

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," "Seringapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "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," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg, 1915," "Bellevue, 1915," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "Albert, 1916," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fleurs-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "Bapaume, 1917," "Arras, 1917," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "Pillclem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrück," "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," "Muran, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

Regular Battalion

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

Militia Battalions

5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia).
6th Bn. (Royal Middlesex Militia). } In suspension.
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 1949-45 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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M.C., D.L.
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.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to Secretary, Regimental Association, and crossed "— & Co."

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 5/- (Post Free)

MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Reunion

All Ranks Past and Present Members,
with Ladies—The Middlesex Regiment

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29th, 1954

7.30 p.m.—11.30 p.m.

at SEYMOUR HALL

Seymour Place, W.1.

(5 mins. due north of Marble Arch, 5 mins. due east of Edgware Road)

Dancing Cabaret Bars and Buffet

Special Room with Bar and Buffet (optional) for Veterans,
Old Comrades and Wives

Tickets 2s. 6d. single, 4s. double

From: Secretary, Regimental Association, Depot, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7
or at Entrance, Seymour Hall, on the 29th October, 1954



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

EDITORIAL

We were very glad to hear that Gen. Bucknall had been appointed a Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the County of Middlesex, and we send him congratulations from all ranks of the Regiment.

The County of Middlesex has always associated itself closely with the activities of the Regiment and we are especially conscious of her generosity which has never failed us in time of need. We therefore particularly welcome this appointment of our Colonel and hope that the Regiment will long continue to be of service to the county with which it is so completely identified.

Future of the Journal

In January this year readers were warned that unless sales were greatly increased it would not be possible to continue quarterly publication of the Journal in its present form. As sales have not increased the Journal Committee has reluctantly agreed that as a trial measure there will only be three publications next year. This is necessary in order to reduce the subsidy which has to be made each year from the Association Charitable Fund.

The decision to cut down the number of issues per year in no way implies an acceptance of a lower standard of publication. The Journal will continue to publish articles and photographs to keep alive the interest of its reading public. With one less publication to worry about it is hoped that unit editors will be able to produce livelier and better written contributions than they are at present doing.

Even with a reduction in the number of publications, sales will still be insufficient to meet the high costs of present day production. It will therefore not be possible to reduce the annual subscription, which will remain the same; the price per copy, however, next year will be 1s. 4d.

COUNTY COMMISSION

The commission of Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall as a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Middlesex has been announced in the *London Gazette*.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

KNIGHT BACHELOR.—Major Arthur W. Lewey, Q.C., Colonial Legal Service, Chief Justice, Northern, Rhodesia. Major Lewey served with the Regiment and is a member of the Officers' Club.

M.B.E.—W.O.1 F. A. Britton, Middlesex Regiment.

Forthcoming Events

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 25-26 | Autumn Golf Meeting, North Hants. Golf Club, Fleet, Hants. |
| October 29 | Regimental Reunion, Seymour Hall. |
| November 6 | Remembrance Day Service, Westminster Abbey. |
| November 7 | Remembrance Day, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7. |

REGULAR OFFICERS' DINNER, 1954

The next Regular Officers' Dinner will be held at the United Services Club, Pall Mall, on Friday, December 3, 1954.

Will those concerned please make a note of the date. Full details will be circulated later.

23rd BATTALION ANNUAL REUNION

The "23rd Sportsman" Battalion, Middlesex Regiment (1915-18), which incorporates the original "17th Footballers" Battalion, will hold their Annual Reunion Dinner on Saturday, October 9, at the Prince of Wales Restaurant, Drury Lane, W.C.2. A cordial invitation is extended to all old comrades who served in these Battalions.

Full particulars from W. J. Sygrave, 36 Herbert Street, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

Christmas Cards, 1954

The following types of Christmas Cards will be available from P.R.I. The Depot from mid-October.

Prices include envelopes, and are approximate, but will not exceed those quoted.

A double card 6½ in. by 4½ in. with a colour reproduction of Lady Butler's picture "Steady the Drums and Fifes" on the outside, and the greetings and Regimental Badge on the inside. Price approximately 8d.

A single sheet card, on board 4 in. by 5 in. die-stamped with Regimental crest in gold and greetings in black letterpress. Price approximately 3d.

A limited number of double cards similar to last year's, is also available. This has a gold embossed crest and ribbons in Regimental colours on the front, with greetings and photograph reproduction of "Steady the Drums and Fifes" inside. Price 10d. each.

1st Battalion Notes

BATTALION EDITOR:—MAJOR G. C. DAWSON

Editorial

The current quarter has been mainly outstanding for its weather, daily intermittent rain finally culminating in the Danube floods in the U.S. and Russian Sectors of Austria. Needless to say, the 1st Middlesex Regiment, with its experiences of the Essex flood relief work of 1952, stood to for the best part of a night with a four-platoon company ready to don its waders.

Training

In spite of the weather the Battalion has been concentrating on shooting—the infantry's true job. The C.O. has instituted a monthly shoot for both rifle and L.M.G. for all combatant soldiers in the Battalion. This policy is bound to show results in our annual classification at Warmbad in June and July and in the rifle meetings that follow. It has also produced some interesting results from the back of stores and offices.

In spite of the weather schemes and exercises have continued. The main ones were the Command Exercise "Ploughboy" in May in which our garrison and the Graz garrison took part, and the Battalion Exercise "Golden Bough" in June. Oddly enough the weather was kind on both these exercises but the many company and platoon schemes during this period were universally very wet or snowy.

A steady stream of personnel have been proceeding on courses, notably Capts. Hodge and Cowan on pay and company commander's courses and C.S.M. Kendrick, Sgt. Power and Sgt. Stewart on drill, 3 in. mortar and platoon weapons courses.

Over 60 rank and file have now been trained on short fire-fighting courses and the R.A.S.C. have handed over the fire defences of Zeltweg to the Battalion. We hope that this may keep our own new cinema intact for the rest of our tour in Austria.

Ceremonial

Our Vienna guard duties have been steadily decreasing as the Allied Powers have given up control of various buildings and departments to the Austrian Government. We are now left with only one building to guard during our month of chairmanship in Vienna. The International Guard Change Ceremony of June 1 took place as usual in front of the Hofburg Palace, where the American forces handed over to the British, who were represented by "C" Company. Unfortunately the weather turned sour and the parade, which was a good one, finished in a very heavy downpour.

The Battalion then handed over the Vienna duties to a company of the Loyals, who had been sent up from Trieste for a break of six weeks in the big city.

The Vienna company also found a guard of honour for the American Commander in Vienna, Maj.-Gen. W. G. Fitz, Jun., who was retiring after a long and popular tour in the capital.

Visits

Early in May we were visited by Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, O.B.E., the Inspector of P.T., who was duly impressed with the physical training in Zeltweg.

In June we were visited by an A.C.F. contingent of 12 cadets conducted by Major A. T. Jones, Capt. A. G. Welling and R.S.M. Rooke. They saw our valley at its best and had a very busy time being shown all the sights, military and local.

During this period units from Trieste passed through Zeltweg for summer training in our mountain resort of Schmeltz, and we saw them all in turn—giving roof space to their Brigade L.A.D., the Band and Drums of the Suffolks and various small parties that passed through. Their G.O.C.-in-C., Maj.-Gen. Sir John Winterton, was due to call on our Mess but due to unforeseen circumstances had to call it off at the last minute.

Comings and Goings

In April Lt. Rutherford left the Battalion to try his hand at parachuting, and we wish him luck. Also our Q.M. changed over, Major Parry and family left for Germany and Lt. Waldron and family arrived from the U.K. 2/Lts. Talbot and Hemming also joined during this month.

In May 2/Lt. Gedy left and 2/Lt. Turner joined the Battalion. Capt. Pielow and his family also joined the Battalion from the U.K.

In June Capt. Hodge and family left for the local Command H.Q. in Klagenfurt, where he is G.3, Major Porter and family departed to Malta, where he will be 2 IC of the Malta Regiment, Capt. Adamson and Lt. Thomas arrived during this month and also Major Bennett and his family from the Home Counties District.

Two large drafts of over 30 came to the Battalion in May and June, the former bringing with it W.O.2 Graham, whom we welcome back to the fold.

Albuhera Day 1954

Albuhera Day was spent in the traditional manner by the Battalion in Zeltweg; "C" Company was on detachment in Vienna, but was able to send its athletic team and its Regular Subaltern to be with the Battalion. One innovation took place this year. The W.O.s and Sergeants were given lunch in the Officers' Mess on the occasion of their annual visit, and this proved very satisfactory.

"H.Q." COMPANY

The most signal event has been the reacquisition of the M.T., to whom we extend a hearty welcome. Their arrival has, however, meant the division of the Company into two groups for sport, so that we may not be quite so successful in the future. The Company is now divided as follows:

"H.Q." 1: Band, Q.M. staff, Signals Platoon, Battalion H.Q., M.I. room, Intelligence Section and B.O.R. staff.

"H.Q." 2: Drums, M.T. Section, G.D. staff, Officers' Mess staff, Regimental Police and Company H.Q.

We were fortunate enough to compete for the Albuhera Shield before this division of strength and just managed to beat "C" Company by 2½ points. They were strong in track events, but we managed to pull ahead on the more technical events, thanks chiefly to Cpl. Thomas of the Drums, who performed excellently at the pole vault and high jump. Amidst much applause the O.C. proudly collected the shield and Lt. Pollard the Athletics Trophy from Mrs. Chattey, who was kind enough to present the prizes.

The whole Company is to be congratulated on this great achievement, especially the athletic team, which did so much better than expected. We had our disappointments—we did poorly in the novices boxing and badly in the open. The football XI, having defeated "B" Company, the favourites, lost to "A" Company who were at that time bottom of the league, and so finished second on goal average. We did well, however, to come second in the swimming and cross-country and to win the cricket, rugby, hockey, basketball, water-polo and tug-of-war. The Band and the Signal Platoon provide the hard core for most of our teams, but the smaller sections of the Company give invaluable support.

We have had a full programme on the 100 yds. range this quarter in preparation for the annual classification of integrating members from the different groups of "H.Q." Company, we secured the second highest average for the first month.

We congratulate Sgt. Cripps on his marriage whilst on leave in England in June, and welcome Lt. B. A. M. Pielow as I.O.

Signal Platoon

The annual cadre finished towards the end of the first week in May, eight out of ten candidates successfully passing the grade. We welcome to the platoon Ptes. Hunt, Turrill, Cantle, Coleman, Wootton, Ball, Bastone and Hills and join in congratulating them on their result.

The finish of the cadre was closely followed by the B.T.A. spring exercise, "Ploughboy I," and the platoon broke all records by fielding a "team" 47 strong. However, quantity did not make for quality, and the exercise was not a success for the wireless section, due partly to the terrain and distances between Companies. "Charlie William" seemed to be the solution, so, whilst the R.S.O. was coping with the intricacies of

commanding "H.Q." Company, Sgt. Bailey embarked on a concentrated Morse cadre. Schemes were also carried out in conjunction with our rear link from Klagenfurt; Leoben proved to be a popular site for the control set! The Battalion scheme in June, "Golden Bough," a defence exercise with four Companies taking part, proved much more to our liking; 62 and 31 set nets worked well and we spent a lot of time laying line and digging in the exchange, Signal office and control set. The platoon was up to full strength, with even the Vienna contingent aiding and abetting us; line was all laid on foot and at all hours of the night. The C.P. line gave a considerable amount of trouble and a pantomime eventually developed between Pte. Beckwith on the exchange and Seagull in the C.P.; one awoke to a dawn chorus of "Adjutant—Exchange, sir," which continued until both reach top "C," by which time even the Companies on the far-distant hills could tell the line was out. Eventually both parties would make for each other's trenches on foot, meeting halfway with a chorus of "I'm trying to ring you (sir)." Perhaps the solution lies in the bush telegraph we mentioned in our last notes or even the well-tried pigeon, flag or cleft stick means of communication. We have at last been issued with the drums from which to lay our assault cable, but already vast quantities seem to be disappearing into L/Cpl. McCorry's workshop—his wirelesses seem to grow bigger and better as time progresses and rumour has it that his latest creation does away with the use of a crystal.

We have had very little platoon sport, as the Band, our oldest rivals, are in England and the Mortar Platoon refuse to answer our challenges. Cpl. Forey, L/Cpls. Small and Colston and Ptes. Bishop and Overton did well in the inter-Company athletics, and the R.S.O., Cpl. Freeman, L/Cpl. Colston and Ptes. Gould 97, Young, Bishop, Coles and Harvey all play cricket for "H.Q." (1), the first four named also representing the Battalion—the R.S.O. apparently has the right sort of blazer.

