years as a Lance-Corporal. Congratulations, "Stan"—you deserve it. Included in the aforementioned promotion list were L/Cpls. Payne and Finnissey. Congratulations to you both. We also welcome L/Cpl. Cox, who has arrived from Malaya to replace Cpl. Mitchell "3 speed" Gears.

We are now eagerly preparing for our forthcoming Annual Administration Inspection. What a treat to see the Club members among the Permanent Staff—including batmen, clerks and storemen—on parade at the unearthly hour of 0700 hours. We hear that L/Cpl. Giles is receiving numerous telephone calls from various departments requesting treatment for blistered feet and indigestion—no doubt caused by a hastily-eaten breakfast. A full report of this momentous event will undoubtedly appear in our next edition.

DEPOT SPORTS NOTES

(Jan-April, 1954.)

We hoped, but regretfully in vain, that the Battalion when supplying us with permanent staff would include some football players. Nevertheless the Depot has held its own against considerably stronger units, the tally being, Lost 3, Drawn 2, Won 2. Among the latter, I am glad to include the R.H.Q. Scots Guards and Depot Royal Fusiliers, our old rivals. Amongst a whole lot of players L/Cpl. Rayner and Pte. Jones in the forward line were consistently good and at times brilliant whilst S/Sgt. Roskell our domiciled schoolmaster and Pte. Homer at half, played admirably.

The promise of an excellent hockey season was cut short by the severe winter weather, putting grounds out of bounds and causing a few casualties. However, we won two matches drew one and lost to H.Q. Eastern Command in the finals of the London District Minor Units Competition, being at that time without Capt. Clayden and Cpl. Marable and having a slightly bewildered goalkeeper. A medal, though, was presented to each team member helping to heal the wounds of defeat.

It would not be fair to pass on without mentioning our earlier efforts on the hockey field, the account of which was left out of the last journal. Starting badly with four losses we settled down and won the next five games, a good recovery indeed. Cpts. Clayden and Carter were the spearhead of our attack, ably backed up by Lts. Waldron and Marciandi at half and the steady back play of the Q.M. staff—Lt. Weller, R.Q.M.S. Etheridge and Cpl. Marable, who so ably kept and filled goal. The talent scout of Hampstead Hockey Club has been seen this season, and three of our team have played for that side.

In February, the London District Open Boxing Championship took place at Chelsea to which the Depot sent three entries and from the Battalion two. L/Cpl. O'Rawe and Pte. Howard from the 1st Battalion won their weight and Pte. Smith (Depot) was unlucky to be beaten in the finals. Cpl. Napolitano was unfortunately unable to box at the last minute owing to medical reasons.

A team was entered for the Eastern Command Basketball but went down to the Field Wing, R.A., at Woolwich after a hard game.

A full season of cricket is approaching with a number of weekend fixtures and should any serving member of the regiment at home or any ex-member like a game their requests will be gladly received.

MUSEUM

The Museum was visited on March 13, by a party from the Military Historical Society. The party were most interested in many of the old uniforms and breastplates in the Museum. The President of the Society gave many useful hints for the improvement of the Museum but, unfortunately, the Museum does not possess vast funds for these hints to be put into practice.

Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E., presented a large Russian flag to the Museum which he acquired from the Main Broadcasting Station in the North

Korean capital of Pyongyang. He also presented a bloodstained wallet containing a North Korean soldier's Pay Book and party membership card.

The Museum library has been dismantled and we are waiting to move it into more spacious surroundings.

In March, Surgeon Capt. Hastings, R.N., brother of Capt. Hastings, who was killed in the Great War whilst serving with the 1st Battalion, presented six magnificently mounted heads of antelope to the Museum. The Nilgai Blue Bull in particular is most beautifully

7th BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)



Up to now we have refrained from commenting on the result of our winter training on the "monthly cycle" system. Now that the winter's training is nearly complete it is felt that the system should be recorded as a success. Attendances have been good, especially those of officers and N.C.O.s, and the training has been smoothly and efficiently carried out. Congratulations are due to R.S.M. L. J. Tostevin and the Company P.S.I.s for their hard work and unflagging interest.

Company weekends are now occupying our full attention. Rifle Classification weekends are being carried out at Pirbright and so far the results, although they are not outstanding, are far better than last year's. Tactical weekends are being held in bivouac areas selected by Company Commanders and the first weekend of this type ("A" Company's) was held at Berkhamstead on May 8 and 9.

The officers have attended two tactical exercises recently. On February 20 and 21, a Brigade T.E.W.T. was held at Dorking. The attack was studied during the day and re-organisation was completed in the bar during the evening.

The Battalion Officers' T.E.W.T. on March 13 and 14, was a great success although a bitterly cold wind made outdoor work rather uncomfortable. The officers stayed at Hartney Winney in a hotel which is graced by Capt. Pielow's presence as host. He went out of his way to make everyone most comfortable and made the weekend very enjoyable.

A fortnight prior to the Battalion Officers' T.E.W.T. the Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s attended for a tactical weekend at Shorncliffe (February 27 and 28). Both the attack and defence were studied and a great deal of knowledge and interest was displayed, especially from one or two rather unexpected quarters.

In the Middlesex Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association Miniature Rifle Competition we beat our rivals, 11th Battalion The Parachute Regiment in the final held at the old 9th Battalion Drill Hall at Kingsbury on April 1.

mounted, the horns being only a few inches off the world record for that species.

On May 5 and 6, the Town and Country Estates of Ireland are holding an auction in Dublin of a military collection formed by the late Major J. C. Moutray, D.L., J.P. We have asked Brigadier E. C. Martin, D.S.O., to buy a number of items for us. One of the items is a very rare Breastplate belonging to the 77th Foot. We hope to report more fully on this auction in the next edition of *The Die-Hards*.

Congratulations to R.S.M. L. J. Tostevin on his coaching and timely "objections" which undoubtedly put our opponents off balance.

On February 18, C.S.M. F. Hutchings brought along the Bowmen of Barnet Archery Club and staged a most impressive demonstration of archery in the Drill Hall. Safely angles were somewhat narrow but the obvious competence of the bowmen left us well at ease. It was probably fortunate that time did not allow some of our keener members to "draw a bow." On this occasion we were honoured by the presence of Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E., who visited the Battalion prior to assuming command of the 1st Battalion in Austria.

Our Smoking Concert held on March 27, 1954, was a great success. The standard of the "acts" was extremely good and they all deserve a mention here.

The artistes were: R.S.M. L. Tostevin, D/Major C. Holdford, C.S.M.s G. Cooper and G. Bignell, Sgts. W. Snell, A. Marshall, J. Lee and Pte. R. Kaplan, Mr. and Mrs. Kendall. Band Quartet: Leader, Mr. W. Gilyatt.

Major P. F. Newman organised the evening with his usual military precision ably assisted by Drum Major C. Holdford, "top of the bill" and "compere."

The School of Military Intelligence visited us on the evening of April 8, and gave a scale model demonstration of Russian Tactics. This, entitled "The Red Wave," was most instructive and extremely interesting. Over 70 officers attended, parties coming from the Regimental Depot, 1st Battalion London Irish Rifles, 1st Battalion London Scottish and our affiliated Home Guard Battalions. Afterwards the demonstration was discussed at great length over drinks in the Officers' Mess.

Our affiliated battery ("P" Battery) of 264th Field Regiment (R.A.), arranged an artillery training evening for our officers at their Putney Drill Hall on April 27. The evening was very well run and of great value. Afterwards the officers were most hospitably entertained.

The N.C.O.s cadre has now been running for the whole of the winter training season and is now drawing to a close. A number of good junior N.C.O.s have already been promoted as a result of their studies and hard work.

As is usual at this time of year we are preparing for Annual Camp. This year we are to carry out Battalion level training in Ewshott Camp near Aldershot from July 4 to 17.

We hope to enjoy more of the social side of camp this year and surely the weather cannot be as poor as it was at

Bodney in 1953. The Camp will be a tented one so we should take gum boots just in case.

BATTALION RIFLE CLUB

Since the last notes, the T.A.R.A. Programme Book for 1954 has been published, showing the results of the competitions held in 1953. It was noted with some satisfaction that the Battalion gained six "mentions" in addition to both "B" teams winning their respective Divisions in the T.A. Small-bore League.

The final first three placings in Divisions 2 and 6 of the League are as follows:

DIVISION II									
		Matches							
Psn.		Fired	W. D. L.	Pts.	Aggr.	Av.			
1	7th Bn. The Mdx. R. (D.C.O.)	9	9	—	18	5077	564		
2	5th Northants "A"	9	7	1	15	5045	561		
3	45/51 (Leeds Rifles) R.T.R.	9	7	1	15	5017	557		

Team.—Lt. Stocken, C/Sgt. Colbourne, Sgt. King, Sgt. LaRoche, Cpl. Eastlake, L/Cpl. Beecham, Sgt. Richardson, Sgt. Wotton.

DIVISION VI									
		Matches							
Psn.		Fired	W. D. L.	Pts.	Aggr.	Av.			
1	7th Bn. The Mdx. R. (D.C.O.)	9	9	—	18	4968	552		
2	7th Warwickshire	9	8	—	16	4810	534		
3	London Irish Rifles	9	7	—	14	4742	526		

Team.—Major Creighton, R.Q.M.S. Howes, C/Sgt. Leahy, Sgt. Webb, Sgt. Leighton, Cpl. Wembleton, Cpl. Charge, L/Cpl. McGlashan.

These teams are to be congratulated on the results. Their keenness and enthusiasm throughout the winter enabled the Battalion to complete the .22 shooting programme to the letter.

The final of the Middlesex T.A.F.A. .22 Competition took place at Honeypt Lane, Kingsbury, on April 2. It was a three-cornered final between ourselves, 11th Parachute Battalion and 452 H.A.A. Regiment, R.A. Our hosts were 595 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (9th Middlesex), who made us very welcome and did everything to make the evening a success.

The result, as far as we were concerned, was disappointing; we can only say we were beaten by a better team and congratulate 452 on their well-deserved win.

The results were as follows:

1st.	452 H.A.A. Regiment, R.A.	560 points.
2nd.	7th Middlesex (Major Creighton 97, R.S.M. Tostevin 97, R.Q.M.S. Howes 90, Sgt. King 93, Sgt. LaRoche 91, L/Cpl. McGlashan 88)	550 "
3rd.	11th Parachute Battalion	528 "

This is the second year we have fired in the final of this Competition; perhaps the third time will be lucky for us!

The Battalion Inter-Company .22 League has one more round to go. At present "H.Q." Company are top with 8 points and "S" and "B" Companies are tying for second place with 6 points each.

Three Club meetings have been held on the 25-yards range at the Regimental Depot since February and the

results have been very gratifying. Members who had taken part in the .22 shooting during the winter found their form right away and produced some very good scores. The value of the winter's shooting was proved further when the Companies fired their Annual Classification for members of the Battalion teams have to date classified as marksmen!