We welcome to the platoon the new cadre, plus Pte. Wheat, cousin of L/Cpl. Wheat and a recent transfer from the Royal Signals; Pte. Lennon, fresh from the Depot; Pte. Pritchard, who has decided that life in the Signal Platoon is not so bad after all; and "Flags," our new dog. Ptes. Lennon and Wheat are both picking up a signaller's life as they go along and attended the recent cadre for Company operators; both, we hope, will eventually make driver/operators. We welcome back from Hythe, Cpl. Cheesman and congratulate him on his result and grading. We can hardly remember his previous service in the platoon. Six weeks' leave and a three-month course is a long time to be away—had he had his way he would have been away even longer, his attempts to obtain a mysterious three weeks' end-of-course leave being foiled at the eleventh hour.

Many of the familiar faces have left us in recent months and we were all very sorry to say goodbye to our old friends Cpl. Freeman, L/Cpls. Colston and Morley, Ptes. Marden and Thornton and the nine stalwarts of the Queen's draft, who have all returned to the joys of civilian life. In August we lose another

batch of stalwarts, and Pte. Baker leaves us any day now for the Parachute Regiment. We wish them all the very best of luck and hope they will not lose touch with us.

Finally, we congratulate L/Cpls. Durrant and Turrill on their promotion, and wish all past members of the platoon good luck for the future.

Band

Since our last notes many notable changes have taken place. Firstly we have bidden farewell to Sgt. Cook, Bdsm. Cunningham and Pecksen, who have departed for civilian life. Our best wishes go with them.

At the time of writing we hear that A/Sgt. Hazlewood is being attached to the Depot until his release in July. A/Sgt. Hazlewood, better known as "Mutt," will be a great loss to the Band and the Regiment. He is one of the oldest soldiers in the Battalion and has spent nearly all his service abroad with the Regiment. Though an ex-prisoner of war in Japanese hands, he still has a soft spot for Hong Kong even to this day, and we all expect him to return there. Our best wishes go with him wherever he may be.

At sport we have again excelled ourselves. No few than seven of the Band represented the Battalion at hockey, namely B.M. Jackson, Sgts. Hannam and Grogan, Bdsm. Rose, Duncan, Dawson and Ingram. In the semi-final of the B.T.A. Cup we beat Vienna Garrison 5-0, but in the final we lost to Klagenfurt Administrative Unit 4-1. The victors had a very formidable side, including one Irish international, whose short corners always led to goals.

Congratulations to B.M. Jackson on being selected for the B.T.A. hockey team again, and to Sgt. Grogan for the first time.

At athletics on Albuhera Day we were again well represented in the field, assisting "H.Q." Company to win the Athletic and Albuhera Shields.

Special mention should be made of the do or die effort of L/Cpl. Davies on the pole vault. One must also mention the defeat of the A.P.T.S. staff team by 25-16 by our stalwart basket-ball team during our short stay at Shorncliffe Camp. Well done lads!

And now to our tour. Having returned from guard duties in Vienna on June 2 we began our journey to the U.K. on June 4. We had a worrying time when one of our trucks broke down on the way to Klagenfurt with the kit, but we still caught the *Medloc*. On Sunday, at Charing Cross Station, we had the pleasure of meeting some old friends, C/Sgt. Street, ex-Sgt. Cook, ex-Bdsm. Fry and Student B.M. Bayton, who saw us on our way to Folkestone. By coincidence all four members were trombone players.

On Whit Monday we began our public engagements at Folkestone. We had fine weather and the attendance was over 1,000. The Band was well appreciated by the audience and everyone put in all they had to make the week a success. For the remainder of the week the weather took control and one concert was cancelled owing to rain. Our next big shock came on Saturday afternoon when no fewer than three Bandmasters, the late Director of Music, Kneller Hall, Lt.-Col. M. Roberts, and the Director of Music for the W.R.A.C.

were amongst the audience in the Leas Cliffe Hall. Having finished our week's engagement we took advantage of listening to the Band of the Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards on Sunday.

On Monday we travelled to our old home, Mill Hill, where we played during the cricket week.

On Sunday, June 20, we gave a concert at Radnor Gardens, Twickenham, in the vicinity of the Royal Military School of Music. On this occasion we had the help of C/Sgt. Street, Student B.M.s L. Bentley and D. Bayton. Quite a number of ex-Bandsmen and Old Comrades were present, not forgetting the critics from Kneller Hall. The Mayor of Twickenham also attended and gave a short speech at the conclusion of the programme.

A first class concert was enjoyed by all. One could not miss out the brilliant rendering of the trombone solos by Student B.M. Bayton and the helping hand of Student B.M. L. Bentley, who has just completed his studies as a potential Bandmaster. We take this opportunity of congratulating him.

Tuesday, June 22, was a red letter day for us as we had an audition for a bandstand programme on the wireless. This was performed at the Playhouse Studio, Charing Cross, in front of Mr. Harry Mortimer, who is controller of military and brass band programmes for the B.B.C. We are all awaiting the recorded event at a later date whilst enjoying a well-earned three weeks' leave at home.

We also congratulate Sgt. Hazlewood, Cpl. Beechey and L/Cpl. Christopher on their respective promotions.

In conclusion we welcome to the fold Bdsm. Coe, ex-Royal Marines, who joined us in May.

Corps of Drums

June 1 found us all getting extremely wet in front of the Hofburg Palace in Vienna in the process of completing another International Guard change. Notwithstanding the appalling weather, the ceremony was again watched by a very large crowd. On our return from the big city we started packing for another spot of U.K. leave, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all and sundry. Immediately on our return we found ourselves at Warmbad for the annual classification. The standard of shooting showed a marked improvement on last year, and the marksmen among us are now in training for the Battalion rifle meeting.

We have had to bid farewell to many familiar faces this quarter, and others among us are on the verge of going. D.M. Padley, who has literally gone to the dogs on transfer to the R.A.V.C., Dmr. Medland, who has gone to join Dmr. Ilbury at the Depot, L/Cpls. Purdon and Humphries and Dmr. White, who have all been demobbed. Next month we are losing Cpl. Thomas and Dmr. Roberts, also to Civvy Street. We are sorry to see these stalwarts leaving us, they leave gaps that will be hard to replace. We wish them all the best for the future. Their going was not, however, a total loss. We welcome four newcomers in the form of Dmrs. Giffard, Phelps, Corrie and Cahill, and the Drums are all looking forward to the arrival of L/Sgt. Lewis, who

is coming to us from the Welsh Guards to take D.M. Padley's place.

We wish to offer our heartiest congratulations to D.M. and Mrs. Padley on the birth of a son, also to L/Cpl. Stannard on his marriage. Finally, we offer our best wishes for the future to all members, past and present.

M.T. Platoon

The past three months have seen a great many changes in the personnel and organisation of the M.T. Platoon. The Platoon has returned to its original home in "H.Q." Company after a long spell in "S" Company, and now vehicles have been permanently allocated to rifle companies.

Among the changing faces in the Platoon we welcome 2/Lt. Humber as assistant M.T.O. and Sgt. Hope as Technical Sergeant. Sgt. Burn has left to return to the Depot to spend the last months of his service in the U.K. and Sgt. Wright has come out of the Stores to become M.T. Sergeant once again.

We congratulate Cpls. Stamp and Males on their promotion and our good wishes go with Cpl. Godfrey and L/Cpl. Mister on their return to civilian life.

"A" COMPANY

During the months of April to June, 1954, the main stress for "A" Company has been on tactical training, the annual rifle and L.M.G. classification and our return to Vienna.

Tactical training began ominously with a Company exercise in the neighbouring hills, Exercise "Wild-flower," during which Major R. K. B. Allott commanded the Company owing to the absence on leave of Major G. O. Porter. The weather when we left camp was mild, but during the afternoon snow fell, and this gradually became more severe until, some time after midnight, the exercise was stopped by one of the severest freezes of the whole winter. C/Sgt. Breame stuck gallantly to his post (the fire) brewing hot tea, while some other N.C.O.s of the Company wandered from position to position, like St. Bernard dogs, with life-giving rum. But, in spite of all efforts, the cold claimed its victims and several people collapsed. You never can trust Austrian weather—this happened at the very end of April!

A week later we provided a platoon of "own troops" for a "B" Company exercise, and a further party for the enemy who were commanded by 2/Lt. I. M. E. Lloyd. Once again the weather on leaving camp was mild. During the afternoon rain fell, and a party of the enemy, coming over the hills to attack "B" Company from the rear, found on finally making their objective, after some three hours' climbing through mountain snow and mist, that the birds had flown—the chief umpire had been forced by the continuous and heavy rain to abandon the day.

On May 10 and 11 we took part with the rest of the Battalion, in an exercise on a bigger scale, Exercise "Harbour Club." Lt. I. G. Thomas commanded the Company and Major R. K. B. Allott this time commanded the enemy, but even so we still saw him on one occasion—and at closer range than we had intended.

All these schemes led up to Exercise "Plough Boy." This lasted from May 18 to 20 and involved the whole Command. Throughout the night of May 18-19 we were prepared to move out of camp at one hour's notice, but the alarm did not in fact sound until early in the morning. The G.O.C.-in-C., who we are now beginning to know quite well, visited our first position after we were dug in. He particularly praised No. 3 Platoon. The platoon officer was 2/Lt. T. Humber, temporarily posted to us for the exercise. Towards evening we withdrew to Judenberg, and found crowds of Austrians watching the Mortar Platoon loading invisible bombs into their mortars. The weather this time fortunately remained fine. "Plough Boy" was, incidentally, Major Porter's last exercise with the Company.

At the beginning of June the Battalion began to rehearse the Queen's Birthday parade, and the general attention, which for several months past had been concentrated on "the field," switched to "the square." This made an interesting change in routine. The parade was held on June 10 and Sgt. Cubitt formed part of the Colour escort.

Four days later we left Zeltweg again, this time on foot. One of the aims of Exercise "Tryout" was to practise the Company in moving rapidly without vehicles. We marched in to take up our positions just at the start of a torrential downpour. The weather struck with a vengeance: the half-dug trenches became water-logged and the floor of the hastily erected command-post tent was a river. But this time, although it rained throughout the day and part of the night, we were staying. At lunch time on the following day we marched back into camp wet, muddy and rather self-satisfied.

Exercise "Tryout" was a preparation for the last of our major exercises, Exercise "Golden Bough." On both these occasions we were commanded by Major R. K. B. Allott. By this time all our many recent additions had settled in and grown used to us, and the Company worked together as a strong, closely knit team. On "Golden Bough" we distinguished ourselves by being the only Company to capture prisoners (they were, in fact, all captured by No. 2 Platoon). On the second day No. 2 Platoon caught their first seven enemy and later during that evening brought in a lone rider who turned out to be Pte. Daw, batman to the O.C. enemy troops. Under interrogation by 2/Lt. G. J. Riches he would say nothing except could he have some dinner, please. He was duly labelled and escorted to the I.O. Each of the Rifle Companies counter-attacked a feature in turn and we are pleased to say that "A" Company captured it in the record time.

The last of our exercises, Exercises "Everest I" and "II," were situated in the Hochschwab mountains. They each lasted 72 hours. No. 1 Platoon went on "Everest I" and No. 2 Platoon on "Everest II," but No. 3 Platoon were prevented from going on a projected "Everest III." In many ways they were the most interesting and enjoyable of all the exercises. The Hochschwab scenery was magnificent and, apart from one or two exposed rock ledges which I imagine were bad for the cardiac muscles, the pace was not too hard.

Exercises! Exercises! The Company has certainly had the chance of gaining a great deal of experience during the last three months!

On May 30 we moved to Warmbad ranges for the annual rifle and L.M.G. classification. In spite of still further bad weather we fired the courses to schedule. The following members of the Company reached marksman standard: Lt. I. G. Thomas, C/Sgt. Breame, Sgt. Warner, L/Cpl. Ely and Ptes. Weatherall, Sheppard, Burton, Evers, Thomas, Pearlman, Smith 30, Wheat and Phillips. The highest rifle score was made by Pte. Evers with 106 points (h.p.s. 115), and the highest L.M.G. score was made by Sgt. Warner with 213 points (h.p.s. 240).

On June 1, Major G. O. Porter left the Company on posting to Malta. He had been with the Company since Warley days and it was with a sense of real personal loss that we said goodbye to him.

Major R. K. B. Allott took over command. He was no stranger to the Company, for, of course, he had already commanded us on Exercise "Wildflower." During a brief absence on leave his place was taken by Major F. J. Bennett, but he has now returned to the O.C.'s office to keep an eye on us.

The Company balance sheet at the end of the quarter shows a loss on the debit side of 2/Lt. M. J. Beaumont, who went to "S" Company, and Lt. D. E. Lobb, who became W.T.O. We congratulate Lt. Lobb on his promotion. On the credit side we show a gain of 2/Lts. I. M. E. Lloyd and H. E. Turner, both of whom have been kept pretty busy since their arrival. We have also had the pleasure of welcoming Sgt. Le Maitre and of congratulating Sgt. Lagden on joining the Sergeants' Mess. Congratulations were also earned by Cpls. Pollicutt, Butcher and Mills and L/Cpl. Speck, who passed extremely well on drill and field-craft cadres and were promoted to their present rank.

The Company has collected a large number of excellent course results during the last three months. Cpl. Muirhead gained a "B" at Hythe, Pte. Smith 53 gained a "B" at a command P.T. course in Vienna (the instructors said that Pte. Brumwell was only prevented from doing the same by a hand injury) and Pte. Anslow gained a "B" on a hygiene course at Klagenfurt.

The Command boxing championships were held on April 9 and 10. We were well represented by 2/Lt. I. M. E. Lloyd, Ptes. Rogers and Finch. Pte. Rogers had no difficulty in winning the welter weight final, but Pte. Finch lost his fight on points and 2/Lt. I. M. E. Lloyd, having arrived from England just in time to enter the ring, lost on points in one of the best and closest matches of the championship.

There has been little football, of course, but Pte. Stanley continues to keep goal for the Battalion 1st XI and 2/Lt. I. M. E. Lloyd has represented the Battalion at rugby. In two Albuhera League matches we beat "S" Company 5-1 and lost 4-2 to a first class "B" Company side. Our athletics have, on the whole, not been too good, but in the inter-Company potted sports held at Easter we performed well and Pte. Brumwell, with 13 points, became the best performer of the meeting.

The Company has a number of first class cricketers.

Cpl. Spenceley, Ptes. Jones, Pease and Southon are all good batsmen and Pte Southon, particularly, has saved the day on several occasions. Our bowlers are Ptes. Cox, Clarvis and Wetherall. In an Albuhera League game full of hard hitting we beat "B" Company by two wickets, but in the same league we lost to "H.Q." 2. We also met "H.Q." 2 in the Zeltweg Garrison League, but this time, in a really remarkable finish, we held them to a tie.

The swimming team is now in practice for the Albuhera Swimming Shield. Last year we came second in this contest and this year, in spite of the serious loss of Cpl. Spenceley and Pte. Stanley (leave) and Pte. Sculthorpe (demob), we hope to improve upon this. Sgt. Cubitt and Pte. Reading both retain their places and we have new surprises up our sleeve in Ptes. Anton and Blyth.

Without any doubt our greatest sporting achievement has been in cross-country running. We started disappointingly enough by coming only third in the Albuhera Shield on April 23, but Cpl. Mills and Pte. Gosden were well placed in a large field of runners. On May 8 we entered a team of 10 runners for the B.T.A. championships. At one stage we did not appear to be running too well and 2/Lt. T. Humber and Cpl. Hart (both of "C" Company) crossed the line first. But this was a team event and the "A" Company runners, who had kept well together, crossed the line to become easy winners of the championship by 97 points to 120 points from "C" Company. Cpl. Mills and Pte. Gosden took third and fourth place respectively. We were pleased with their efforts and the Company duly feted them on their return. The team consisted of Cpl. Mills, L/Cpl. Speck, Ptes. Bockhart (Captain), Gosden, Dunkling, Burgess, Penning, Birch, Humphrey, Stanley and Harvey.

At the moment the Company has just arrived in Vienna and we are looking forward to this, our third, tour of duty. We will be returning to Zeltweg in September and later on in the year we hope to move to Schmeltz for field firing.

"B" COMPANY

We are sorry that our notes this month must start with a weather report, but for the past three months it has been the weather more than anything else which has dominated our lives. As soon as we march out of the gate to spend a night in the field, the sun disappears, the storm clouds gather and we are soaked to the skin in a matter of minutes. We have seen and consumed more issues of rum in the past nine weeks than in all the last nine years of peace.

In spite of these adverse conditions we have carried out some quite hard training, although it is probable that the snow on Exercise "Wildflower" will remain in our memories long after the hard extracted lessons in the art of war have been forgotten. It was on this exercise that we lost Sgt. Partridge and a patrol of eight men for eight hours in the worst blizzard we have ever seen. It is easy to get lost in the Austrian mountains and it is very easy, when the snow is on the ground, to fall and break an ankle or a leg, and we had visions of some such

calamity having happened as a result of which the patrol had holed up for the night and probably frozen to death. The Austrian mountain rescue service were alerted but could not move until the snow and fog lifted. Then when it seemed that some serious disaster had engulfed the whole patrol they walked into "A" Company's lines, cold, wet but in high spirits and none the worse for their night's experiences. Having seen for ourselves we could believe Sgt. Partridge when he explained that the weather had closed in to such a degree once he got away from the road and into the hills that he had been unable to see the luminous patches on his compass, even when it was held against his eye.

We have had other exercises as well when things did not go off in quite the way in which they were intended. There was, for instance, the "Gook" march of "Golden Bough." Our sympathies are now extended to those porters who carried our stores around Korea. We shall also remember for some considerable time the comments of our C/Sergeant when he was informed by the senior A.Q. umpire of Exercise "Ploughboy" that he was suffering from "battle exhaustion" as a result of any imaginary airstrike on the Company administration area. The vigour and the freshness of expression of the C/Sergeant's opinion on this subject persuaded even the umpire that no matter what other injury might have been inflicted, battle exhaustion was out of the question.

At Warmbad, in spite of the usual weather conditions, we obtained quite good results and we have our hopes for the rifle meeting at the end of this month in spite of the remarkable results returned by "C" Company during their turn on the range. We understand that the soldier who, on being informed from the butts that he was shooting low into the bank in front of the targets, replied "I thought so, I'm lying in a bit of a hollow," has been excluded from the Company team.

We won the Albuhera soccer competition in May when, having lost to "H.Q." Company, who were our nearest rivals and consequently having resigned ourselves to taking second place in the competition, "H.Q." Company in their turn were beaten by "A" Company, which was perhaps the biggest surprise result of all. On Albuhera Day our 4 x 110 yds. relay team established a new, though unfortunately unofficial, B.T.A. record for this event.

We have said good-bye to Cpl. Waldron, L/Cpl. Friend and Ptes. Day, Henty, Levitt, Tompsett and Hayward, and we welcome Cpl. Whatley, L/Cpl. White and Ptes. Charles, Chandler, Hughes, Crewe, Rutter, Allen, Priest, Kelly, Hedges and Tillett to the Company.

We congratulate the following on their promotion: Sgt. Baxter, Cpl. Halls and L/Cpls. Patterson and Mundy.

"C" COMPANY

After the Company's arrival in Vienna in April, those of us who had been in Vienna previously contacted old friends and very quickly settled down. The new draft also relaxed when they found that the detailing of I.S. Platoon each day did not necessarily mean that there would be a riot in the next few minutes.

Two days after we arrived we were honoured by an address from the Bishop of Fulham, and also on the same day by a visit of the G.O.C.-in-C., Gen. Urquhart.

Over the Easter holiday C/Sgt. Thorogood arrived to take over from W.O.2 Bartle. On Easter Monday the officers and their wives invited the sergeants and their wives to beer and skittles in the Officers' Mess. Despite the expert assistance of Capt. "Nick" Carter, who had taken the opportunity of spending a few days in Vienna, the sergeants beat the officers, who had been completely demoralised anyway by having to wear "blues" to play skittles.

On April 29 the Company provided a guard of honour for Brigadier William G. Fitz, Jun., the American garrison commander, who was leaving Vienna. The following day the Company went down to watch the Russians hand over to the Americans. The guard change was held on April 30 to avoid conflicting with the Communist and Socialist parades on May Day. It was the first time most of us had had an opportunity of seeing Russian troops and Russian drill, which was very interesting.

On Friday, 14th, the G.O.C. again visited Vienna Garrison and the Company. He showed great interest in our weapons "circus," particularly in the section which dealt with the rocket launcher and Energa.

On May 14 our two new Regular Subalterns, 2/Lts. McManus and Humber, went to Zeltweg for the Albuhera celebrations. In their places 2/Lts. Hemming and Talbot came up to Vienna to spend Albuhera Day with us. Albuhera Day in Vienna was celebrated as near tradition as was possible. The garrison kindly undertaking all duties other than I.S. Platoon.

The morning of Saturday, May 15, was peaceful as we had no Band or Drums, but the officers, W.O.s and sergeants took on the corporals and privates at hockey, losing 2-4. After this the officers entertained the W.O.s and sergeants in the Officers' Mess to lunch. In the evening there was a Company Albuhera smoker for all ranks.

On Sunday, May 16, as many of the Company as could be squeezed in attended the church service. This was followed by an extremely good Albuhera dinner served by the officers, W.O.s and sergeants, before and after which the W.O.s and sergeants entertained the officers in their Mess.

Towards the end of May we were busily occupied in preparing for the International Guard change on June 1, when the British took over from the Americans. Excellent weather during the rehearsals finally decided the powers that be in favour of khaki drill as opposed to battle dress. The result of this decision was, of course, that the weather on the day turned out very wet and rather cold. One feels, however, that had battle dress been decided on we should have sweltered instead. The guard, which was commanded by Major Dawson, looked very smart and the whole guard change went off very well indeed in spite of extremely heavy showers which put the Drums out of action for the final march past.

On Whit Saturday, having handed over the duties and responsibilities of guard and duty company to the

Loyals for six weeks, we returned to Zeltweg. No sooner had we got back than the Company was plunged into preparation for the Queen's birthday parade and the Battalion Exercise "Golden Bough."

On Friday, the 18th, the Battalion moved off to an area near a small village called St. Oswald, famous for the number of idiots in its population. The scheme was a defence scheme, and the Company was a reserve company behind "A" Company. The first day was spent digging in and camouflaging; Sgt. Smith and the 2 in. mortar group and Ptes. Spice and Craven, of No. 7 Platoon, quickly dug themselves a 1914-1918 style dug-out which they had completed and almost camouflaged in about four hours. Not to be outdone the other half of No. 7 Platoon H.Q., including 2/Lt. Grobel and Ptes. Perry and Greenwood, dug themselves an even bigger one—if that were possible. The roof of their sleeping bag, however, fell in about three times before it could be persuaded to stay up.

The exercise included day and night patrols, deliberate company dawn attack and a relief in the line. During the dawn attack up "D" Company's hill, the irate voice of our former C.Q.M.S., C/Sgt. Bartle, was heard warding off all forces aggressive to his stores. We relieved "B" Company in the line at night and were much gratified that the Padre accompanied us around the new positions and gave us his blessing.

On Tuesday, the 22nd, the Battalion moved back to Zeltweg. We should like to take this opportunity of thanking C/Sgt. Thorogood and his merry men who, remembering Napoleon's dictum that an army marches on its stomach, took heed of it and acted accordingly.

On Sunday, the 27th, the Company moved to Warmbad Ranges to fire the annual classification course. We also had with us 2/Lt. Humber, Sgt. Partridge and about 80 attached personnel. 2/Lt. Sibley joined us and took over No. 8 Platoon during 2/Lt. Langford's absence on leave.

Previous to our arrival at Warmbad the weather had been so hot that the warm springs had completely dried up. After our arrival, however, the weather broke and prevented us enjoying the famous warm baths as fully as they would have merited had the weather been finer. During the whole four classification shoots it rained or drizzled most of the day. However we managed to finish the classification on time with a more than creditable amount of marksmen and first-class shots in the Company. Major Dawson demonstrated the accuracy of the long-barrelled Luger by proceeding to qualify as a first-class shot with it.

Whilst all this activity had been going on the lighter side of life had not been neglected. Limited facilities in Vienna did not prevent the cross-country team from putting in some hard and regular training. This resulted in a win at Zeltweg in the Battalion inter-Company competition, with Cpl. Hart and 2/Lt. Humber coming first and second respectively and the seventh place being taken by Pte. Harper. Later the team went to Klagenfurt to compete in the B.T.A. championships, and gained second place. Once again we were well placed with 2/Lt. Humber and Cpl. Hart taking first and second places and L/Cpl. Redmond taking 11th place.