Great plans were made for a Club Shoot on May 2 at Piccotts End, but fate was against us and we were "rained-off" after an hour's shooting.

In closing we would like to say that the Rifle Club is in need of younger members and will welcome with open arms all who wish to join.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

(November 28, 1953, to April 30, 1954)

To C/Sgt.—Sgt. (W.O.2) F. Firman, Sgt. (W.O.2) V. Corner.

To Sgt.—Cpl. (A/Sgt.) M. Eastap.

To Cpl.—L/Cpls. H. Silvester and A. Roper, Dmr. G. Payne, Ptes. C. Patterson, D. Jones, M. Young and N. Aidrich.

To L/Cpl.—Ptes. H. Smith, A. Sills, C. Stevens, R. Eyre, R. White, B. Stenning, P. Brack, J. Crawford, D. Fordham, J. Hardy, P. Ibrahims, L. Parry, M. Ross and A. Spencer.

11th Bn. THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT

(8th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), T.A.)

The main events of the last quarter have concerned boxing and shooting. Jumping should have featured this last week, but the weather has not permitted it.

In the Battalion Boxing "H.Q." Company won the Cup from "C" Company and "B" Company produced two excellent boxers, Maylin-Tuck and Kemp.

In the Brigade boxing we were honourably beaten by two points by 10th Parachute Battalion. Casey of "H.Q." Company won the prize for the best boxer and Johnstone, "C" Company, produced the most devastating form of the evening.

Results:

Fly	..	..	W.O. to 10 Bn.
Feather	..	..	W.O. to Pte. Kemp (11).
Light	..	..	W.O. to Pte. Ashton (10).
Light Welter	..	..	Pte. Short (10) beat Pte. Dolan (11).
Welter	..	..	Pte. Casey (11) beat Pte. Payne (10).
Light Middle	..	..	Pte. Corbett (10) beat Pte. Cox (11).
Middle	..	..	Pte. Johnstone (11) beat Pte. Hughes (10).
Light Heavy	..	..	Sgt. Cowell (11) beat Cpl. Marchant.
Heavy	..	..	Pte. Symes (10) beat L/Cpl. Kemp (11).

At the Divisional Boxing Championships 11th Battalion were represented by: *Bantam*: Pte. Kemp (weight winner); *Feather*: Pte. Wells; *Light Middle*: Pte. Johnstone (weight winner); *Light Heavy*: Sgt. Cowell.

Of these, Kemp and Johnstone went on to the T.A. Championships, where Kemp knocked out all three of his opponents to become a worthy T.A. Champion. Johnstone was unlucky to meet a tiger in his first contest and was beaten.

The "H.Q." Company teams reached the finals of the Middlesex T.A. shoot, but was beaten into third place, not a bad effort for a Company team against two Battalion or Regimental ones. At the Battalion Rifle Meeting on April 24-25, "B" Company won the W.T. and shooting cups. The following are the full results:

BATTALION RIFLE MEETING				
Sten	" B " Coy.	Volongdis ..	" D " Coy.
Rifle	" B " "	Stephens ..	" B " "
L.M.G.	..	" B " "	China ..	" B " "
W.T. Cup	" B " "	L.M.G. Snap	" D " "
Shooting Cup	" B " Coy.		
Hamilton Leight	" H.Q. " Coy.		
Sergeants	Sgt. Fisher, " D " Coy.		
P.S.I.	Sgt. Phillips, " H.Q. " Coy.		
O.R.	Pte. Nelson, " B " Coy.		
Officer	Major Lee.		

Brigadier and Mrs. Baker came down on the Sunday afternoon to watch and Mrs. Baker presented the prizes at the end of the meeting. This was an exceedingly pleasant innovation for 11th Battalion and we all hope Mrs. Baker will honour us again next year.

At a recent ceremony at Douai, Brigadier Baker received from the Mayor of Douai a tenor drum captured from 8th Middlesex by the Germans in 1940. This drum was seen to fall from a lorry by a French peasant, who kept it safely throughout the war.

The drum is now being renovated and will be taken into use very shortly by the Corps of Drums.

"B" COMPANY

During the past three months the main Company activity has been centred around the Battalion Weapon Training Competition. The last W/Es. in February and March found us down at Aldershot classifying on the rifle, L.M.G. and Sten.

In practising for the L.M.G. Competition, Ptes. Nelson, Hopley and Cooper, together with Cpls. Stuyvesant and Furness put up some fine records (unofficial) and even when working under some considerable handicap still finished with high scores within the time limit. Pte. Kelly was extremely fortunate in gaining such a high score on the L.M.G. classification. There are of course two stories, his and the Company's. His story being that he was shooting up to average ability and the latter being that he found one of the few guns that were true. However, he is to be congratulated.

Pte. Croden has adopted an important air now that he assists C/Sgt. Sarlton with the Company stores. Cpl. Bowditch looks the "original part" when wearing his "rattling cap"—corduroy too! Sgt. Crosby has at long last turned up, after working night shifts, and immediately found criticism to make over the weapon competition teams, thus destroying partially all the hard work certain officers and N.C.O.s had done. For all this we are very glad to have him back in the fold.

As we go to print, the sound of the last practices can be heard, as various team members go through the hoop in preparation for the competition this W/E April 24 and 25. We hope that in our next issue we can, as last year, proudly boast of winning even more than six of the eight cups competed for.

"C" COMPANY

Probably the best bit of news we of "C" Company had during the last quarter was that our popular Company Commander, Capt. Spencer who contracted polio whilst on business in America, is now home again, and by all reports well on the road to recovery. Good luck sir, all "C" Company hope to see you back behind the desk again in the near future.

The last few weeks have been occupied with quite a varied programme, ranging from bags of synthetic training under our own A.P.J.I. C.S.M. Roberts, in preparation for the jumping season commencing in April, to winning the Battalion Basketball Cup for the fourth year.

Most of our N.C.O.s have attended at one or another of the series of Heavy Drop courses during the last quarter and conversation in the mess now gets as technical as 7,000 platforms.

Yet another of our old bachelors gay, L/Cpl. Leslie took the plunge recently, and got himself married, with a contingent of both past and present members of "C" Company to "help him on his way."

During the course of the boxing season another of our members, Pte. Johnstone has come to the fore as an outstanding athlete, and has had a run of glorious victories, culminating in his representing the 16th Airborne Division in the T.A. Boxing Championships.

At the time of writing we have just returned from the C.O.'s Weapon Training week-end, where although gaining no laurels we certainly did not disgrace ourselves being just those few very important points behind every time. Our Rifle team in particular had very bad luck resulting in finishing as runners-up in the Rifle Competition. Still we are all sure next year will tell a different story and put us to the fore in yet another field.

8th AND 1/8th BATTALION

Will ex-members of the Battalion kindly notify any change of address to:—

Capt. Michael Ashby,
20 St. Helier's Avenue,
Hounslow.
Tel.: Hounslow 6674.

595 L.A.A./S.L. REGIMENT, R.A. (9th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), T.A.)

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

During the course of the last three months we have been transferred to a new Brigade, and many new faces and names have had to be docketed in our memory. To assist us in this somewhat difficult task, a Brigade Officers' Week-end T.E.W.T. was held at Brighton the week before Easter, which was enjoyed by all but the hotel staff. Much was discussed, and the spirit of the occasion entered both our mind and body. A practical demonstration was made in the early hours of Sunday morning to show the effect of "Window."

We look forward to meeting the majority of our newly found friends at annual camp, when many of the units in the Brigade will be together.

Now that officially spring is upon us, and the additional hour of what should be sun available, training can be carried out in the open. This has eased the burden of instructors and made gun drill more realistic. All-day mobile exercises have commenced and have proved to be of great value.

We welcome two new officers to the Regiment: Capt. R. L. Brooke, and at long last, a Padre, the Rev. Kingston.

BAND

The Dance Section is in very much demand, each Battery and R.H.Q. taking it in turn to hold social evenings. A grand show they give us, but we still have vacancies in both sections of the Regimental Band.

If anyone reading these notes is thinking of joining, come along any Tuesday evening and see Bandmaster Turner. You can be sure of a warm welcome.

"P" BATTERY

During the last quarter the Battery has been more successful than of late. The drift of trophies to other Batteries has been halted, and a new one is now in our possession, the "Exeter Challenge Bowl," awarded to the winners of the Aircraft Recognition Competition. This trophy was well and truly won by a margin of 37 points.

Congratulations to Capt. Dennis for the hard work he has put in, training the team.

We were also very successful in the Class II Spotters Test. Out of 16 passes, we obtained 8, which rather bears out the result of the competition mentioned above.

On Saturday, April 3, 1954, a social was organised by the Battery. Music was provided by the Dance

NEWS LETTER BY M.B.

Capt. Kent wrote to the Colonel of the Regiment from Kuala Lumpur, Malaya on January 27, 1954, to tell him he was to join the 1st Battalion in June on vacating his post as Intelligence Officer with 18th Infantry Brigade Headquarters. Since then he has learnt that due to shipping difficulties his tour in Malaya has been extended and he is now unlikely to reach the 1st Battalion before mid-September. He had been due to join the 1st Battalion in Korea in 1951, but that posting was cancelled, as on the Battalion leaving Korea their officers strength was reduced, and he was therefore, sent to 1st Battalion, The Royal West Kent Regiment with whom he spent some while to gain operational experience. His work as Intelligence Officer has been intensely interesting, and he feels he probably has now been through the most interesting period in that bitter and dangerous campaign. It appears that after General Templer's arrival the organisation to deal with guerilla and bandit warfare developed rapidly, and is now very efficient. When Kent was detached from Brigade Headquarters he kept in touch at a daily morning meeting attended by his Brigadier, the British Adviser and Chief Police Officer. Originally the Brigade was in

Section of the Regimental Band, and the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Unfortunately, our National Service men all seemed to have previous engagements, but we hope to see them at the next social we organise.

New faces are continually arriving as National Service men are posted in, and shortly we say "Valeté" to the first one to join us—Gnr. Casson has now completed his compulsory period of service. L/Bdr. Sawyer and Gnr. Mould, two very keen members, have also had to leave as they have moved out of the district. Luckily we have had some excellent volunteers to replace these casualties.

We now look forward to the summer with long light evenings and week-end exercises and musketry at Purfleet. But these are in the future and will be the subject of our next contribution.

SEARCHLIGHT BATTERY

The Searchlight Battery's activities have been confined almost exclusively to routine training and Regimental courses, and our Battery exercise comes after we go to press—too late to report.

We are producing two of the first team of three motor cyclists to train and enter for an official trial this summer. In a sense they are B.S.M. Hughes, Sgt. Halls and, from L.A.D., S/Sgt. Davis, and we are holding our first night-run shortly.

We have "converted" three more National Service men to volunteers and still have quite a number of hopeful "tries" in the offing who may be "converted" any moment now.

We all welcome back our senior Troop Commander, Capt. Stanhope Gant, after a rather long and much felt absence.