The athletics team proceeded to Zeltweg to compete in the Albuhera sports after very ragged training in field events owing to lack of apparatus. They gave an energetic display on the track, however, and gained second place in the competition, with Cpl. Hart, Ptes. Hannibal, Rayner and Blyth winning the 800 metres, L/Cpl. Simons, Ptes. Rayner, Blyth and Penfold the 400 metres and Cpl. Hart and 2/Lt. Humber the three and one mile events respectively.

Both the cross-country and athletic teams are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm and team spirit throughout the season. These were the last events in the competition for the Albuhera Shield, in which we came second, "H.Q." Company beating us by one or two points.

The .22 shooting team put in some strenuous practice at Vienna for the final of the B.T.A. Small Bore Competition. Owing to the fact that the four finalists were from the Battalion the competition was held at Zeltweg and not at Klagenfurt. The Company team is to be congratulated on winning this event, particularly Cpls. Hart 31 and Hartard, who got possibles of 119, and 2/Lt. Grobel, who got 118.

Cricket started seriously towards the end of May and, thanks to Capt. Leonard and Sgt. Potter, a good team was produced. We played a number of games in Vienna against various units of the garrison and the R.A.F. at Schwechat. So far in the Albuhera League we have beaten "H.Q." Company ("C" Company 92 for 5 dec., "H.Q." Company 28) and "A" Company ("C" Company 102 for 6 dec., "A" Company 45). We also beat "B" Company by 25 runs. Unfortunately Capt. Leonard twisted his leg early on and had to go into hospital. However we hope that he will soon be well and able to play for us again.

We bid farewell to 2/Lt. Humber who, after a short stay of six weeks with the Company, has been posted to "H.Q." Company as assistant M.T.O., and trust that he may add yet another name to his Morris/Austin/Singer car. 2/Lt. Langford takes over No. 8 Platoon. We welcome 2/Lt. Sibley, who came to us from "B" Company and congratulate Cpls. Norris and Blackwell and L/Cpl. Meekins on their promotion.

"D" COMPANY

In the past quarter the Company has seen many changes both in personnel and role, and although we are still well below the strength of the average rifle company our numbers are slowly mounting so that eventually we hope to take an equal part in all Battalion activities.

We say "Hallo" and "Good-bye" to Major R. K. B. Allott and Capt. Cowan, both of whom were with us for a short time as O.C.s in the absence of Major Martin on leave and in hospital in the U.K. We welcome Major Martin back to the Company after his rather prolonged stay in the U.K. and hope that his illness has left no after effects. Among the arrivals this quarter are C.S.M. Graham, from West Africa, L/Cpl. Allen, from "H.Q." Company, to act as groundsmen, Pte. Fuller, from "B" Company, to act as groom and Ptes. Harwell, Harris, Hart, King, Kingston, Robinson, Sewell, Whiting, Bradley, Rawlings and Saunders from

the Depot. We welcome all these and hope that their stay with the Company will be a long and enjoyable one.

In return for these new faces we have had to part (with regret and/or relief) with Pte. Houtman, on posting to the Depot, Pte. Gerken, on posting to the Depot for a pre-release course on bricklaying which will, no doubt, soon teach him that the Army offers him more money for much less work, Pte. Day, posted to "H.Q." Company as arms storeman and Sapper Mann, our cricketing genius, who has been posted to R.T.O. Klagenfurt just at the time our cricket team had begun to make its mark in Battalion cricket.

Talking of cricket—we have done quite well so far this season, having beaten "S" Company by almost 20 runs in a Garrison League match (Pte. Ilbury 7 for 23) and having lost only narrowly to "H.Q." Company in a friendly match (Sgt. Howarth 7 for 37). We were unfortunate not to have Sgt. Fry and Sapper Mann for either of these matches and Pte. Ilbury for only one. With them we would, no doubt, have made an even better show than we did. Teams on both the occasions were chosen from the following: W.O.2 Butcher, Sgt. Howarth, Cpl. Wallen, L/Cpl. Aird and Ptes. Ilbury, Whitbread, Boyne, Whiting, Saunders, Rawlings, Sewell, Robinson and Boyle. Congratulations to Sgt. Fry and Sapper Mann on being chosen to represent the B.T.A. at cricket on June 6. The fact that they are of Command standard does give some idea of the great difference that these two would have made to our own team. However, although Sapper Mann is lost to us for ever, we hope to get Sgt. Fry to play for us on occasions.

Congratulations also go to C.S.M. Goode and his protégés who, between them, have done well in the inter-Company monthly shoot, having taken first place in the L.M.G. shoot in May, third place in the rifle shoot the same month and first place in the rifle shoot in June—a very good performance considering the small number from which we must select our firers. It is doubtful whether or not we will do so well in the July shoot since C.S.M. Goode is now down at Warmbad basking in the sun in between bouts of issuing ammunition and targets, etc. Lucky man that he is, he will be there for approximately six weeks with only the thought of the 0300 hours Reveille each day to mar his happiness.

As mentioned before, the role of the Company has changed considerably in the past quarter, as witness the two exercises, "Ploughboy" and "Golden Bough." In Exercise "Ploughboy," which was a practice fighting withdrawal, the Company was used in two roles—partly as a recce group and partly as the Battalion rearguard. W.O.2 Butcher, Ptes. Burns, Gerken, Cornew and Day together with Sgt. Perrins and 2/Lt. Heming, made up one patrol, whilst 2/Lt. Lobb, Sgt. Lewis, Pte. Boyne and one or two others from "H.Q." Company made up the other patrol. Our job was to set up O.P.s in such positions that we could see the "Fantasians" massing for their attack and to let Battalion H.Q. know the moment anything seemed likely to happen. Unfortunately the first patrol did not even get near enough to the enemy to set up their O.P. They met with a series of unfortunate accidents on their journey and spent an uncomfortable night in a local Gasthaus before being

picked up and towed back to Zeltweg by the R.E.M.E. the following day. Mr. Lobb's patrol was more successful (if that's your idea of success) and managed to set up their O.P. When the enemy were sighted they informed the Battalion and then headed "hell for leather" for Zeltweg, where they amalgamated with the rest of "D" Company, who were busy "digging in" to make a desperate last stand in order to give the rest of the Battalion time to get back to more favourable positions. Due to a misunderstood message the Battalion ammunition dump was blown sky high an hour before it should have been, but apart from that, and the failure of the first patrol to get back to the Company, everything went well and, I suppose, somebody learnt something, although just what is not at the moment apparent.

The second exercise—"Golden Bough"—was much more the sort of exercise that one talks about for weeks afterwards, since it involved a lot more noise and positive action than had the previous one. This time the Company was given the task of defending a vital hill, the defence of which was slightly hampered, as you will see from the Company parade state, which was as follows: Company H.Q., C.S.M. Graham, L/Cpl. Sacker, Capt. Cowan and one Regimental signaller; No. 10 Platoon, W.O.2 Butcher and Pte. Boyne; No. 11 Platoon, C/Sgt. Bartle, Ptes. Whitbread and Gerken; No. 12 Platoon, Sgt. Perrins and L/Cpl. Allen; rear details, Sgt. Turner, Ptes. Blaydon and Palmer and one cook corporal. Fifteen men in all to represent a complete company. Undaunted, however, by our lack of numbers we bent our backs and started digging in. Not a murmur was heard as we struck the roots of the innumerable pines with which the hill was covered, but a low muttering from Gerken, Whitbread, Boyne and L/Cpl. Sacker increased slowly to a crescendo of oaths that would have done credit to a Foreign Legionaire as the soft earth below the roots turned slowly to very solid rock which did not seem inclined to be removed from its resting place. At last, after what seemed to be months of back-breaking toil, the trenches were deep enough to withstand any amount of blanks and thunder-flashes, and we settled down to wait for the next move in the battle. This came late in the evening of the second day, when we were suddenly attacked by the enemy. The fact that the enemy did not in actual fact appear and that us "wee yins" had to make enough noise to make the rest of the Battalion think that we were being done to death, did nothing to mar the enjoyment we got out of firing wildly at anything and everything and emitting bloodcurdling cries as the invisible enemy took its toll of our meagre force. Throughout the battle Capt. ("De Castries") Cowan, our then O.C., kept at his radio passing details of the fighting to B.H.Q. As the battle grew in intensity and our defence perimeter grew smaller and smaller, so the messages grew more and more terse till, at the end when the beleaguered remnants were fighting desperately back to back round the radio, a short sharp thrust with a bayonet ended the transmission with Capt. Cowan calling on us to "die hard men."

It was learned later than an Order of the Day had been issued promoting the late Capt. Cowan to the posthumous rank of Major-General. Mrs. Bartle is now

the proud but sad recipient of some 16 or so pensions (widows), the figure representing the number of times her husband was "killed" on that never to be forgotten night.

Shortly after "D" Company went "off the air" "B" Company sent in a counter attack and regained control of the hill. In the morning, paper reinforcements were forwarded to bolster the sadly depleted ranks of our fine Company, and in view of the outstanding success that we had made of the effects side of the attack we were called on to do exactly the same thing the following two nights in order to give "A" and "C" Companies the chance of staging a counter attack. Some idea of the amount of noise made by the Company on those three nights may be obtained when I say that the gallant 15 used almost 3,000 rounds of S.A.A. and some 200 thunderflashes.

A reconnaissance patrol consisting of W.O.2 Butcher, Sgt. Perrins, L/Cpl. Allen and Ptes. Boyne, Gerken and Whithead, spent four hours trying to avoid the enemy on the third day of the exercise, and in doing so climbed some 3,500 ft. up and over one of the hills in the area to the accompaniment of lurid language from Gerken, who strongly disapproved of that type of gentle exercise. However we all arrived back safe and sound, if somewhat damp and footsore, and were only too pleased to be able to fill in our trenches the following morning prior to our move back to the comparative comfort of the barrack block. All, that is, with the possible exception of Sgt. Turner and his rear details, since a move meant the transference of all stores from the top of the hill to the bottom—a considerable distance with which they had been well acquainted at the start of the exercise, having had to manhandle all their stores from the bottom to the top. If bad language could have moved stores you would not have seen ours for dust, but as it happened it does not and we had to do the job ourselves.

Earlier in the quarter the Company entered for all the field events in the Albuhera sports and certainly did much to show that with a bit of training a Company team could be a leading light in the field of sport. The Company team got into the semi-finals of the tug-of-war and secured several seconds and thirds in other events, notably the pole vault, discus and shot. The Company is hoping to have a much bigger say in the results of the Battalion individual athletic meeting which takes place in the near future.

Our congratulations go to Cpl. Wallen on his recent promotion, and in closing we look forward to the next quarter in the sure knowledge that by that time we will be one of the Battalion's leading lights in sport if nothing else.

"S" COMPANY

The last quarter has been an active one for the Company. Detachments from all the specialist platoons invariably participated in the various rifle company exercises which took place during the working-up period for the B.T.A. spring manoeuvre. The weather was less sympathetic on these occasions than for Exercise "Ploughboy" and for Exercise "Golden Bough," which followed it, both of which were in every respect great successes and were most enjoyable.

The small bore shooting season finished with the final of the B.T.A. miniature range competition, for which the Company had qualified by virtue of its victory in the monthly shoot in March. It was a most thrilling final and it looked as though the Company would pull it off until the very last practice, when we were just "pipped on the post." There is no doubt that the enthusiasm and steady shooting of Major Allott and C/Sgt. Burgess had much to do with the Company's success in this field.

In other fields the Company has usually occupied an unduly humble position, though mention must be made of the excellent performances put up by Ptes. Smith 86 and Evans in the high jump in the Albuhera Day athletic meeting. The cricket season, too, has brought its successes as well as its disappointments, the latter significantly occurring after the departure of Major Ormiston and Capt. Pike to take part in the Regimental cricket week at the Depot.

In May we said "good-bye" to Major Clayton who, after only a short period with the Company, left us to take over command of "B" Company. However, we extend a ready welcome to Major Ormiston as our new O.C. and also to 2/Lt. Beaumont, who is understudying the Anti-Tank Platoon commander prior to joining the Anti-Tank Platoon of the 7th Battalion.

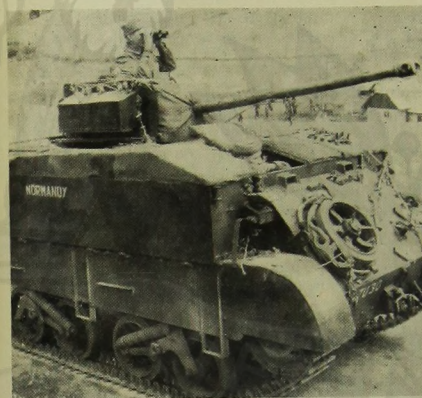
C.S.M. Kenrick is to be congratulated on his excellent course result at the Guards Training Battalion at Pirbright, and we can foresee a Company of near guardsmen turning out for the Battalion drill competition.

There have been several promotions during the quarter, notably L/Cpls. Taylor, McDonnell and O'Rawe to full Corporal, while Ptes. Armstrong, Rock, Falcini, Fennelly, Tappin, Harrison and Turton are all now on the first rung of the ladder to fame. Prominent among recent "demobees" were Cpl. Forward, L/Cpl. Mister and Pte. Tebbutt. We wish them the best of luck on their return to civilian life.

C/Sgt. and Mrs. Burgess and Sgt. and Mrs. Walters have been blessed with baby girls. We, ourselves, were all hoping for potential "Die-Hards" of the future, but congratulate them most warmly and offer the newly-born our sincere good wishes.

We were delighted to welcome, and to act as hosts to, a party of a dozen cadets from the Middlesex Army Cadet Force, under the leadership of Major Jones, who paid us a ten-day visit in early June. We hope they enjoyed their programme and their stay as much as we enjoyed having them, and trust that they will have been inspired to become permanent members of "S" Company at some future date.

The Assault Pioneers have paid their annual visit to Trieste and we are much indebted to No. 66 Independent Field Squadron, R.E., for their assistance in this valuable period of training. The Platoon returned just in time to accompany the remainder of us to Warmbad Ranges, where we are now, on three weeks' detachment for annual classification and the Battalion and Command rifle meetings. So far we have alternately been sweltering in the heat and floundering in the mud and rain. Unfortunately the emphasis has been mainly on the latter.



Sgt. Moyses, Support Company

M.M.G. Platoon

At the beginning of the quarter the spring cadre was in full swing. We were lucky enough to have C/Sgt. Thorogood still with us as an instructor, but he left shortly before the end of April for Vienna. After such long and faithful service we wish him all the best in his new job.

During May the schemes started. Sgt. Young took a section into the mountains in support of "B" Company. Needless to say it started to snow almost as soon as they left camp and they were soon mounting tripods in a foot of snow. The night was not very pleasant, but an issue of rum was brought up and Pte. Holmes at any rate passed a pleasant night. A week later Cpl. Clarke took his section in support of "A" Company along the Obdach Road. There were numerous incidents including a meeting with the Moyses Mark III. A defensive position was finally taken up on a forward slope overlooking the Styria-Carinthia border. Once again the weather was not very kind and it rained non-stop throughout the day. A Battalion exercise took us towards Klagenfurt, where we practised the withdrawal. One section was attached to each of the rifle companies taking part. Each section had one gun fitted with a blank firing attachment and plenty of action took place.

The main exercise was the B.T.A. Exercise "Ploughboy." This was full of incident and, apart from the long night drive back, was most enjoyable. Platoon H.Q. and Cpl. Clarke's section always seemed to find themselves near 2/Lt. Crumley's platoon, and quite a combination was achieved. No one could quite understand how 2/Lt. Crumley's steel helmet suddenly got bullet holes in it when all we were firing were blanks!

Besides all the schemes a lot of training was done on the 30 yds. range in preparation for the M.G. cup competition and the skill at arms test which is to take place in July. Ptes. Lewis and Lloyd went to Schmelz at the beginning of June for the day and are to be congratulated on classifying as first-class rangetakers. This should stand us in good stead during the Fire Control

Cup competition in August. The change over from carriers to jeeps has taken place at last and although the vehicles we received were in poor condition we are now receiving them in better condition from the workshops. Certain of our guns and instruments have been in the workshops for repair and we hope that for the M.G. concentration at Schmelz in August we shall have everything in first class order.

Sgt. Redmond is still in England. He should by now have finished the M.G. course at Netheravon and is probably enjoying three weeks well-deserved leave; nevertheless we are hoping to see him soon, particularly for Schmelz. We welcome five newcomers to the Platoon: Ptes. Gibson and Keefe, as drivers, Cfn. Barnes, as a fitter, and Cpl. MacDonnell and Pte. Cromack, who are busy with the fundamentals of machine gunnery.

3-in. Mortar Platoon

This quarter has proved very profitable for the Mortar Platoon, and on the eve of our annual visit to Schmelz for field firing we find ourselves in the best spirits and highest state of training for a long time.

Early in the year the normal cadre was run and after six weeks the new intake had finally accepted divorce from their rifle companies and had become fledgling mortarmen. Immediately after the cadre skill at arms tests were carried out and the following received badges from the O.C., Major Clayton, at a Platoon social held at Rachau, where beef steaks and beer completed this celebration: Ptes. Tappin, Harrison, Nicholas, Payne, Bradley, Impey, Denning and Short.

Early in March permission was received for the mortars to be fired at Schmelz. Due to snow and transport difficulties, it was decided to "long-carry" from Half-way House onwards. This accomplished, the problem of ferrying 200 bombs up to the Seetal hut confronted us. The weather, as a 1954 greeting to its old friends, turned very snowy and by the time the mortars were finally fired there was 2 ft. of fresh snow trying its hardest to conceal our equipment. The shoot was a success and every member of the Platoon has now fired his weapon. In addition we all have a healthy respect for the weight of our bombs and proof of the excellent characteristics of our weapon.

Soon after this we welcomed Sgt. Power, fresh from Netheravon, to command No. 2 Section. This has brought us to the enviable state of having our full complement of Sergeants. A short N.C.O.s cadre was run next and L/Cpls. Tappin and Harrison are to be congratulated on their stripes. We also welcome Cpl. O'Rawe from the M.M.G. Platoon. He will be an asset on the field of sport.

Spring training with Austrian spring weather found a section out in support of a rifle company every week and much was learned. Exercise "Ploughboy" tested our mobility and our carriers distinguished themselves by going nearly all the time. This was their dying gasp, for by the next exercise, "Golden Bough," we found ourselves completely re-equipped with wheeled transport and welcomed a batch of drivers to the fold.

"Golden Bough" taught us many lessons, not the

least of which was that the mortarmen dig twice as much and as often as the riflemen. In five days the Platoon dug two complete positions and it is felt that the one local attack we received would not have been possible had the enemy commander not been allowed to discover us in daylight, as our camouflage really was good. Our battle procedure flourished and night shoots were carried out every night. The Platoon now possesses a butcher and excellent cooks and has added an excellent dish to Mrs. Beeton's book—"poulet et rhum a la mortier"! We feel that a reputation for being "brutal and licentious mortarmen" will descend upon us, for it will be long before the infants of St. Oswald's recover from our thunderflash predicted shoots.

We congratulate L/Cpls. Jakeman, Tappin and Harrison on their promotion and welcome Ptes. Bradley, Impey, Denning, Short, Bass, Fletcher, Green and Miles to the Platoon.

In conclusion we await the arrival of a new mortar number by kind permission of Sgt. and Mrs. Walters, both their and our first born! (Stop press news has it that "he" has arrived and is a she!)

Anti-Tank Platoon

In April the Platoon began to settle down again after the distractions of winter sports and the administrative inspection.

Once again we set about training with the 120 mm. and our old faithful the 17-pdr. Still having both weapons makes the training problem considerably more difficult, and we shall be very pleased to see some crates arrive marked "secret."

The spring session of exercises started in rather a "smashing" way. On the first exercise a carrier and 17-pdr. gun turned over trapping the driver and one of the detachment. Fortunately nobody was hurt.

For these exercises and training we were given the task of building a mock-up tank. Production started at once and within two days the "Moyses Mark III" was born. It has since appeared thundering down the road as an enemy tank, emitting smoke and bangs, only of course to be immediately destroyed. Somehow it has always arrived on the scene again and at present it has done over 300 miles in this role.

The Platoon was very proud to have the honour of firing a gun salute on the occasion of H.M. The Queen's return to England after her Commonwealth tour. It was the first time on record that we have had volunteers to do gun drill with the 17-pdr.

Some members of the Cadet Force were entertained by us in June. For about two hours they spent their time watching demonstrations and firing blanks at the "Moyses Mark III." They finished up by "driving" the carriers!

In May 2/Lt. Beaumont joined us from "A" Company to try and learn a few of the mysteries of the Platoon. Capt. Pike handed over to him during his long period of leave. 2/Lt. Beaumont was immediately confronted with a five-day Battalion exercise which, after a few headaches, seemed to go off well.

Finally we would like to welcome into our Platoon two newcomers to the Battalion, Ptes. Murray and

Woolley. Of the old hands, Cpls. Taylor and Evans and L/Cpl. Falcini are to be congratulated on their promotions.

Assault Pioneer Platoon

The main event of this quarter has been our expansion to include personnel of the spring cadres. Ptes. Birch, Beck, Dollard, Edwards, Gay and Hyam, L/Cpl. Rock, Ptes. Smith 38 and Snell all passed successfully and have now formed the second and third sections of the Platoon. In addition, Pte. Walker joined the Platoon from the M.T. Platoon to drive our 3-ton stores vehicle for us.

Before we had time to reflect on the training we had done during the cadres, exercises were the order the day—first Company followed by Battalion exercises. Ptes. Armstrong and Rock both acquitted themselves well as section leaders and subsequently became Lance-Corporals. Pte. Miles drove his vehicle for the first time during the exercises but "failed to find his length" and misjudged several gateways. However, only the wings were punished and a little paint and hammering repaired both the truck and his reputation.

An odd day in the Company gardens then we were off to Trieste, where we joined No. 66 Independent Field Squadron for a further three weeks' training. A night exercise formed the finale, involving a minefield breach, but like most exercises the weather was beastly. By morning, however, a marked gap was complete some 75 yds. long. Spirits during the night never sagged, but it is doubtful if a suggestion of another breach in the rain would cause many smiles. In off duty hours the beach at Duomina and the swimming were enjoyable.

Cpl. Forward decided that Civvy Street was calling and purchased his discharge. This was unfortunate as he was a versatile and popular Corporal to whom we were sorry to say good-bye.

The Platoon is now classifying at Warmbad with the rest of the Company.

SERGEANTS' MESS

During the past quarter we have welcomed back to the fold one of the old stalwarts in C.S.M. Graham, who has rejoined the Battalion via the Depot from service in East Africa. Other new faces in the Mess this quarter include Sgt. Boag, R.A.P.C. (late 1st Middlesex Regiment) and Sgts. Lagden and Baxter, to all of whom we extend our heartiest congratulations and bid them welcome to the Mess. To Sgt. Hazelwood, better known to all and sundry as "Mutt," we offer our congratulations on his well-earned promotion, and also take this opportunity of saying "Hallo" and "Good-bye" since he left the country (a) before he had had a chance to visit the Mess and (b) before any member had the chance to get a drink out of him. By the time these notes are published Sgt. Hazelwood will be a civilian and very probably on his way back to Hong Kong, a spot to which he has always been partial in spite of the rigours of the life of a P.O.W. in Japanese hands. Sgts. Don Street, Hannam and Cook have played their last Regimental Band concert and have gone forth together to face the rigours of civilian life. The Musicians' Trade Union being what it is, we might well see them back again in

the near future as sadly disillusioned men. Sgt. (ex-D.M.) Padley has at last obtained his posting to the Guard Dog Unit and any moment now we expect to see him prowling round the ammunition compound growling at all and sundry!

Early in the quarter came Albuhera Day together with all the traditional fun and games. A new note was struck this year, however, when the W.O.s were invited to stay for lunch after the annual visit of the Mess to the Officers' Mess. This is probably the first time in living history that members of the Mess have touched solid food during the Albuhera celebrations. Later on in the evening the officers made their way over to the Sergeants' Mess to taste the beer and spirits, and judging by the way the bar stocks dwindled they must have enjoyed themselves tremendously. I do not think that anyone is really marking off the days on a calendar but I did hear it mentioned the other day that there were only another 320 days to the next Albuhera Day. The annual Sergeants' Mess Albuhera Ball was held as usual and was a terrific success in which the dancing continued until the early hours of the morning. Much credit must once more go to the Entertainments Committee and Sgt. Medlock, our catering adviser, who did such wonders with the buffet.

With the introduction of free passages to the U.K. for married families, S.S.I. Law, R.Q.M.S. Griffiths and C/Sgt. Morgan lost no time in applying for a trip and the Depot Mess will no doubt shortly be seeing them when they arrive in the U.K.