Selangor with Headquarters in Kuala Lumpur. In Penang the terrorists are in much larger numbers, and in 1953 approximately 359 were eliminated. Kent mentions Col. Weston as being recently in Malaya; the latter is now attending a course at the Imperial Defence College in London. Two other Officers of our Regiment are in Malaya, namely Morton and Phillips, serving in the 2nd King's African Rifles.

A strong branch of the Regimental Association exists in Malaya and meets yearly on Albuhera Day. Their Chairman is Col. Stewart Sutherland, who wrote to me on January 2, enclosing a photograph of Remembrance Day ceremonies in November 1953. Ex-Drum Major Drew is now understood to be back with his tin mine in Malaya and will no doubt be present at their Reunion this year.

We are to have the son of Air Vice Marshall Sir John D'Albiac, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., in our Regiment to do his National Service. He is now at Winchester and will not reach the Depot before late this year.

Mrs. Hawkswell aged 86, the widow of a Regimental Drummer, writes from her home at 4 Nelson Place, Acton, W.3 thanking our Regimental Association for their assistance in helping to provide her with blankets and coal. She lives a lonely life and I hope that any of

our readers who live near may visit her home and cheer her up.

Mr. W. Fletcher who was R.Q.M.S. in the 2nd Battalion at the outbreak of the 1939-45 War and later became a Q.M., wrote on February 14 to tell me about his civil employment since he left the Foreign Office where he was a Queen's Messenger, and carried official letters in China and Japan. He first got a job in the stores of E.M.I., but now has an excellent post with the Fairey Aviation Company in their Research Division at Heston Airport. It is the kind of work he is experienced in, and the salary and status are good. His boy John is a Sergeant in the Royal Engineers at the Surrey School near Newbury where he is living in married quarters. He is very busy, but hopes to attend the Regimental Reunion in Seymour Hall on October 29.

I heard from Col. Gwyn on November 10, and have had the pleasure of seeing him at the Depot on April 12, after he had handed over command to Lt.-Col. John Willoughby. His earlier letter came from De Kleine Hutte, Schmelz, 5,500 feet up where ski-ing was in progress for "A" Company and 2/3 of "S" Company. Some 75 ranks were on leave in U.K., "B" Company was in Vienna, with "C" Company etc. in Zeltweg. In a month's time there will be a change round, so we can all realise that it is no easy task to command and train a Battalion in Austria. To look after the contentment and welfare of some 48 married families demands time and patience and to that purpose Mrs. Gwyn has devoted all her spare time, and has been most successful. Few realise what that means, but I, as a batchelor, knew full well whilst in command at Colchester what was expected from a C.O.'s wife, which I did not possess, and that was in an English Town, and not a tiny Austrian village offering no facilities whatever for married personnel. When he wrote Gwyn did not know he was destined for Washington as a Colonel on the Joint Services Mission, a post which will give Mrs. Gwyn full scope as a hostess in a great city.

I have had two letters from Brigadier A. E. Green, Commanding a Jordan Army Brigade on the Jordan and Israel Frontier. I am not permitted to disclose all his remarks on life there in an Arab house on the border of the Holy City, but enough to say he is practically on active service in an area tense with incidents.

In a letter of February 9, he refers to intense cold. He bewails that soldiering without the close touch with troops found within an Infantry Battalion is not his cup of tea. One day he finds himself dealing with a village Headman and on the next with a High Chief Patriarch of the Armenian Church. The Holy City of Jerusalem is included within his command, and that by itself is a major problem. He finds however, his Chief, Glubb Pasha, a splendid commander possessed with an unrivalled knowledge of the Arab races. He now misses his Polo, which he first played in Khartoum in 1931 as a subaltern in the 2nd Middlesex. We hope to see the Brigadier during the June Cricket Week. Although he says he will not play, I feel sure he will be out on that green field. He had heard a rumour that John Ormiston was married, but that I was able to dispel. In a later letter of April 1, he refers to Sgt. Snell, the driver of many C.O.s throughout the War in the 2nd Middlesex,

and here afterwards and then in the 7th Middlesex, always on the same job.

During February Col. Weston asked me to lunch at the Imperial Defence College to meet a former Captain of H.M.S. *Unicorn* (during April 1952 to December 1953). I gather that the *Unicorn*, so well known to all ranks in the 1st Middlesex, is now in reserve. Capt. Pennyfeather spoke in warm terms of praise of the 57th, and all know that this feeling is reciprocated by the 1st Middlesex.

Lt.-Col. Hewitt wrote to me on February 15, from H.Q., Allied Forces in Northern Europe, where he and Ian Battye are stationed. There appears to be as acute a housing shortage in Oslo as in London and Middlesex. When he wrote the cold was desperate, 23 degrees Centigrade, but houses are warm and the cold is dry and far less noticeable than the much higher temperature in U.K. where it is so damp. They are progressing with ski-ing and Mrs. Hewitt is also skilled in the art, but Mrs. Battye has not yet taken to it. Hewitt is G.S.O.(1) Training (the American equivalent is Chief of Exercise and Manoeuvre Branch) and responsible for the big N.A.T.O. exercises. Battye is also on the planning staff, so the Regiment is well represented. When he wrote Hewitt was about to proceed on a Divisional exercise with the Norwegian Army, and was looking forward to seeing soldiers again as a change from paper work. He had recently spent two weeks in Bavaria on an Atomic Warfare course in the American Zone and had hoped to cross the border to see the 1st Middlesex, but time did not allow him.

On February 28, Col. Andrew Man wrote to tell me of his next post in charge of the Combined Record Office (R.A.E.C., A.P.T.C. etc.) at Bournemouth and he was delighted at the prospect, which would certainly not have pleased me, but we know his marvellous skill in dealing with such intricate matters. He thinks it will be a rest after his strenuous work at Catterick, although I should have thought that dealing in figures and not in men was not everyone's idea of a good job. I hope his services will before long receive a more adequate reward. He reminds me how happy he was under my command at Colchester, and I have vivid memories of his ability as my Signal Officer on whom so much depends in modern war, and equally so in training for war.

Michael Gannon, my friend on the *Evening News* staff, wrote to me on March 3, to say he looked forward to meeting Lt.-Col. John Willoughby the Commanding Officer designate for the 1st Middlesex. He had recently visited the troops in Germany and spoke highly of the Regular Officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s who continue to show enthusiasm despite the shortages of staff in units where National Service entails a perpetual cycle of training without the joy of feeling that a unit has reached peak efficiency and will remain in that state. He reminds me that the continual fortnightly departure of trained soldiers and intake of newcomers would break the heart of any who did not regard soldiering as a vocation. I think few outside the Army realise the contrast to pre-war days as I knew them. He was sad he could not find time to visit the 1st Middlesex in Austria, but hopes to do so this Summer

Capt. Jordon writes to tell the Colonel of his engagement to the daughter of a former Vice-Consul in Norway, who I am sad to say died recently. He hopes to be married at Bradford Cathedral in August or September next.

In a letter dated March 18, Col. Del Court sent me photographs of "D" Company in their breastworks at Zonnebek on April 18, 1915. They were taken in the last tour before the gas attack on April 22. He also sent photographs of his lovely house and garden. He was just off to Cape Town for a Seniors' Five Day Golf Tournament, starting with a cocktail party, which I should imagine might well affect Hervey's golf, always inclined to be uncertain, and ending with a dinner at Kelvin Grove Country Golf Club. He has been elected a Senior, but does not say if that is a reward for old age or skill at golf. He hopes to be with us in June 1955, as he intends to return to Europe by Lloyd Tristino along the east coast of Africa, motoring from Brindisi.

Mrs. Gwen Appelbe writes from Garden Cottage on April 7, to break the sad news that for her there can be no June "At Home" due to her term time work teaching dancing and riding at innumerable schools.

The Ginger family are busy gardening and rearing chickens to feed their son who returns to U.K. in July from Cyprus, where he is now a Captain in the Parachute Regiment. I understand efforts are being made to get him to remain on after his three years for two more, but so far he holds firm to return to his Regiment, and I hope the blandishments will not make him alter, but I shall be surprised if he does so. Gwen says he is one of the rare Officers who never grumble as is our privilege always as soldiers. Her home is surrounded with friends and we are never surprised to learn that is so. Major General and Mrs. Whitcombe often visit Garden Cottage. We, who served in Madras, will remember them there when he was Brigade Major. Also seen is Mrs. Walter Hill the wife of General Hill, who was our beloved 2nd Battalion Brigade Commander at Colchester when we arrived there at Christmas time 1931. I have never forgotten his splendid appearance on parade or at Boxing Tournaments and the horse he rode, for he was an accomplished rider.

As I was responsible for securing a very fine painting of Capt. Gilbert Waugh, 57th Foot, I must tell the story here. The painting, which now hangs in the Depot Mess, comes from Messrs. Pawsey and Payne, a firm in No. 1 Bury Street, St. James. The senior partner, Richard Pawsey, served here in our Regiment early in 1940 and was then a radiant cheeked young officer from the Artists Rifles. Major Sax, a grimmer figure, came at the same time. The portrait was painted in 1849 by Henry Moseley (who exhibited 24 times at the Royal Academy, as a portrait painter in his own right) after the original picture done in 1784, when the gallant captain retired on half-pay.

The colours are very lovely being scarlet in long coat, fastened at neck and with gilt buttons on either side right down the coat. The borders are in Regimental yellow and the coat covers a large yellow silk waistcoat. Capt. Waugh first served as an Ensign in the 71st Foot (H.L.I.) in 1777 being promoted Lieutenant in 1778.

He was transferred to the 57th as a Captain in 1779 and was placed on half-pay list in 1784.

Capt. Waugh was serving in 57th during part of the American War of Independence, and is noted as there in a State (January 4, 1782) as on leave in England. (The 57th were for a time in New York having moved there from Staten Island.)

I showed the picture to Col. Gwyn who was charmed by its colours, and, as he is an artist of no mean ability, I feel sure our money was well spent.

I must offer unqualified praise to Major Heywood and All Ranks of the Depot Mess staff for the wonderful Cocktail and Buffet Supper Party on April 22, following the Spring Golf Meeting. The Mess was shining with, the Colours, flowers, and silver and the food and drink were fully equal to anything seen at the Ritz or Savoy and at one sixth the price. The R.S.M. Army Catering Corps London District with two of our own young cooks produced all the food in our Mess kitchen, and the display made my mouth water. The flowers were arranged by one of our young subalterns and could well have been done by a trained florist. I felt very proud at the praise everyone gave and our Regimental name for hospitality was enhanced.

Information has been received that Major Pearce Gould is recovering from a serious illness he contracted in Japan and we trust that he will soon be restored to his normal health.

GOLF

The Spring Meeting

Every meeting has some abiding memory for those taking part and of this year's Spring Meeting, I, for one, shall always recall that chapter heading of Bernard Darwin's in "Pack Clouds Away" which runs "Fine confused eating."

It is possible that the Darwin Dinner having taken place the night before reminded me of that chapter. Again, it may have been that, after reading that morning in the *Daily Telegraph* the complaints of an American visitor against the meagre helpings in English Hotels and then spending a day of lordly helpings at Hendon Golf Club, followed by the most stupendous buffet at the Depot, food was to the fore in my thoughts.

Mind you, it was a hungry sort of day, and at least one good helping was welcome at lunch, but middle aged members, anyhow, have to admit that enforced lack of practice over the years has limited their capacity and apparently what an American considers adequate is to them an embarrassment. Despite this, I feel that should Major Heywood and his Mess Sergeant ever leave the Depot they obviously have the clue to attracting dollar trade and looking back on that buffet I wish I had an American capacity.

All this has very little to do with golf except to stress what a first class show the Depot put on to wind up the Spring Meeting.

Between meals some golf was played and although the numbers were small it was an interesting meeting, there was a chance for everyone to meet everyone else, honours and the dishonour were well distributed—the latter surprisingly—and there were some welcome reappearances.

First and foremost I think it must be mentioned how delighted we all were to see Col. Tom South with us once more and Col. Maitland flying the flag of Hon. Colonel of the 7th Battalion. At the other end of the age scale it was a great pleasure that Tony Catchpole was free to attend and to watch him from an adventurous start organise a not unworthy scratch score.

That staunch supporter Major Bywaters cropped up after a year or two of quiet with an excellent 69 nett to win the Handicap Cup and second Scratch Sweep.

The "Die-Hard" Divot this year was presented by Capt. N. B. McIvor and was both imaginative and attractive. Our gallant Captain had his eye on it and was horrified to find that it had been definitely and surprisingly earned by Roger Latham. "Wollo" had planned to take it home and say that the ball was one with which he had done a hole in one. Roger, we regret to say, remarked that he would have been better employed at Wormwood Scrubs where at least he would have been doing something useful, sewing mailbags. But, now, he must go home and his wife would say on seeing the Divot "I'm glad you're on your game again" and he'd say . . .

Whether by accident or not the afternoon round was arranged as Greensome Foursomes v. Bogey and proved a good innovation. It is particularly suitable for a military gathering since it produces many problems of tactics, particularly for the really low handicap player of great length playing with the long handicap player.

Such a pair was provided by the combination of Catchpole and Jay, and it was interesting to watch the number of occasions where an apparently hopeless situation was retrieved by some masterly chip enabling them to return what might have been a good score.

Meanwhile Worton armed with new woods was driving with great confidence and this laid the foundation of a successful reappearance of the Worton-Procter partnership. The latter could not drive, but managed to contrive one or two shrewd blows particularly at the 4th, 12th and 15th, and with two 2s and a 3 at these holes two improbable wins were secured and a likely loss saved which just turned the scale with a result that they ended two up.

A good combination proved to be Wollocombe and Phillips who, after turning three down, retrieved the situation with a very good 39 home and that enabled them to end all square.

I might add that Sambo was there and attributed all good things to his brooding at the 12th.

At a short meeting at tea time the company paid tribute to the late Major Hunt who had been a loyal member of the Society for many years.

The Captain expressed the Society's deep appreciation of the gift by Major Stanley Jay of a most handsome challenge cup for the aggregate at the Autumn Meeting.

Thanks were passed to the Secretary and staff of Hendon Golf Club and to Major Clark for the excellent arrangements made.

It was announced that the Autumn Meeting would be on September 25 and 26, at North Hants Golf Club.

As a result of the continued agitation of the Ladies Committee have agreed to include Ladies in one of the

competitions at the Autumn Meeting; details will be notified later.

Mrs. Wollocombe then kindly presented the prizes and the Hon. Secretary expressed the thanks of the meeting to her.

After that most of the Company adjourned to the Depot and that buffet.

RESULTS SINGLES

Scratch	Hcp.	
Lt. A. H. Catchpole ..	76	3 73 Wins Scratch Cup.
Major J. Bywaters ..	79	10 69 Wins Handicap Cup.
Major J. R. B. Worton ..	80	15 74
Capt. R. E. Guest ..	91	15 76
Lt. J. M. Phillips ..	94	16 78
Lt.-Col. T. South ..	97	18 79
Lt.-Col. W. D. Ellis ..	96	17 79
Brigadier N. P. Procter ..	90	9 81
Major S. C. Jay ..	99	15 84
Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe	102	18 84
Capt. R. D. Latham ..	101	10 91 Wins Die-Hard Divot.

GREENSOME FOURSOMES

Procter and Worton ..	2 up.
Wollocombe and Phillips ..	All Square.
Jay and Catchpole ..	2 down.
Bywaters and Guest ..	5 down.
Maitland and Latham ..	7 down.
South and Ellis ..	10 down.

A VISIT TO DOUAI

I was invited by the Mayor of Douai to attend a Civic Reception on March 22, at which the Mayor of Twickenham, Councillor F. J. Edwards, J.P., was to be made an Honorary Citizen of Douai.

I should explain that ever since the City of Douai was captured by the 2nd Battalion on October 17, 1918, there has been a close liaison between the City and the Regiment. This has been due to the efforts of Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., J.P., D.L., who commanded the Battalion at that time. In the Depot Mess there is the "Douai Flag," a silk tricolour which was made and presented by the ladies of Douai to the 2nd Battalion.

I met Brigadier Baker at Victoria Station on March 20, and we travelled together to Douai via Dover-Calais-Lille.

At Douai station we were met by the Mayor of Douai, Monsieur André Canivez and his Town Councillors together with the Mayor of Twickenham and his party. We were taken to the Hotel de Ville where we were officially received by the Mayor of Douai in the Salon Blanc.

That evening we were entertained to Dinner and a Social at the Grand Cerf Hotel by members of the Town Council, the British Club, the Rotary Club, and the Union of Commerce. At the end of the dinner the Mayor of Douai made a speech of welcome to which the Mayor of Twickenham answered. Brigadier Baker then spoke about the activities of the British Club of which a number of members are honorary members of the Regimental Association. He specially mentioned Monsieur Alfred Cordonnier (now Vice-President having been Hon. Secretary for 20 years) through whose efforts the Club was founded in 1928. The Club is open to ex-servicemen who have been made honorary members of the British Legion to foster Franco-British friendship and one of the objects of the Club is to help the British

in their pilgrimages to the battlefields of France. For this reason it is allowed to use the badge of the British Legion. As Vice-President of the Regimental Association I then presented Old Comrades' Badges to the following:—

Messieurs A. Canivez, Mayor of Douai; J. Barbier, Sous Préfet; M. Goniaux, Deputy Mayor; G. Sarazin, Deputy Mayor; J. Leconte, City Surveyor; E. Pelletier, City Clerk; P. Wibault, President Rotary Club; M. Devynck, President Union of Commerce (Hon. Secretary British Club); A. Deledicque, President Military Medallists; F. Dupont, President Chamber of Commerce.

The following day, Sunday, before leaving, the Mayor of Twickenham laid a wreath on the City's War Memorial. We then proceeded in a column of motor cars to visit the battlefields of Artois. Our first halt was at the enormous French cemetery of Lorette. Another halt was made at the British cemetery of Cabaret Rouge. From there we motored to Vimy Ridge to view the Canadian Memorial which can be seen for miles around. While at the Memorial a biplane belonging to the Douai Aero Club flew recklessly low and dropped flowers over the Memorial—an impressive performance. Motoring on to Arras we were received by the Mayor in the Hotel de Ville. There I met Mr. A. C. Richards who had fought in France during the 1914-1918 War and later settled in Arras. During the last war he was a very active member of the Resistance for which he is much decorated. He was able to give me a lot of information about the activities of Michael Trotabas who having served as a P.S.M. in "B" Company, 2nd Battalion in 1939-1940, was commissioned into the Manchester Regiment and was parachuted into Northern France to set up a Resistance group in Lille. Col. Maurice Buckmaster has written about Trotabas's exploits in his book recently published called "Specially Employed." Trotabas was betrayed and shot on November 27, 1943. Today his name "Capitaine Michel" is a legend in and around Lille, and every month there appears a paper called *La Voix du Capitaine Michel*. In Lille a large number of cafes have been named after him.

We were entertained to a most enjoyable lunch. On the way back to Douai we stopped at the Douai Aero Club where the Mayors and Mayoresses of Douai and Twickenham were given a flight in a single engined pusher type aircraft. It took several attempts to start the machine during which it caught fire twice. I overheard one or two remarks made by my hosts that they hoped it would not be able to take off so that they would not be invited to make a flight!

Back in Douai we were entertained to tea by the Chamber of Commerce. That evening we were given Dinner by the Rotary Club; most excellently arranged by its Chairman, Monsieur Pierre Wibault.

On Monday morning I made a hurried visit to Hem, where the 2nd Battalion, with which I was serving at the time, was billeted on the eve of its move into Belgium in May, 1940. From there I passed through Roubaix, where the 2nd Battalion was billeted in the Exhibition in early 1940, Lille, Seclin and Gondecourt where the factory in which the Battalion was also billeted was

bombed and demolished in the war, and finally back to Douai in time to drink an aperitif with members of the British Club at the Taverne Liegeoise. The luncheon was given by the Town Council in the Salon Blanc of the Hotel de Ville.

With very little respite we found ourselves taking tea with the Sous Préfet, Monsieur Jacques Barbier and his charming wife. Tea was a misnomer, for it turned out to be champagne. By this time we were all set for the main item of our visit. At 8 p.m. we collected at the Hotel de Ville and we were formed into a procession. We then entered the Salle Gothique, a magnificent old hall which has been restored. One mural painting depicts Jean Le Bon, King of France, entering Douai. The whole ceremony was most impressive. Amongst those present were the British Consul from Lille, Mr. H. L. Greenlees, and his wife.

To begin with the Mayor of Douai spoke at length. He was followed by Monsieur Leconte who spoke about their reception in England, special mention being made of their visit to the Depot. Brigadier Baker, who is Colonel of 11th Battalion Parachute Regiment (8th Middlesex), was presented with a drum of the 8th Battalion which had been cared for since 1940. In his reply made in French he gave a brief description of the capture of Douai by his Battalion on October 17, 1918. It was then my turn to present to the Mayor a small shield bearing the Regimental Badge. At the same time I expressed my sincere thanks for a splendid welcome and for the most generous hospitality, also "in French." The Mayor of Twickenham was then made an honorary citizen of Douai.

After a programme of music played by a string orchestra we were entertained to supper in the Salon Blanc.

The following day I made my way home. Finding I had 25 minutes to spare in Lille I took a taxi to see Monsieur D. L. Decatoire who runs a Café Michel in Rue D'Artois. He was an active member of Trotabas's group in the Resistance. I asked him to get some flowers on behalf of the Regiment for Trotabas's grave which is in the South Cemetery.

Within a few hours I was back in England and so brought to an end my visit to Douai of which I shall retain happy memories and the hope that *L'entente cordiale* will continue between the citizens of Douai and the Regiment.

P.D.H.M.