C.S.M. Kendrick arrived back from the rigours of the drill course at the Guards Depot, Pirbright, with an 1890 waistline and a pouter-pigeon chest, waving his "B" grading. Congratulations on an excellent course report. Following on from this we must also congratulate Sgt. Steward on his "B" grading at the Small Arms School at Hythe, which result appears to have been well worth all the hard work and study that must have been necessary since "Stew" is now in the U.K. to take part in the annual T.A. summer games with the 7th Battalion.

Another lucky man is Sgt. Dive who, together with the Assault Pioneer Platoon, is basking in the sub-tropical sunshine at Trieste in between bouts of summer training with No. 66 Independent Field Squadron, R.E.

A letter has recently been forwarded to the Registrar, University of Cambridge, offering them the doubtful honour of amalgamation with the Zeltweg University College, an up and coming educational institute whose recent examination successes have rocked the intellectuals and made them realise that there must be something about this Army education racket. The most outstanding success this year has been that of Dr. Bailey who, after 27 years (he passed his 3rd Class in 1927) has at last succeeded in passing the A.C.E. 2nd Class together with Sgt. Partridge. To both of whom we offer our heartiest congratulations. On the next rung of the ladder we also congratulate Sgt. Wright, who passed the A.C.E. 1st Class at his first attempt, and C/Sgt. Burgess and Sgts. Cubitt, Cripps and Grogan who all passed one or more subjects towards this much coveted award. Their successes have obviously inspired other Mess members to "have a go" since the

nominations for the October examination include such intellectuals as C/Sgt. Perry, C/Sgt. Breame, Sgts. Turner, Ellis, Partridge, Walters, Dive, Warner, Simmonds and Boag, to whom we offer our best wishes in the forthcoming trial of wits.

The annual cricket match versus the officers resulted in a win for the Sergeants' Mess and provided Dr. Bailey with a free bottle of brandy from the Adj., who had forecast a win for the Officers' Mess. The subtle strategy of placing the Sergeants' Mess bar in the pavilion during the match was undoubtedly a sound move, the result of which more than repaid the sweat and labour so involved.

In the evening the officers and their ladies were invited to a games evening in the Mess. The games included poker dice, darts, billiards, etc. The evening's entertainment was highlighted by a blow football match between the ladies of the two Messes, in which the officers' ladies were victorious. To commemorate their victory they were presented with the same valuable trophy awarded to the Corporals' Club when they were here last quarter.

The new system of the monthly Mess caterer has certainly brought a spate of new ideas to the barkeepers profession, and members are now speculating wildly as to the likely colour of the walls in the lounge and ante room as each month brings a new caterer who tries anxiously to outdo his predecessor in the improvements made. No doubt by the end of the year we will have pink elephants and green monkeys painted on the walls to save us the expense of having to pay to see them through the bottom of a glass.

The Married Quarters are now a blaze of colour as the flowers and plants so diligently sown and cared for in the winter months spring to life. The R.Q.M.S. can be seen at almost any time of the day busily urging his peas, beans, potatoes, etc., to grow faster and bigger than anyone else's by feeding them on something akin to Carter's Little Liver Pills. His nickname among the other pseudo gardeners is, I believe, "Green Fingers" Griffiths, since although other people sowed seed at the same time only "Griff's" came up—perhaps the birds have a healthy respect for an R.Q.M.S. as well.

No quarter would seem complete if we could not report a birth of some sort or description, and I think that the wives (certainly the husbands) appreciate this as I have no fewer than seven to report this time—C.S.M. Thom, Sgt. Hope, Sgt. Waldron and Sgt. Padley have all produced beautiful bouncing baby boys, whilst Sgt. Walters, C/Sgt. Colebeck and C/Sgt. Burgess became the fond fathers of baby girls.

It is thought that sufficient will be said elsewhere in the journal of the two schemes, Exercises "Ploughboy" and "Golden Bough," to warrant their omission from these notes, so with but a few words with which to dispel the rumours that (a) a Boys' Battalion has been started here for the Regiment of up and coming young W.O.s and N.C.O.s arriving in a steady stream from the B.M.H. and (b) Zeltweg is completely snowbound (the temperature is expected to rise above freezing point by September), we will close these notes with an urgent call for 2,000 string vests and drawers, woollen, long.

Cricket

This season is mainly a domestic one with very few outside fixtures for the Battalion team. Two inter-Company leagues are being run—the Albuhera League and a Garrison League in which a combined "D" Company and "F" Platoon 117 Company R.A.S.C. XI takes part. Two grass pitches with matting wickets are in operation, No. 1 pitch being reserved for Company, Battalion, Garrison and B.T.A. matches and No. 2 being available for "village" cricket, being sited on what in winter is the Battalion Rugby ground. Both leagues have been seriously hampered by a considerable amount of wet weather but outstanding fixtures are slowly being played off.

"S" Company are the favourites in the Albuhera League this season, though "C" Company also appear to have a very strong team. "H.Q." Company, without Major Ormiston, Capt. Honess and Lt. Clayden from last season is further handicapped by having to find two teams; "H.Q." 1, on paper, appears to be a strong team, but with the Band in England for half the season, Sgt. Marable on leave and Sgt. Bailey unable to play because of an injured arm, they have already been beaten by "S" and "C" Companies in the Albuhera League. "B" Company had a good match with "S" Company and did well to lose by so narrow a margin. 2/Lt. Crumley and Pte. Dixon both play consistently well. "A" Company have been strengthened by the arrival of Cpl. Spencely from "B" Company, and with Lt. Thomas and Pte. Southern available have now quite a formidable team.

In the Garrison League "D"/117 Company XI has been strengthened by the return of Major Martin to join Sgts. Fry and Howarth and Sgmn. Boyne. "H.Q." 2, captained by Pte. Wright, is a strong bowling side but has little batting strength and did well to tie with "A" Company, each side making 81 runs. "S" Company, without Major Ormiston and Capt. Pike, both of whom are in England playing in the Regimental cricket week, rely mainly on Ptes. York and Evans to take the wickets and York and C/Sgt. Burgess to get the runs; they were beaten by seven wickets by "H.Q." 1 due mainly to the batting of Sgt. Bailey and Capt. Thomas.

The Battalion XI has played only one match, against R.A.S.C. (Austria) in Klagenfurt, which we lost owing to poor batting—Capt. Pike and Pte. York bowled well but only Cpl. Spencely could make runs. Capt. Pike was unlucky enough to take a fairly fast ball on the hand, breaking a small bone; we trust he was able to take part in the cricket week and that both he and Major Ormiston did well. Further fixtures with the 2nd Battalion The Lancashire Fusiliers and R.A.S.C. (Austria) have been rained off, and we now pray for fine weather in August when we hope to play an R.A.F. touring team and visit Trieste.

Rugby

The second half of the season dragged on until May 1, when the B.T.A. seven-a-sides were held in Klagenfurt on one of the few gloriously sunny days we have seen in Austria. It was felt that after our display in Trieste and over Easter we would not have much difficulty in

adding a further trophy to our record, but a certain amount of bad luck prevented us fielding our best two teams. Pte. Tate was in hospital with both knees well bandaged up, Pte. Kent was taken ill on the morning of the competition and the whole of the "C" Company contingent from Vienna had done no training since the Trieste tour. However that did not excuse the disappointing play of both teams, and as a finish to a very promising season the results were an anti-climax. The "B" team beat the B.M.H. in the first round but lost to R.E.M.E. in the next game, and the "A" team was well and truly beaten by the Royal Signals 9-0. True enough both our vanquishers reached the final, but our play was certainly well below Trieste standard.

The coming season, however, promises much. The Albuhera inter-Company competition is at last to be 15 a side, which should increase the number of players in the Battalion from which to choose our Battalion XV. Two pitches are to be available for the season and considerably more outside fixtures arranged for the Battalion team. We lose some of last year's team but gain a few established players with each draft from the Depot with which to fill in the gaps.

The following have represented the Battalion during the season: Lts. W. M. M. Deacock, I. S. Rutherford and J. S. B. Pollard, 2/Lts. D. E. Lobb, W. G. A. Crumley, I. M. E. Lloyd and M. S. Gedye, Cpls. Stevens, Bourke, Freeman, McIntosh, Hartard and Pride, Ptes. Green, Tate, Harrison, Elliott, King, Dixon, Kent and Spurge.

Athletics

On Albuhera Day the season commenced with the Albuhera inter-Company relay sports. Performances were not of a very high standard generally, but the keenness and inter-Company rivalry left little to be desired. The following were the results of events, winning Companies and best performances:

Three Mile Team Race: "H.Q." 16 mins. 57 secs.
One Mile Team: "C" 4 mins. 38 secs., 2/Lt. Humber.
880 Yards Relay (team of 4): "C" 9 mins. 31 secs.
440 Yards Relay (team of 4): "C" 4 mins. 1.5 secs.
220 Yards Relay: "B" 1 mins. 22 secs.
110 Yards Relay (team of 4): "B" 44 secs.
Tug-of-War: "H.Q."
Hurdles, 1st String: "B" 18.9 secs., Lt. Deacock; 2nd String: 19.5 secs., Pte. Newlands.
Pole Vault, 1st String: "H.Q." 8 ft., Pte. Roche; 2nd String: 8 ft. 3 in., Cpl. Thomas.
Hammer, 1st String: "H.Q." 87 ft. 5 in., L/Cpl. Stannard; 2nd String: 92 ft. 5 in., 2/Lt. Gedye.
Long Jump, 1st String: "H.Q." 19 ft. 7 in., Cpl. Thomas; 2nd String: 18 ft. 7 in., Pte. Mercer.
Weight, 1st String: "S" 34 ft. 9 in., Lt. Deacock; 2nd String: 30 ft. 8 1/2 in., 2/Lt. Gedye.
Discus, 1st String: "C" 103 ft. 8 1/2 in., 2/Lt. Gedye; 2nd String: 95 ft. 2 in., L/Cpl. Simons.
High Jump, 1st String: "S" 5 ft. 5 in., Pte. Smith (86); 2nd String: 5 ft. 2 in., Pte. Evans (13).
Javelin, 1st String: "H.Q." 157 ft. 2 in., Cpl. Stevens; 2nd String: 117 ft. 11 in., Pte. MacGregor.

2/Lt. Gedye elected to give up his local leave in order to go to Trieste and compete in the BETFOR athletics. He succeeded in winning the discus and being placed in the shot and hammer. This officer has now left us and is fast making his name with the A.A.A., a keen sportsman who we shall miss.

At the end of August we shall be holding the Battalion individual athletics, from the results of which will be

chosen the team for the B.T.A. sports. Prior to this a programme of inter-Company meets will be run in order to foster fitness and enthusiasm.

Hockey

The latter end of April found us at Klagenfurt, where we had entered four teams in the B.T.A. six-a-side tournament. Our teams lined up as follows:

"A" team: Sgt. Marable, Lt. (Q.M.) Waldron, R.S.M. Tarrant, B.M. Jackson, Sgts. Hannam and Grogan.

"B" team: Sgt. Bailey, Lt. Thomas, Bds. Duncan, Pte. Smith 98, Cpl. Silley and L/Cpl. Taylor.

"C" team: Cpl. Stevens, Bds. Rose and Ingram, L/Cpl. McCorrie, Lt. Hayward and Sgt. Potter.

"D" team: Ptes. Drewitt, Bentley, Fullman, Blay, Spittles and L/Cpl. Redmond.

Sixteen teams entered for the tournament and we are pleased to report that we had three teams in the semi-finals. "A" team eventually won the final after a thrilling fight with Klagenfurt Administrative Unit (formerly known as Camp H.Q.), R.S.M. Tarrant scoring the winning goal from a short corner with the last hit of the match.

All our teams put up a splendid show, but special mention must be made of our young soldiers' team ("D"). Not only did they fight their way into the semi-final but they gave "A" team a dreadful fright before losing 1-0.

Following that came the B.T.A. Cup competition. We had a walk-over in the first round from the B.M.H., beat Vienna Garrison 5-0 in the semi-final at Schönbrunn Barracks and lost 4-1 in the final to K.A.U. on our own ground. K.A.U. thoroughly deserved their victory, although our team gave a good account of themselves. Sgt. Grogan scored our only goal.

Several of our players have been included in the B.T.A. hockey team this season. Lt. Waldron, R.S.M. Tarrant, Sgt. Marable and B.M. Jackson were members of the B.T.A. side which travelled to Zagreb in Yugoslavia to beat Rache Kancan 2-1 on May Day. Later, with our representations increased by the inclusion of Lt. Hayward and Sgt. Grogan in the team, B.T.A. beat the Suffolk Regiment at Zeltweg 5-1. Goal scorers were Lt. Hayward 2, B.M. Jackson 2 and R.S.M. Tarrant 1.