CORRESPONDENCE

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I have myself been much confused by rank badges appearing on some of our Mess paintings, and feel few officers have read or even realised that a most complete and detailed story appears on this subject in the Journal, September, 1949, page 93. It is written by a well-known Army historian, Capt. Maurice Hill, who served in our Regiment.

Yours sincerely,
MAURICE BROWNE.

"THE DIE-HARDS" CLUB

Mill Hill Branch, Inglis Barracks, N.W.7

As promised in the last issue of *The Die-Hards* a little more about ourselves at the "Crawford Hut."

What sort of a club is this? What do they do? Will it interest me? Now "Old Chap," like me you have served for some time in the Regiment and since joining you have made many friends and quite a few acquaintances, and among them many you will always be very pleased to meet again. When you leave the Regiment you go off to some place and leave your old comrades to follow eventually and without a doubt lose touch. Now that is the sort of "Club" this is, it keeps friends in touch and is an address which you are not likely to forget. If we all make it our business to belong to the "Club" we shall always know where to find the other chap. What do we do? Now when we were serving we all did different things and some the same things but in different ways. It's the same in the "Club," we do just as we please—talk, smoke, drink, darts, poker dice, sing, dance, and as soldiers have always done we tell lies and exaggerate everything whichever happened to us during our days both in and out of battle, and believe me its all very great fun.

Will it interest you? Of course it will interest you because you see "you belong." Have you ever thought what that means—you belong to a great family, "The Die-Hards." I have no intention of telling you the family history, but believe me I am very proud to "belong," and I am sure you are.

As you will realise, these notes have to be in some considerable time before the issue of the Journal and therefore news is likely to be stale, so to go forward a little we intend to have a meeting of old comrades on Saturday, May 15, at the Depot in celebration of "Albuhera Day," and hope to be able to tell you something of that in the next issue.

A new gentlemen's cloakroom is shortly being erected at the "Club" and this will make a very great improvement and enhance the internal layout immensely.

In conclusion, we send our greetings to all "Die-Hards" everywhere, and when you have time the address is:

The Crawford Hut,
Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.

8 p.m., the last Saturday in each month. Further details can be obtained from the Secretary at the same address.

OLD COMRADES.

The Editor was very pleased to receive a long letter recently from Mr. A. H. Say of Christchurch, New Zealand, who wrote to say that he had been present at the Investiture held by the Queen when she visited Christchurch. Mr. A. H. Say enlisted in the Regiment in November, 1892 (No. 3889), and was a Regimental Drill Instructor and Regimental Musketry Instructor.

* * *

No. 154, "A" Ward,
Royal Hospital,
Highlands Road,
Leatherhead, Surrey,
April 28, 1954.

To the Editor, *The Die-Hards*:

May I please introduce myself as In-pensioner Sydney Reynolds, late Sergeant, No. 3547, The Middlesex Regiment. I note that a copy of *The Die-Hards* has been placed in the reading-room of the above and I naturally eagerly perused its pages; but, of course, after such a prolonged period of severance from those of my contemporaries I found very little to revive memories.

One item, however, did bring back a very vivid and pleasing memory: the reference to Lilian Anson, widow of Major Anson. This lady as a child was a pupil of Army Schoolmaster G. A. White, who was afterwards succeeded by Mr. B. Dryer under whom I served as School Assistant during 1898-99 at Wellington, Nilgiris, Madras, India (see Notes by M. B., page 244, March, 1954).

During my service as School Assistant I served under the following masters: Mr. McAllen, Mr. Morris, Mr. Samuels, Mr. Purdie, Mr. Dryer, Mr. Heynes and Mr. G. A. White. As Acting Schoolmaster-Sergeant I was, for a considerable period, in charge of the Depot School at Mill Hill Barracks. I have mentioned these Army Schoolmasters, from all of whom I received much prized testimonials, in the sincere hope that I may possibly get in touch, by some means, with at least one of them, though I am aware that the passing of time makes that hope very slender.

Apologising for encroaching upon the limited time you have, no doubt, at your disposal for editorial duties, I wish *The Die-Hards* and all in connection with it a smooth-running and prosperous time.

Yours sincerely,
SYDNEY REYNOLDS.

EX-DRUMMER A. SYKES

At a recent investiture at the Tower of London Sgt. A. Sykes was presented with the British Empire Medal (Military) for service in Korea, by Major-Gen. J. G. Cowley, G.O.C.-in-C., Eastern Command, on behalf of the Queen. Sgt. Sykes was called up as a "Z" Reservist to serve in the Gloucestershire Regiment in Korea when he won this decoration, but he served with the Middlesex Regiment as a Drummer and is known to many of our readers.

HORNSEY OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

A series of social evenings held weekly by Hornsey Branch of the "Die-Hards" O.C.A. Club at the T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, proved notably gay and successful, and attracted members from other Clubs.

The two coach outings, one to Redbourne and the other to Hemel Hempstead, were a great success and on both occasions ended with a dance, which was well organised by D/Major Holford and his drums; spoons by Jim Kendall.

The smoking concert given by the C.O.—Col. Ellis, 7th Middlesex—was thoroughly enjoyed by all, especially by the O.C.A., who were the guests. The two sketches, "The Disorderly Room" and "The Busy Bee" (and not forgetting the other artistes), made the whole evening a great success.

The Club invites all past members of the "Die-Hards" of all ranks to join in the social events of the future with us. Your wives or lady friends will be welcome on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m.

Extracts from "London Gazette"

February 12, 1954

Lt.-Col. (now Col.) A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E. (41130), the notification in the *Gazette (Supplement)*, dated August 21, 1953, is cancelled.

February 19, 1954

Lt. J. I. D. Pike (383555) to be Captain, June 30, 1954.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

Lt. E. Clarke (406401) relinquishes his commission, February 20, 1954.

March 9, 1954

2/Lt. H. D. Tymms (424059) is granted the acting rank of Lieutenant, March 7, 1954.

March 12, 1954

The notification concerning Capt. (Acting Major) A. J. Hands (172117) in *Gazette (Supplement)*, dated December 29, 1953, is cancelled.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Capt. (Acting Major) A. J. Hants (172117), from Active List, to be Captain, October 13, 1953, retaining his present seniority.

REGULAR ARMY

March 16, 1954

Major G. Lerwill, O.B.E., M.C. (388278), to be Lieut.-Colonel, June 18, 1953 (substituted for the notification in *Gazette (Supplement)* dated October 6, 1953).

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

The undermentioned Cadets to be 2/Lieutenants, February 6, 1954:—

22737272 Anthony Michael Charles Baker (432788).

22762983 Peter Alexander Walden (432810).

22869860 Edward Falconer Wright (432804).

March 23, 1954

2/Lt. G. L. Blacktop (424967) is granted the acting rank of Lieutenant, March 21, 1954.

2/Lt. G. C. Ross (425004), from Regular Army National Service List, to be 2/Lieutenant, February 21, 1954, with seniority September 20, 1952.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

2/Lt. (Acting Lt.) A. R. K. Hardcastle (412195) to be Lieutenant, March 21, 1954, with seniority April 3, 1952.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

March 26, 1954

Short Service Commission: Capt. R. Stapleton

(165315), from Active List, to be Captain, March 27, 1954, retaining his present seniority.

March 30, 1954

The undermentioned Officer Cadet from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, to be 2/Lieutenant, February 12, 1954, with seniority February 12, 1954:—
Ian Merick Ellis Lloyd (433176).

TERRITORIAL ARMY

2/Lt. (Acting Lt.) M. Joseph (422466), from R.W.F., to be 2/Lieutenant (Acting Lieutenant), January 31, 1954, retaining his present seniority.

April 13, 1954

2/Lt. J. F. A. Weil (425741) is granted the acting rank of Lieutenant, April 11, 1954.

Short Service Commission: Capt. E. C. Morey (141784) (Emp. List 4) to be Major, April 14, 1954.

REGULAR ARMY

April 20, 1954

Major H. Marsh (44933) retires on retired pay on account of disability, April 21, 1954.

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

The undermentioned Cadets to be 2/Lieutenants, February 6, 1954:—

22869785 Roger Michael Marsh Heming (433425).

22890491 Paul Aylwin Whitcher (433408).

April 23, 1954

Short Service Commission: 2/Lt. P. R. Young (425995) to be Lieutenant, March 7, 1954.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Major M. A. Jacob (31497), having attained the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Reserve of Officers, February 15, 1954.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

May 4, 1954

2/Lt. (Acting Lt.) B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C. (411732), to be Lieutenant, May 5, 1954, with seniority March 16, 1952.

MAJOR H. MARSH

We were glad to learn that Major Marsh, who retired from the Active List on March 21, had found employment as a "Field Officer" under the National Association of Boys' Clubs, with the task of organising these Clubs in Northamptonshire and Leicestershire.

Henry Marsh was commissioned into the Regiment from Sandhurst on January 30, 1930. Most of his 24 years' service was spent in the 1st Battalion, which he joined originally in 1930. Later he was to fight with them in Hong Kong, when he was Mentioned in Despatches. As a prisoner of war of the Japanese he did much to maintain morale.

After the war he returned to Hong Kong in 1949 with the 1st Battalion and was given a warm welcome by a large portion of the civilian population who had known him previously.

We wish Henry every success in his new job and trust he will continue to visit us from time to time.

Details of Essay Competitions to be held in 1954-55

1. *Bertrand Steward Prize Essay Competition*, 1954. Prize, £80. Closing date, June 19, 1954.

Subject: "For many years it has been necessary for a large proportion of the Army to be stationed in the Middle East. This has necessitated costly and extensive trooping arrangements for the relief of units and individuals and has meant that Regular officers and soldiers are often separated from their families for long periods. It has been suggested that under modern conditions it would be more economical and better for the morale of the Army if overseas garrisons were reduced to a minimum and mobile reserves stationed in the United Kingdom with a fleet of transport aircraft permanently available to take them wherever they were required at short notice."

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this suggestion and say whether you think it would be practicable.

General conditions for the essay are contained in A.C.I. 683/53.

2. *George Knight Clowes Memorial Prize Essay*, 1955. Prizes: First prize, £35; second prize, £15.

Closing date, January 7, 1955.

Subject: "When, after the war, National Service was instituted as a means of filling the ranks of the Regular Army, many people predicted that it would result in serious loss of fighting efficiency, especially in distant overseas units. These forebodings have proved false, and the Army has fulfilled all its commitments successfully."

Comment on the present Army system of handling, training and utilising the National Service man and the National Service officer, and make suggestions for improving existing methods. If possible, give examples from your own experience, or which are within your knowledge.

General conditions for the essay are contained in A.C.I. 625/53.

3. *Gold Medal and Trench Gascoigne Prize Essay Competition*. Prize: Thirty guineas and Gold Medal. Closing date, November 15, 1954.

Subject: "To what extent will the introduction of atomic weapons and guided missiles modify the traditional functions of the Navy, Army and Air Force; and what changes in the structure and training of the three services will be necessary to enable them to perform their new functions?"