Altogether it has been a most successful season, and with our younger players improving with every match we hope to produce a really strong Battalion team next season.

Cross-Country

On Wednesday, April 21, the inter-Company Albuhera Shield cross-country championship was held. Each Company entered ten competitors, eight of these only being placed. Both "H.Q." Company and "C" Company had two very strong teams. "H.Q." Company had been round the course completely more than once, while "C" Company had been training very hard in Vienna.

The course itself was approximately seven miles, over hilly, wooded country to the north of Zeltweg airfield in

the foothills. The start was outside Battalion H.Q. and the finish in front of the M.T. hangar.

The C.O. started the race and the field was away to a flying start. 2/Lt. Humber ("C" Company), Cpl. Hart ("C" Company) and Cpl. Mills ("A" Company) were soon up in front. It was noticeable throughout the race that "H.Q." Company kept well up in front and always together. This is the secret of good cross-country running. At the finish it was 1, "C" Company; 2, "H.Q." Company; 3, "A" Company. Cpl. Hart took first place followed by Cpl. Mills of "A" Company for second place and 2/Lt. T. Humber of "C" Company third.

On Saturday, May 8, "A" and "C" Companies both entered teams for the B.T.A. cross-country championship at Klagenfurt.

The course was 6 1/2 miles of varying terrain to the north of Klagenfurt. It had rained fairly heavily overnight and this made the course very muddy and difficult for the runners. Of the other three teams in the race only the R.A.S.C. provided any real opposition. At the start both "A" and "C" Companies were well up in the front with 2/Lt. T. Humber and Cpl. Hart of "C" Company hotly pursued by Cpl. Mills and Pte. Gosden of "A" Company. Taking the lead these four were well ahead of the rest and kept their lead right to the end. Here there was a very exciting finish between 2/Lt. T. Humber and Cpl. Hart. 2/Lt. T. Humber, however, beat his rival by a few feet. Cpl. Mills was third and Pte. Gosden fourth. The race was finally won by "A" Company with 97 points; "C" Company came in second with 120 points, hotly pursued by the R.A.S.C., Lendorf, with 121 points.

Maj.-Gen. Urquhart, G.O.C.-in-C., presented the cup to Pte. Bockhart, "A" Company team captain, and medallions to the first two teams. This was an outstanding success for the Battalion and all credit must go to "A" and "C" Companies for a first-class effort. It is always very difficult to train a cross-country team satisfactorily with so many other sporting activities in progress at the same time. Next year it is hoped that every Company will enter a team.

The B.T.A. Cup will be engraved and installed in the N.A.A.F.I. and we hope to see it again next year.

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Early in May this club became active, and now the week-end tours are a regular feature of the club's activities. Our centre is Schwabenbartl in the Hochschwab, a two-hours' journey from Zeltweg. From here we can indulge in our activities amidst glorious mountain scenery and with the excellent amenities provided by the Hutte to cheer us on our return.

The season started with mountain walks, often above the snow line, during which we discovered the many excellent Huttes in which this terrain abounds. As summer progresses we are learning the pure joys of rock climbing and the technicalities of rope and piton work. So far the following have made climbing tours of some severity: Lt. J. S. B. Pollard, Ptes. Cox, Balfe, Anton, Goodal and Pease. Before the season ends we hope that many more will have achieved this and, in time,

that some may blossom into No. 1's. Apart from the climbing, useful training is had in mountain rescue and the intricacies of "carabiner break," "Prusik," "ab-seilen" and "cable railway" can be practised on most evenings of the week in the hangar. Soon we hope to have our own badge in affiliation with the Austrian Alpine Club. The motto has been and will remain: "Bergheil—Durst ist Durst und Schnappes ist Schnappes."

SADDLE CLUB

During the last quarter the Saddle Club has lost three horses. Capt. R. A. Hodge took Romeo with him when he was posted to "H.Q." B.T.A. This was quite a blow to our hopes for the jumping season as Romeo was one of our better performers. Golden Moss, another promising jumper, went in the wind and was sent to B.T.A. The third casualty was Ginger, who died during an operation. The stables, therefore, now consist of six horses, namely, Bill Secundus, Brown Jack, Maybe, Tardo, Taslo and Toby.

The grooms have also been subject to the usual postings, demobilisation and U.K. leave. L/Cpl. Skippon's wife has now arrived in B.T.A. and he ceases to be N.C.O. i/c the stables. Pte. Goldsmith has become head groom in his place. Pte. Fuller has joined the stables from farming in Shropshire and replaces Pte. Wood who was recently demobilised. The third groom is Pte. Clayden, who is at present on U.K. leave and being relieved by Pte. Shephard. We also get occasional help from Dr. Slade.

The number of other rank riders in the Battalion is, unfortunately, very small, although those that do ride are regular supporters of the Club.

The show season in B.T.A. is now under way. Owing to a clash of dates with Exercise "Golden Bough" we were unable to enter for the Vienna Show. We did, however, enter for the Graz Show on June 26 and were fifth in Class "A" Austrian National Jumping (F.E.I.) (Major T. W. Chattey on Maybe). At the B.T.A. Show at Klagenfurt we managed to do better. In the jumping events our results were as follows: Open Jumping: Lt. B. A. M. Pielow second on Taslo and Major T. W. Chattey fifth on Maybe. Touch and Out Jumping:

Major T. W. Chattey fourth on Maybe. Novice Jumping: Mrs. B. A. M. Pielow second on Toby. Handy Horse: Major T. W. Chattey second and fourth on Maybe and Brown Jack. In the other events we gained the following places: Lt. B. A. M. Pielow won the bending race and Mrs. B. A. M. Pielow was third. Pte. Goldsmith won the musical chairs and Dr. Slade was third. Lt. B. A. M. Pielow won the obstacle race. Mrs. T. W. Chattey was sixth in the beginners riding on Brown Jack.

It is hoped that the Battalion Saddle Club will organise a gymkhana at Zeltweg sometime during August or September. The airfield is an excellent setting, and providing that all the available horses in B.T.A. compete the show should be a success.

The Club is very short of tackle and any gifts, however small, will be most welcome.

STOP PRESS

BATTALION RIFLE MEETING RESULTS

1. Rifle Application and Snap: 1st, "C" Company; 2nd, "B" Company.
2. Rifle and L.M.G.: 1st, "D" Company; 2nd, "S" Company.
3. Rifle Rapid: 1st, "B" Company; 2nd, "C" Company.
4. L.M.G. Pairs: 1st, Pte. York and Pte. Dunkley, "S" Company.
- 2nd, Lt. Deacock and C.S.M. Kendrick, "S" Company.
5. Officers versus Sergeants: Officers.
6. Rifle, 400 yds.: 1st, "B" Company; 2nd, "S" Company.
7. Unicorn Cup (Battalion Rifle Champion): 1st, Sgt. Steward, "B" Company, 95 (possible); 2nd, Major Dawson, "C" Company, 89; 3rd, Cpl. Hart, 31, "C" Company, 86.
8. Sergeants' Mess Enfield Trophy: 1st, Sgt. Steward; 2nd, Sgt. Gibbs.
9. Inter-Company Shield: 1st, "S" Company; 2nd, "C" Company; 3rd, "B" Company; 4th, "D" Company; 5th, "H.Q." Company; 6th, "A" Company.

COMMAND RIFLE MEETING RESULTS

1. Victory Cup: Part I—1st, "D" Company; 2nd, "C" Company. Part II—1st, "C" Company; 2nd, "B" Company. Winners—1st, "C" Company; 2nd, "B" Company.
2. L.M.G. Team: 1st, "B" Company; 2nd, "D" Company.
3. Sten Team: 1st, "S" Company; 2nd, "B" Company.
4. Young Soldiers' Team (Rifle and L.M.G.): 1st, "C" Company; 2nd, "S" Company.
5. Open Rifle Match: 1st, Battalion "A" Team; 2nd, Battalion "B" Team.
6. Individual Rifle: 1st, Sgt. Harris (R.E.M.E. att. I.M.X.), 94; 2nd, Major Dawson, 94; 3rd, Sgt. Steward, 89.
7. Individual Sten: 1st, R.A.S.C.; 2nd, Royal Signals.
8. Inter-Unit Felling Plate: "H.Q." Company.
9. L.M.G. Pairs: 1st, Sgt. Steward and Sgt. Partridge, "B" Company; 2nd, Royal Signals.
10. Individual Pistol: 1st, R.A.Ch. D.; 2nd, R.A.S.C.
11. Service Cup: "B" Company.
12. Pool Ball: Sgt. Weller, "B" Company.

June 3, 1954.

My Dear General,

The officers and men of the Hong Kong Regiment were very pleased indeed to receive signals of best wishes and congratulations on the occasion of the Centenary Parade from their allied Regiment.

I can assure you, Sir, that the alliance is a very live thing, and both officers and men are very proud of the association, and the evident interest shown by the telegrams on this occasion, was a source of great pleasure to us all.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Stewart Carter.

Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall, C.B., M.C.,
Colonel The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.),
Inglist Barracks, N.W.7.

ROYAL HONG KONG DEFENCE FORCE

The following telegram was sent to Col. L. T. Ride, C.B.E., T.D., Commandant of the Royal Hong Kong Defence Force, on the occasion of the centenary of that Force on May 30, 1954:—

"Colonel and all Ranks Middlesex Regiment, Duke of Cambridge's Own, send, on this memorable occasion, warmest greetings and congratulations to their Allied Regiment with whom they have enjoyed the closest relationship."

The following reply has been received:—
From Lt.-Col. Stewart Carter, M.B.E., M.C.

The Sherwood Foresters,

Commanding the Hong Kong Regiment,
Headquarters,
Royal Hong Kong Defence Force.

Depot Notes

In our last issue we struck a hopeful note of "Summer is icumen in, llude sing cucu!" Alas! the call of the cuckoo was quickly drowned, literally as well as metaphorically, in a summer of almost unrelieved dampness. Many of our activities have been carried out in a "hide-and-seek" manner, with the rain as an unfriendly adversary. Our two principal successes in this rather exhausting game were the Annual Administrative Inspection, which was held on a really lovely day, and Cricket Week, in which only one day was marred by cold and wind. The tradition of fine passing-out parades survived, but only just; the 22nd Intake's parade was crammed in hurriedly between rainstorms, and more than one optimistic lady visitor found it expedient to wrap herself in an Army ground-sheet borrowed from her son or brother.

ALBUHERA DAY

May 16 this year fell on a Sunday, and a programme was arranged covering the weekend. Saturday, May 15, began traditionally with a late Reveille and a special breakfast. The remainder of the morning was devoted to sport, which is reported elsewhere.

The Albuhera Dinner for the troops was a sumptuous affair, for which great credit must go to Lt. Weller, Sgt. Stubbins and the cooks. The meal was served by the officers, warrant officers, and sergeants. This was no mean feat, as anyone who knows "B" dining hall will realise when they know that somehow room had been made for 200 men to eat there together. Major Heywood, the P.R.I., as always, found the funds to supply generous quantities of beer, cigarettes and other luxuries.

In the evening from 8 o'clock until midnight the Gymnasium, which had in the past few days undergone "a sea change, into something rich and strange," was the scene of the Albuhera All Ranks' Ball. This was most enjoyable and went with a swing from the start. Lt. Evans and his committee deserve praise for a well-planned and memorable occasion.

On Albuhera Day itself, a church service was held in the morning. At mid-day the warrant officers and sergeants paid their traditional visit to the Officers' Mess. In the afternoon a cricket match was played between the Depot and the 7th Battalion; a pleasant event, despite the result.

Altogether we feel that we celebrated Albuhera Day in a suitable and entirely agreeable way.

ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE INSPECTION

The pundits who write military textbooks usually state with irritating complacency that a Unit whose administration is run on sound and well-planned lines need have no qualms about annual inspections. Theoretically this may be true; but a Commander who approached this yearly landmark without some serious

preparation and self-searching would surely be possessed of almost superhuman detachment. This year plans were laid early, and a series of inspections was arranged, designed to lead up to the great day by easy and logical stages. Grass-cutting and camp clearance generally were carried out under the personal supervision of the R.S.M. Everything went smoothly, and there was the minimum of interference with normal training and routine.