OR

"Rearmament and the maintenance of large land, sea, and air forces during a cold war cause national bankruptcy. Our economic position at present prohibits the support of large armed forces and, consequently, dominates our strategic policy. Discuss what strategy, in your view, should be adopted in the circumstances and what type of force, bearing in mind the need for efficiency and balance, should be maintained to implement it."

General conditions for the essays are contained in A.C.I. No. 102/1954.

ARMY ART SOCIETY

The Society, which exists to encourage Art in the Army, and sister Services, is holding its 23rd Annual Exhibition at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, from November 10 to November 27, 1954.

All ranks of the Army, the Royal Navy, and the Royal Air Force, *past or present*, permanent or temporary, may submit works for consideration.

It is an entirely unofficial organisation and for several years very successful exhibitions have been held in London each autumn, and these afford an opportunity for artists—who often have the advantage of painting subjects overseas—to show their works and compare them with others. This adds a real interest and object to their hobby.

Intending exhibitors are invited to apply now for particulars. Applications should be addressed to: Hon. Secretary, Lt.-Col. J. F. Batten, O.B.E., M.C., "Sherwood," Cannon Hill, Bray, Berks.

Births

HODGE.—On March 1, 1954, at B.M.H., Klagenfurt to Mary (*nee* Gibbs), wife of Capt. R. A. Hodge (The Middlesex Regiment)—a son (Timothy Stafford), brother for Christopher and Jennifer.

BELLERS.—On April 13, 1954, at Catterick Military Hospital, to Wendy, wife of Capt. P. G. V. Bellers, The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), a son (Christopher John Vernon), a brother for Penny and Christine.

ST. CLAIR.—On April 30, at Military Families Hospital, Chatham, to Netty, (*nee* Bout), wife of Capt. G. E. St. Clair, R.A.S.C.—twins (Jennifer Edwina and Susan Antoinette).

Deaths

ROSE.—We regret to announce the death on February 9 of 4174 Sgt. H. E. B. Rose, who served with the 1st Battalion at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th. He was aged 76 years, and it was much regretted that the information was received too late for the Regiment to be represented at his funeral.

BURTENSHAW.—On February 11 C. F. Burtenshaw, aged 59 years. His funeral at Acton Cemetery on February 18 was attended by a member of the Regiment and a wreath was laid on behalf of the Association.

WILLCOX.—On March 11 ex-R.S.M. Worthy Willcox, D.C.M., aged 80 years. Particulars of the service of this ex-R.S.M. were published in the December journal, and his passing so soon after is sadly mourned. Particulars of the cremation were received too late for the Regiment to be represented. However, a letter of condolence was sent to the widow.

FARLEY.—We regret to announce the death on March 15, 1954, of Col. A. H. Farley, D.L., J.P. Col. Farley was a member of the Officers Club and from 1949 to 1951 was Chairman of the Middlesex County Council. A wreath was sent on behalf of the Association.

MOREY.—We regret to announce the death of Major E. C. Morey in Millbank Hospital on April 27, 1954. The cremation took place at Golders Green Crematorium and was attended by Major P. D. H. Marshall.

FENEMORE.—On April 27, 1954, Frank Fenemore, the Hon. Secretary of the 9th Battalion Old Comrades' Club. A letter of condolence from the Association and a wreath were sent. Full particulars are given elsewhere in this Journal.

Obituary

MR. FRANK FENEMORE

On April 27, 1954, the Old Comrades' Association suffered a grievous loss through the death of Frank Fenemore, Honorary Secretary of the 9th Battalion Branch. The loss will be a more personal one for his old Battalion for Frank was a "9th man" in every sense of the word.

He joined them in 1906 when they were the 5th West Middlesex Rifle Volunteers, and served throughout with the Harrow Company. During the 1914-18 War he went with them to India and Mesopotamia where he became Sergeant Master Cook of the Battalion.

In 1922 he was elected the Honorary Secretary of the Wealdstone, Harrow section of the 9th Battalion O.C.A., and a few years later took over the secretaryship of the whole of the 9th Battalion Branch.

During the years that followed it would be true to say that no meeting of the 9th O.C.A. was complete without the presence of this short, sturdy, rosy cheeked, apparently ageless man, and no letter seemed authentic if not couched in his own inimitable terms and with his signature at the foot.

The 1939-45 War brought changes of role and title for the 9th Battalion, but its transfer to the Royal Artillery did not mean a transfer from the "Die-Hard" tradition, least of all to Frank who, aided by some of his contemporaries, was largely responsible for the continued existence of the 9th O.C.A. and its emergence in the years of peace full of the robustness of the pre-war years.

It is a tribute to his personality that the present Committee is composed largely of "Wealdstoners," who, with Frank, have worked hard to overcome the disadvantage that in 1947 the reconstituted 9th Battalion was moved to a new home in Kingsbury and the old homes at Pound Lane and Wealdstone were lost to them, but not, let us hope, for ever.

Frank's work was characterised by a simple sincerity, a high sense of duty and a tenacity of purpose which earned for him the affection and respect of all who knew him. With the advance of years—and more recently the loss of the sight of one eye, which he bore with a fortitude which was indicative of "the man within"—he felt that he should step aside for a younger man, but those who persuaded him to continue realised that "age had not wearied him," and it is some consolation to know that Frank died in harness, as he would have wished for himself, who was above all things a real "Die-Hard" in thought, word and deed.

At his funeral on May 1, 1954, he was mourned by a representative gathering of Old Comrades of both wars, and serving members of the Regiment. In addition to Col. Browne there were present six Commanding Officers of the 9th Battalion in Cols. Beach, Lamont, Fox, Gray, Dear and MacFadden, together with Col. Crawford, Majors Sherwood, Hardcastle and Hughes, Capt. Mieville, Barber and Dennis, together with many others who knew and fondly remembered this "gentle man."

To his widow and his family we extend the condolences of all Old Comrades together with the hope that the sense of communal loss will help to ease the burden of sorrow laid upon them.

H.W.W.G.

Charles Saunders

It is with regret that we have to record the death of an Old Comrade—Charles Saunders, who died on May 3, 1954, at Highgate. He was 85 years of age.

His service with the Regiment dates from 1885, he having served with the City Imperial Volunteers in the Boer War.

Later, he served with the 17th Battalion at Gibraltar and in France during the First World War. He was discharged in 1917.

He was a keen and excellent rifle shot, being Battalion shot for ten years and making a name for himself at Bisley.

During his lifetime he served under many distinguished Commanding Officers including Brigadier H. A. D. Murray, and the late Col. Sir E. King.

He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him, particularly the Old Comrades' Club.

The funeral took place at Enfield Crematorium on May 5, 1954, and was attended by a gathering of relations and close friends including representatives of 7th Battalion Middlesex. He was buried, as he would have wished, with military honours. The Last Post and Reveille were sounded by Drum Major Holdford.

War Memorial—43rd (Wessex) Infantry Division (T.A.)

Rough Tor, Cornwall

Rough Tor, on Bodmin Moor, has been presented to the nation by Sir Richard Onslow, Bart., as a memorial to the officers, N.C.O.s and men of the 43rd (Wessex) Infantry Division who lost their lives in the campaign in North-West Europe in 1944 and 1945. A plaque to that effect is being let into one of the rocks at the top of the tor.

It is proposed to hold a dedication and unveiling ceremony on Saturday, September 4, 1954. The unveiling will be performed by Gen. Sir G. Ivor Thomas, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., who commanded the Division throughout that campaign.

Timings and other details will be notified as soon as they are settled. In the meantime it is requested that the ceremony should be given the widest publicity.



St. Symphonia. German monument to men of 4th Middlesex.

ST. SYMPHORIEN CEMETERY

This photograph is of a tombstone put up by the German Army in their cemetery at St. Symphorien, near Mons, in the 1914 War. The lettering reads:

"Here repose 46 English Soldiers of the 4th Battalion Middlesex Regiment."

The photograph was taken by Brigadier W. J. Jervois, M.C., p.s.c. Colonel The Northamptonshire Regiment, whilst on a mission.

The Brigadier, writing to our Colonel, Gen. G. C. Bucknall, adds: "You will be surprised at hearing from me. I do not believe we have met since those palmy days at Sandhurst, when I seem to remember an indignant parent demanding your head on a charger because your chaps had, very appropriately, deposited his offspring in the lake."

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX T.A. HEADQUARTERS AT 59 GREEN STREET, MAYFAIR, W.1, ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1954, AT 2.15 P.M.

Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L. (Chairman), Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. W. D. Ellis, T.D., Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major P. D. H. Marshall, Major A. R. Waller, M.C., R.S.M. P. Donovan, R.S.M. L. Tostevin, C.S.M. R. Budden, C/Sgt. E. Dodkins, Sgt. R. A. Bullock, Mr. G. H. E. Duffield, Mr. C. Holdford, B.E.M., Mr. J. R. Bell, M.B.E., Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major D. C. L. Nolda.

Election of Chairman. It was proposed by Col. Browne, seconded by Lt.-Col. Rooke and carried unanimously that Lt.-Col. Roberts be re-elected Chairman for a further year.

Lt.-Col. Roberts thanked the Committee for the honour they had bestowed upon him by re-electing him for a sixth year of office.

After the election Mr. Duffield said that at a future date he would like to refer to the rules relative to the election of a Chairman.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting. The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as correct.

3. Secretary's Report. The Secretary's report was distributed with the agenda.

During the year ending December 31, 1953, 304 necessitous cases were assisted with grants totalling £1,868 3s. 4d.:

	£	s.	d.
72 cases from Renny Fund	505	4	3
232 " " Association Funds	1,362	19	1
	£1,868	3	4

Regimental Reunion. The total number attending the Regimental Reunion at Seymour Hall on October 30, 1953, was 1,152. Covenants. To date 33 officers have made covenants. The total sum covenanted is £46 5s. 4d., upon which a total sum of £37 16s. 6d. can be reclaimed from the Commissioner of Income Tax. We have already received payment on 17 subscriptions and 16 are still outstanding.

In connection with the Secretary's report Mr. Duffield proposed that a list of grants made be circulated with the agenda. There being no seconder, the proposition was not resolved.

The Secretary requested the Committee to authorise him to expend a sum not exceeding £600 in assisting necessitous cases during the current quarter ending March 31, 1954. Carried unanimously.

4. Finance Committee's Report. Lt.-Col. Fox explained the audited accounts for 1953. He informed the Committee that a further £100 had been invested for the Mrs. Mabel Renny Fund, which had accrued from dividends. He recommended that £100 be transferred from the Association Charitable Fund to the Cottage Homes for future maintenance and that a sum of £50 be given as a grant to the O.C. Depot to furnish the Regimental Chapel at Inglis Barracks.

Lt.-Col. Fox also informed the Committee that a grant of £350 19s. 6d. had been made to the Journal Account to adjust the deficiency for the year. He informed the Committee that Major Nolda was examining the best method to be adopted in order to reduce the heavy costs. Lt.-Col. Fox, after inviting questions in respect of the accounts, moved that the accounts for 1953 be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Duffield. The Committee approved the adoption of the accounts.

5. Journal Committee's Report. The Chairman informed the Committee that Major Nolda was unavoidably absent on duty and would furnish his report at the next meeting.

He also explained that Brigadier Procter had relinquished the editorship of the journal to make room for younger blood. The Chairman proposed and it was approved unanimously that an appreciation of Brigadier Procter's services as editor for the last four years be recorded.

It was proposed by R.S.M. Donovan and approved by the Committee that a seniority roll of W.O.s and Sergeants be inserted in the journal half-yearly.

6. War Memorial Committee's Report.

(a) In the absence of Col. Beach, the Chairman informed the Committee that a visit to Alhambra Close was made by Col. Beach and his Committee and that the recent improvements at the estate had been maintained.

(b) Occupancy of a Cottage by Mrs. Peacock. The Chairman explained the present situation and after discussion it was approved that the widow, Mrs. Peacock, be invited to search for alternative accommodation in order to make room for a disabled soldier and his family. Major Hardcastle agreed, in conjunction with the Chairman, to forward to the Secretary for onward transmission to Mrs. Peacock a letter notifying her of the Committee's decision in accordance with the tenancy agreement.

7. Regimental History Committee's Report. Lt.-Col. Ellis reported that the second phase had been received from the author. Copies had been sent to the various co-ordinators for their comments. Lt.-Col. Ellis again stressed that delay in the returning of drafts by the co-ordinators caused great inconvenience.

8. Regimental Reunion, 1954. The Chairman informed the meeting that views from individuals and clubs had been obtained by the Secretary. The majority were in favour of a reunion similar to that held at Seymour Hall on October 30, 1953 (without cabaret). He also stated that an application had been made to the St. Marylebone Borough Council for the hire of Seymour Hall on Friday, October 22, or Friday, October 29, 1954, but that the result of the application would not be known until the end of March. In order to improve our chances of getting a date allocated for the reunion it was decided to give the Seymour Hall authorities more optional dates for the event, if necessary postponing the date to January—March, 1955.

In case the application for the Seymour Hall was unsuccessful it was approved that applications be made to hire the Porchester Hall or Manor Place Baths if the halls were suitable.

It was approved that the Old Comrades and families be invited to attend the cricket matches during the Cricket Week on the Depot cricket ground, where tents would be provided for them. The O.C. Depot said he would arrange to have stronger refreshments available in the Gymnasium.

9. Other Business. Obourg: After a brief discussion it was decided that no grant would be made from Association Charitable Funds towards the expense of individuals attending the fortieth anniversary celebrations.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.55 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, May 27, 1954, at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.1.

A. W. CLARK, Major,
Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.
March 5, 1954.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX T.A. HEADQUARTERS AT 59 GREEN STREET MAYFAIR, W.1, ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1954, AT 3.55 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L. (Chairman), Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. W. D. Ellis, T.D., Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major P. D. H. Marshall, Major A. R. Waller, M.C., Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major D. C. L. Nold.

1. Minutes. The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as correct.

2. Secretary's Report. The Secretary's report circulated with the agenda was approved:

(a) Seven members failed to pay their subscriptions for 1953 although four reminders were sent to them.

(b) The following matches during Cricket Week have been arranged at Mill Hill:

Saturday, June 19. Club v. Free Foresters.
Sunday, " 20. " v. Hampstead Heathens.
Monday, " 21. " v. Cryptics.
Tuesday, " 22. " v. Incogniti.
Wednesday, " 23. " v. I Zingari.

(c) Arrangements have been made for the "At Home" and Officers' Club Dinner to take place at the United Service Club, 116 Pall Mall, S.W.1, on Tuesday, June 29, 1954.

3. Adoption of Accounts for 1953. Lt.-Col. Fox explained the accounts which had been circulated with the agenda. He informed the Committee that a sum of £300 had been invested in building society stock. The Finance Committee recommended that the following grants be made for 1954:

(a) Cricket: £150.

(b) Dinner: Cost of dinner to be charged to members, 15s.; non-members, 25s. (which includes a glass of sherry and a glass of port). The balance to be met from club funds.

(c) "At Home": £40.

(d) Golf: £50.

(e) Tennis: £25.

Lt.-Col. Fox moved and Major Hardcastle seconded that the accounts for 1953 be adopted. Carried unanimously.

4. Officers' Club Dinner and "At Home." The Committee approved the arrangements for the "At Home" and Officers' Club Dinner to be held at the United Service Club on Tuesday, June 29, 1954.

5. Grant—Depot Chapel Fund. Major Marshall explained to the Committee details of the furnishing and decoration of the Depot Chapel. He informed the Committee that this would cost £75. It was proposed by Lt.-Col. Fox, seconded by Lt.-Col. Rooke and approved by the Committee that a grant of £25 be made from the Club funds for this purpose.

6. Cocktail Party. The Committee approved that a cocktail party be held in the Depot Officers' Mess on Thursday, April 22, 1954, after the Spring Golf Meeting and that the following charges be made: Member of the Club, 10s.; further members of his party, 5s. each.

It was also approved that arrangements be made by the O.C. Depot for a supper buffet to be installed in the billiards room of the Officers' Mess at a nominal extra charge of 3s. per head. Also that a small sub-committee be formed of officers and wives under the chairmanship of Major Marshall to make detailed arrangements. The P.M.C. to be a co-opted member.

The Committee approved of a grant not exceeding £40 for this entertainment.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.25 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major,

Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.

Inglis Barracks,

Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

March 5, 1954.

THE "DIE-HARDS" JOURNAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1953

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
1952	£ s. d.	1952	£ s. d.
£		£	
595 Cost of printing and distribution (four issues)	764 11 5	258 Advertisements	266 18 2
60 Salary and expenses	60 0 0	228 Subscriptions	211 0 9
9 Sundries	6 3 0	182 Grant from Association Charitable Fund, being excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	356 10 6
4 Audit fee	4 4 0		
£668	£834 18 5	£668	£834 18 5

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1953

1952	£ s. d.	1952	£ s. d.
£		£	
73 ACCUMULATED FUND:		25 MUSEUM at cost	25 0 0
Balance January 1, 1953	72 18 3	DEBTORS:	
101 BANK OVERDRAFT	335 9 9	31 Units for bulk issues	70 0 0
45 SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN ADVANCE	41 7 6	69 Advertisements	2 0 0
CREDITOR:		6 STOCK OF JOURNALS	356 10 6
4 Audit fee	4 4 0	182 ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND: Grant due for year to date	356 10 6
£313	£453 19 6	£313	£453 19 6

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the books, vouchers and information supplied and certify them to be in accordance therewith and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

4 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.
February 10, 1954.

HALL, WINDER & CO., Chartered Accountants.

WAR MEMORIAL FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1953

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
To Insurances	45 0 0	By Rents	260 0 0
Salary—Housing Manager	25 0 0	" Maintenance receipts	52 0 0
Audit Fee	15 15 0		
Postages and Cheque Book	2 0 2		
Ground Rent (Gross)	1 0 0		
Repairs and maintenance:			
Cookers and refrigerators	16 13 0		
Sundry	8 2 0		
Balance, Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Accumulated Fund	198 9 10		
	£312 0 0		£312 0 0

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1953

ACCUMULATED CAPITAL FUND:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	ESTATE ACCOUNT—1-20 Albuhera Close:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance January 1, 1953	34,648 16 1		At cost	41,655 13 10	
Add: Donations	55 9 4		Note.—The above houses have been built on land held on lease expiring 2148. This lease is held by Enfield Urban District Council as security for loan per contra.		
Covenant (net)	39 5 9		CASH AT BANK	106 15 11	
Income Tax deducted from Covenant received year to April 5, 1953	33 18 7			41,762 9 9	
	£ s. d. 34,777 9 9		DEBTORS:		
Less: Secretary's expenses	10 0		Tenants—		
Bronze name plates for houses	35 0 0		Net amount re rates, gas and electricity	55 16 2	
	45 0 0		Rent and maintenance	6 0	
	34,732 9 9			56 2 2	
LOAN ACCOUNT:			INSURANCES PAID IN ADVANCE	33 15 0	
Enfield Urban District Council	6,849 6 1		CASH AT BANK	501 11 3	
LOAN REDEMPTION RESERVE	150 13 11		CASH IN HAND	14 0 0	
MAINTENANCE FUND:					
Donations received during year	30 0 0				
	41,762 9 9				
ACCUMULATED INCOME FUND:					
Balance January 1, 1953	210 15 9				
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	198 9 10				
	409 5 7				
SUSPENSE ACCOUNT:					
Balance January 1, 1953	217 14 10				
Add: Housing grant received from Enfield Urban District Council during year	310 0 0				
	£ s. d. 527 14 10				
Less: Interest on loan	310 5 5				
Amortization Provision	68 2 4				
	378 7 9				
	149 7 1				
SITE IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT:					
Grant received from Middlesex County Council	250 0 0				
Less: Expenditure during year	159 14 9				
	90 5 3				
CREDITORS:					
Audit Fee	15 15 0				
Income Tax deducted from Ground Rent	9 6				
Tenant—Rent and maintenance paid in advance	6 0				
	16 10 6				
	£42,427 18 2				£42,427 18 2

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the books, vouchers and information supplied and certify them to be in accordance therewith and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

4 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.
February 10, 1954.

HALL, WINDER & CO., Chartered Accountants.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR

Total 1952 £	EXPENDITURE	Renny Fund £ s. d.	Association Fund £ s. d.	Total £ s. d.
17	GRANTS AND ALLOWANCES:			
50	Sundry		34 4 9	34 4 9
45	Regular Forces Employment Association		50 0 0	50 0 0
5	Sundry Charities		60 3 0	60 3 0
	Depot Chapel		5 0 0	5 0 0
	Regimental Museum		100 0 0	100 0 0
	Officers Club Charitable Fund		50 0 0	50 0 0
1,979	Individual cases	505 4 3	1,362 19 1	1,868 3 4
2,096		505 4 3	1,662 6 10	2,167 11 1
19	Wreaths		30 4 7	30 4 7
106	O.C.A. Reunions		172 2 8	172 2 8
79	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES:			
100	Postages		15 11	15 11
588	Printing and stationery		3 15 1	3 15 1
56	Salaries and expenses	160 0 0	444 13 6	610 13 6
4	Travelling and office expenses		49 3 11	49 3 11
182	Cheque books		4 0 0	4 0 0
	Audit fee	15 15 0	22 1 0	37 16 0
	Grant— <i>Die-Hards</i> Journal—Deficiency for year		350 10 6	350 10 6
	Coronation expenses		36 0 0	36 0 0
723	Provision for maintenance—Cottage Homes and Chapel		150 0 0	150 0 0
	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR	54 12 3	14 5 10	68 18 1
£3,991		£746 2 6	£3,954 18 8	£3,801 1 2

BALANCE SHEET AS AT

Total 1952 £		Renny Fund £ s. d.	Association Fund £ s. d.	Total £ s. d.
48,125	ACCUMULATED FUNDS:			
	Balance January 1, 1953	21,999 1 7	26,126 0 3	48,125 1 10
	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	54 12 3	14 5 10	68 18 1
		22,053 13 10	26,140 6 1	48,193 19 11
220	CREDITORS:			
	Audit Fee	15 15 0	22 1 0	37 16 0
	Grant due to <i>Die-Hards</i> Journal		350 19 0	394 15 6
				394 15 6
	PROVISION FOR MAINTENANCE:			
	Cottage Homes and Chapel		150 0 0	150 0 0
934	REGIMENTAL HISTORY:			
	Balance January 1, 1953	933 19 7		933 19 7
	Less Expenditure during year	105 5 0		105 5 0
			828 14 7	828 14 7
2,030	MRS. M. RENNY LEGACY:			
	Balance January 1, 1953	2,029 15 7		2,029 15 7
	Add Interest on Investment for year	74 8 0		74 8 0
	Deposit Interest	1 5 9		1 5 9
			2,105 9 4	2,105 9 4
£51,309		£22,069 8 10	£20,603 10 6	£51,672 19 4

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the books, vouchers and information supplied and certify them to be in accordance therewith and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

4 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.
February 10, 1954.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT CHARITABLE FUND

THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1953

Total 1952 £	INCOME	Renny Fund £ s. d.	Association Fund £ s. d.	Total £ s. d.
1,000	GRANTS AND DONATIONS:			
20	Army Benevolent Fund		500 0 0	500 0 0
517	51st Highland Division Trust Fund		862 10 0	862 10 0
	M.C.C. Sunday Entertainments Fund		32 17 0	32 17 0
169	O.C. Depot Middlesex Regiment		255 6 3	255 6 3
10	P.R.I., 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment		10 0 0	10 0 0
74	P.R.I., 5th Battalion Middlesex Regiment			
25	Band President, 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment			
10	2/7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment		10 0 0	10 0 0
20	O.C. 7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment			
40	O.C. 505 L.A.A./S.L. Regiment		10 0 0	10 0 0
	R.A.T.A. (9th Battalion)			
	17th Battalion balance of funds			
1,916			1,680 13 3	1,680 13 3
	"DIE-HARDS" CLUBS AND O.C.A.S:			
2	Uxbridge		1 7 6	1 7 6
3	Mill Hill		7 5 0	7 5 0
9	2/7th Battalion O.C.A.		7 5 6	7 5 6
5	9th Battalion O.C.A.		1 0 0	1 0 0
	Ealing		3 11 0	3 11 0
	Hornsey			
459	SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS		470 3 1	470 3 1
1,593	INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS (GROSS)	746 2 6	854 14 4	1,591 16 10
2	PROFIT ON SALE OF O.C.A. BADGES		10 7	10 7
	PROFIT ON SALE OF REGIMENTAL TIES		3 5 6	3 5 6
	INTEREST ON DEPOSIT ACCOUNT		33 8 5	33 8 5
£3,991		£746 2 6	£3,954 18 8	£3,801 1 2

DECEMBER 31, 1953

Total 1952 £		Renny Fund £ s. d.	Association Fund £ s. d.	Total £ s. d.
46,805	INVESTMENTS PER ANNEXED SCHEDULE:			
	(a) At mid-market price on December 31, 1953			
	(b) At cost			
	(Mid-market value December 31, 1953—£41,640)	21,808 8 11	2,740 7 11	46,864 17 7
1	FURNITURE AND FITTINGS AT NOMINAL VALUE		1 0 0	1 0 0
18	STOCKS AT COST:			
	Badges		3 6 0	3 6 0
	Regimental ties		1 7 6	1 7 6
				4 13 6
10	LOAN—WAR MEMORIAL FUND CAPITAL ACCOUNT			
2,385	CASH AT BANKERS ON DEPOSIT AND CURRENT ACCOUNTS	170 19 11	2,525 19 0	2,696 18 11
2,030	MRS. M. RENNY LEGACY:			
	Lloyds Bank, Ltd., Deposit Account			
	Investment at cost, per annexed schedule	105 9 4		105 9 4
	(Mid-market value December 31, 1953—£2,220)	2,000 0 0		2,000 0 0
			2,105 9 4	2,105 9 4
£51,309		£22,069 8 10	£20,603 10 6	£51,672 19 4

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the books, vouchers and information supplied and certify them to be in accordance therewith and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

HALL, WINDER & CO., Chartered Accountants.

OFFICERS' CLUB ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1953

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
—	DONATIONS:			475	Subscriptions and entrance fees		484 11 0
—	Officers' Club Charitable			56	Interest on Investments:		
—	Fund	15 0 0		20	Net	68 13 7	
—	Royal School for Daughters of Officers	5 5 0		20	Gross		68 13 7
—	Empire War Memorial Fund	5 0 0			Interest on Investment held in Trust for 3rd Battalion:		
30	P.M.C. for Depot Mess	—		—	Net	9 18 1	
3	Wellington College	—		20	Gross		9 18 1
3	Wellington Gymkhana Club	—			Profit on sale of Officers' Club ties		1 16 0
38	Expenses of Cricket Week	174 10 0		—	Interest on Deposit Account		6 13 8
135	Less Receipts	33 5 0		—	Refund of income tax re Defence Bonds		5 4 6
47	Golf Meeting		141 5 0				
67	Dinner	137 16 9					
	Less Receipts	89 5 0					
13	"At Home"	25 6 3					
	Less Receipts	8 15 0					
0	M.C.C. season ticket		16 11 3				
5	Wreaths		16 0 0				
15	Remembrance Day expenses		7 5 6				
	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES:						
60	Salary and expenses	60 0 0					
37	Postages, printing and stationery	21 1 5					
9	Audit fee	9 9 0					
106	Expenses of visit to Mons		90 10 5				
10	Income tax on 3% Defence Bonds						
4	Provision for income tax on bank interest		2 18 6				
126	Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year		182 6 7				
£575			£576 17 4	£575			£576 17 4

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1953

1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
3,876	ACCUMULATED FUND:			3,687	INVESTMENTS AT COST per annexed schedule		3,686 12 4
	Balance January 1, 1953	3,875 11 0			(Mid-market value at December 31, 1953—£3,867)		
	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	182 6 7	4,057 17 7	220	CASH AT BANKERS on Deposit and Current Account	356 0 3	
	CREDITORS:			5	STOCK OF TIES	30 12 6	
9	Audit fee	9 9 0		6	STOCK OF CRICKET BALLS	3 6 0	
15	P.M.C. Depot Mess	—			DEBTOR:		
13	595 L.A.A./S.L. Regiment, R.A., re Cricket Week	—		512	HELD IN TRUST FOR 3RD BATTALION:		
	Income tax, 1953-54	2 18 6	12 7 6		Investment at cost per annexed schedule	509 10 4	
37	SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN ADVANCE		6 6 0		Cash not reinvested	2 6 3	511 16 7
512	FUNDS HELD IN TRUST FOR 3RD BATTALION: Balance January 1, 1953		511 16 7		(Mid-market value December 31, 1953—£543)		
£4,430			£4,588 7 8	£4,430			£4,588 7 8

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the books, vouchers and information supplied and certify them to be in accordance therewith and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

4 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.
February 10, 1954.

HALL, WINDER & Co., Chartered Accountants.

COTTAGE HOMES ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1953

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
24	Land Agent, Eastern Command, for rent	24 0 0		22	Grant from Eastern Command in aid of rent	22 0 0	
14	Water Rate	7 1 8		58	Interest from Investments (gross)	58 4 5	
14	Insurance	14 0 0			Excess of Expenditure over Income for year	18 6 9	
23	Audit fee	2 2 0					
14	Repairs and maintenance	51 7 6					
	Excess of Income over Expenditure for year		£98 11 2				£98 11 2
£80			£80				

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1953

1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
3,046	ACCUMULATED FUND:				INVESTMENTS PER ANNEXED SCHEDULE:		
	Balance at January 1, 1953	3,046 5 2		8	(a) At mid-market value December 31, 1953	678 3 9	
	Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for year	18 6 9	3,627 18 5	1,196	(b) At cost or par value	1,195 13 3	1,873 17 0
67	PROVISION FOR FUTURE REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE: Grant from Regimental Association Charitable Fund	200 0 0		1,874	(Mid-market value December 31, 1953—£1,631)		
	Less Expenditure on repairs and renewals to date	133 10 0	66 10 0	1,653	PROPERTY ACCOUNT at cost	1,653 0 7	
	CREDITOR:			11	DEBTOR:		
2	Audit fee	2 2 0		177	Eastern Command	169 12 10	
£1,715			£3,696 10 5	£3,715	CASH AT BANKERS		£3,696 10 5

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the books, vouchers and information supplied and certify them to be in accordance therewith and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

4 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.
February 10, 1954.

HALL, WINDER & Co., Chartered Accountants.

OFFICERS' CLUB CHARITABLE FUND
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1953

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
5	Grants			42	Dividends from Investments (gross)	43 7 0	
5	Donation—King Edward VII Hospital for Officers	25 0 0			Grants:		
2	Audit fee	2 2 0			Association Charitable Fund	50 0 0	
70	Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	81 5 0			Officers' Club Account	15 0 0	
£42			£108 7 0	£42			£108 7 0

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1953

1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1952	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
1,367	ACCUMULATED FUND:			1,269	INVESTMENTS at cost per annexed schedule	1,269 5 8	
	Balance January 1, 1953	1,366 15 2			(Mid-market value December 31, 1953—£1,288)		
	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	81 5 0	1,448 0 2	100	CASH AT BANKERS	180 16 6	
	CREDITOR:						
2	Audit fee	2 2 0					
£1,369			£1,450 2 2	£1,369			£1,450 2 2

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the books, vouchers and information supplied and certify them to be in accordance therewith and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

4 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.
February 10, 1954.

HALL, WINDER & Co., Chartered Accountants.

*Private and
Confidential*

A traditional feature of the relationship between banker and customer is the confidence that each places in the other.

The Cox's & King's branch of Lloyds Bank acts in a dual capacity. It not only conducts the private accounts of Officers but also, as Agents to the Army and Royal Air Force, issues Officers' pay and allowances. Nevertheless the usual private and confidential relationship between customer and banker is fully maintained. Officers' banking transactions are matters between the Bank and the customer only.

On the other hand when an officer needs confidential advice on financial matters the Bank can bring two centuries' experience of Service finance to the solution of his particular problems.

LLOYDS BANK LIMITED

Cox's and King's Branch

Officially appointed Agents to the Army and Royal Air Force

6 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1



**"VOLUNTEER
FOR KITCHEN
FATIGUES, SIR!"**

Wash the dixies in no time,

Sir—my water heaters give such
oceans of hot water.

Good at dhobie-ing too, Sir—my washing
machines do a family wash in less
than an hour. And Purchase Tax on
many of them has been halved.

When may I report for duty, Sir?

NORTH THAMES GAS