At 10 a.m. on May 25 the entire Depot was drawn up on parade on the square ready for inspection. The weather was fine, and the barracks looking its very attractive best. The inspecting team was led by the new Chief of Staff to London District, Brigadier W. L. Steele, O.B.E., who brought with him two Staff officers. The inspection of the parade, including the motor transport, lasted nearly half an hour, after which the Brigadier set off with the Commanding Officer on a tour of camp, which included barrack rooms, stores, the Naafi, the Museum, the church, the Old Comrades' Hut, the M.I. Room and the Gymnasium. The other inspecting officers retired to the Orderly Room with the Adjutant and examined the documentary side of our existence. The whole inspection was over by 11.30 a.m., when the team directed their attentions to our co-tenants, the Home Postal Depot, Royal Engineers. Afterwards we had the pleasure of entertaining the inspecting officers to luncheon.

Comparing notes later, we were relieved to find that apparently things had gone well, and that no "horrors" had been uncovered. When the official report arrived some weeks later this favourable impression was confirmed. The report was most satisfactory, and a gratifying reward for all who had worked so hard for its achievement.

In June two other inspections took place. On the 17th a documentation team from the Infantry Records Office, Warwick, paid us a visit, and on the 22nd a security team from the Intelligence Corps carried out an inspection of our classified correspondence. Both these tests were passed with flying colours.

OTHER EVENTS

We were very pleased to welcome the Regimental Band on its visit to England. They had a fairly full programme, which included playing every day at the Cricket Week. They carried out their duties with their accustomed verve and musicianship. We were particularly pleased to note that in spite of the alarming reports we have received of the losses the Band has suffered, their performance is as good as ever it was. After a well-earned period of leave the Band has now returned to Austria where we wish them continued success.

On June 11 we had another visit from the Mobile Blood Transfusion Team, which appears now to have

OFFICERS, W.O.s AND SERGEANTS, DEPOT THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.), JULY, 1954



Photo by J. J. Chivers, New Barnet, Herts.

Back Row (left to right): Sgt. A. Da Costa, Sgt. R. Bullock, Sgt. C. Pullen, Sgt. A. Hook, Sgt. A. Beeslee, R.E.M.E., Sgt. J. Dickie.
 Centre Row (left to right): Sgt. A. Clements, C/Sgt. A. Taylor, C.S.M. R. Budden, R.Q.M.S. A. Etheridge, C.S.M.I. Carruthers, A.P.T.C., C/Sgt. F. Redpath, B.E.M., Sgt. F. Markham.
 Front Row (left to right): Lt. H. J. Evans, Capt. J. S. C. Flavell, Lt. B. K. Clayden, Adjutant, Major P. D. H. Marshall, O.C. Depot, R.S.M. P. Donovan, Lt. B. H. Marciandi, Lt. (Q.M.) S. Weller, M.M.

the Depot "on its books." We are happy to contribute to this important work; incidentally, how rare and pleasant it is to be able to do a valuable service which does not cost us money! On this occasion 99 volunteers gave blood.

On Saturday, July 3, the Lord Lieutenant of the County, Lord Latham of Hendon, visited the Cottage Homes. His continued interest in this undertaking is greatly appreciated by the Regiment, and it is hoped that he enjoyed the visit as much as did the occupants of the cottages.

On Thursday, July 22, the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Marshall had the honour to attend the second Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

PERSONALITIES

As everyone knows, the Depot serves as a kind of Regimental clearing house. Sooner or later everybody passes through here. We believe that it is one of our most important functions to keep members of the Regiment in touch with its affairs; this is especially important at the present time, when the calls of the Service are so diversified that many officers, non-

commissioned officers and men spend much of their time apart from the Regiment. We are always pleased to welcome these "birds of passage."

Our visitors during this quarter have been as numerous as ever, and we shall not attempt to make a list of them, but will confine our attention to more domestic matters.

Major Collins has been on our strength for some time now while he awaits his language course. He perhaps rather mistimed his arrival here, which coincided with the quarterly Audit Board, because his presence solved the quarterly headache of finding a president for the board. However, he carried out this rather tedious duty with great zest and searching thoroughness—so searching that our account holders were most gratified, not to say relieved, that the accounts all passed his scrutiny with honours. He has now most gallantly stepped into another breach, taking over the duties of P.R.I. and P.M.C. Officers' Mess to allow Major Heywood to take his annual leave.

In our last issue we welcomed C/Sgt. Redpath to the Orderly Room. Now we are sorry to bid him goodbye on posting to the Infantry Boys' Battalion, but very

happy to congratulate him on his well-deserved promotion to R.Q.M.S. C/Sgt. Taylor, our financial wizard, has stepped into his shoes, and in doing so has achieved substantive status in his rank. To fill the gap left by his transfer, Sgt. Markham of the Sergeants' Mess has become C/Sgt. Markham of the Pay Office. These promotions are most pleasing, and we congratulate all concerned.

New arrivals to our permanent staff are Sgt. Dickie, from the Middle East, and Cpls. Davis, Dyson, Langford and Peck from the 1st Battalion. C/Sgt. Street and Sgt. Burn, awaiting discharge, C/Sgt. Martin on his way to the Far East again, Sgt. Edey waiting for a course, and Cpls. Elston and Higgins awaiting posting to the 1st Battalion, have all been usefully employed here during their periods of waiting.

Our P.T. staff suffered heavily in losing Cpl. Napolitano on release, and L/Cpl. Townend on an advanced P.T. course which will probably mean his transfer to the A.P.T.C. We are very sorry to see them go and thank them for the splendid work they did for us. L/Cpls. Fearn and Perry, who were recruits here earlier, have arrived to take their place.

To all arrivals and departures we extend our best wishes, and hope that they will have great success in their new undertakings.

TRAINING COMPANY

On May 28 Col. J. Sykes Wright, D.S.O., O.B.E., Brigade Colonel, Home Counties Brigade, took the salute at the passing-out parade of the 22nd Intake of recruits.

Medals were awarded as follows:—

Best All-round Recruit	22973519 Pte. F. Tillett
Best Rifle Shot	23012531 Pte. D. Allsup
Best L.M.G. Shot	23012538 Pte. R. Hayes
Highest Physical Efficiency	22997362 Pte. J. Young

In the last issue of the Journal it was mentioned that script writers of the well-known B.B.C. programme, "Mrs. Dale's Diary," were present at Mill Hill the day the 22nd Intake reported for training. Three days prior to their passing-out parade the now familiar Humber "Hawk" from the B.B.C. was seen parked outside Training Company Office. It transpired that the purpose of this visit was to obtain recorded material to be broadcast to the Far East suitable for the B.B.C.'s Asian-speaking audiences. The aim of the broadcast was to present a comprehensive sound picture of the life of the National Service recruit whilst undergoing his basic training. The producer, recording technicians and Mr. Woodrow Wyatt, M.P., late Secretary of State for War, the narrator, came under the wing of Capt. J. S. C. Flavell throughout their three-day visit.

Numerous recordings were made of interviews, etc., and also the actual passing-out parade of the 22nd Intake. The producer was well pleased with the material obtained, especially the recorded interviews of the soldiers, and of their parents, taken in the Gymnasium during the tea-party after the passing-out parade.

We have heard from the B.B.C. that the programme was broadcast with great success over their short-wave transmitters and that arrangements are in hand for it

to be broadcast in the Home Service programme in the near future.

On June 3 a party of 20 all ranks from the Depot, under O.C. Training Company, paid a visit to the gunsight of our neighbours, 104th Heavy A.A. Battery, R.A., at Totteridge, where a most interesting afternoon was spent having the guns, radar and fire control system explained in detail.

Our congratulations go out to C.S.M.I. Carruthers who won the A.P.T.C. Individual Bayonet Competition in the Eastern Command Fencing Championship held at Shorncliffe on April 2, 1954.

H.Q. Home Counties Brigade organised a one-day rifle meeting at Hythe on June 22, 1954. This meeting was the first of which we hope will become an annual event, whereby the skill of recruits and permanent staff of Regimental Depots can be exercised in competitive shooting. After our success in the London District Meeting earlier on in the year we are determined to keep the Regiment's flag flying at this meeting. From the beginning of June practice firing took place on most evenings after normal parade hours, and the recruit team especially are to be congratulated on the very high standard achieved. The meeting consisted of two separate competitions, one for recruits not having completed 10 weeks' basic training and the other an individual competition for officers and O.R.s of any rank or service. Practices were as follows:—

Recruits (team of 6):

No. 1—200 yds. deliberate.	4-ft. targets.	5 rds.
No. 2—300 yds. rapid.	4-ft. target.	5 rds.
Targets exposed for 25 secs.		
No. 3—300 yds. L.M.G. action.	4-ft. targets.	15 rds.
Targets exposed for 22 secs.		

Individual:

No. 1—300 yds. deliberate.	4-ft. targets.	5 rds.
No. 2—600-100 yds. fire and movement.	6-ft. targets.	10 rds.

Throughout the day's shooting our recruit team, consisting of Ptes. Coster, Schofield, Smith, Brown, Birch and Ward, all members of the 22nd Intake, fired with the confidence of trained soldiers, and with Sgt. Da Costa's coaching and enthusiasm as their non-firing team captain, they won the only team competition by the wholesome margin of 21 points. By continuing to keep the flag flying the Regiment's congratulations go out to all who fired at Hythe.

Details and results were as follows:—

Recruit Competition (six teams competed):

1st	Depot Middlesex	220 pts.
2nd	Depot Buffs	199 pts.
3rd	Potential Leaders	182 pts.

Individual Competition (out of 36 entries):

5th	Sgt. Da Costa.
7th	L/Cpl. Giles.

The second passing-out parade during the quarter was that of the 23rd Recruit Intake on Thursday, July 15, and it was one of the most impressive parades to be held at the Depot for many months. The intake passed out 74 strong, at a parade taken by Lt.-Gen. Sir Colin B. Callander, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., Director-General of Military Training, and attended by well over 120 relatives and friends of the recruits.

Medals were awarded as follows:—
Best All-round Recruit .. 23026840 Pte. D. Gainsbury

Best Rifle Shot .. 22997113 Pte. D. Ward
Best L.M.G. Shot .. 23026833 Pte. R. Woodley
Highest Physical Efficiency 23026873 Pte. G. Webb

At the church service held immediately after the parade great difficulty was found in accommodating the recruits, their many friends and relations in the Garrison Church. Fortunately the weather was fine, which enabled the overflow of worshippers to join in prayer in the open.

SPORT

Cricket is the traditional game of summer in England, but players when viewing our lower pitch this season have been heard to say "Who's defending the deep end?" Nevertheless, we have managed to play 7 out of 13 matches. Our team has been greatly strengthened by the addition of Lt. Clayden, who has been an untiring bowler and batsman; also Pte. Raffael in later matches has shown excellent batting form. Pte. Rowson behind the stumps and Cpl. Adair with the ball have been very consistent throughout the season. Those playing regularly have been Major Marshall, Capt. Flavell, Lt. Evans and Pte. Burton—the latter a very promising bowler.

The summary of the matches is as follows:—

7th Bn The Middlesex Regt. .. Lost by 74 runs
R.A.F. Hendon Lost by 85 runs
Home Postal Depot R.E. .. Won by 93 runs
London Assembly Centre .. Won by 58 runs
Depot East Surrey Regt. .. Lost by 28 runs
H.Q. Eastern Command .. Lost by 28 runs
London Assembly Centre .. Won by 95 runs

Albuhara Day sports saw a knockout competition in football and basket ball with six teams in each competing. The officers, W.O.s and sergeants and permanent staff each fielded one team, while the recruits had three, one from the senior intake (22nd) and two from the junior (23rd). The football was played with terrific energy and some skill to end in a win for the senior intake, after an extremely hard game with the permanent staff. Everyone then moved over to the basket ball pitch where the second half was played out. It was left to the officers and W.O.s and sergeants to do battle in the final. But since both these teams were nearly the same as the football sides and were feeling very weary, the time was cut down. Nevertheless, enough was left for the W.O.s and sergeants to record a victory over the officers in which Sgt. Da Costa particularly shone. The victors for both competitions were rewarded by the Commanding Officer with alcoholic refreshment, which by this time was more than welcome.

DEPOT BATTING AND BOWLING AVERAGES, 1954

Name	BATTING				Average
	Innings	Not Out	Highest Score	Total	
Pte. J. Raffael ..	3	—	59	94	31.3
Pte. D. Rowson ..	6	1	37	129	25.8
Capt. J. S. C. Flavell ..	3	—	32	63	21.0
Lt. B. K. Clayden ..	7	—	49	136	19.4
Lt. H. J. Evans ..	5	—	37	96	19.2
Major P. D. H. Marshall ..	3	—	26	40	13.3
Cpl. A. Adair ..	6	1	15	39	7.8

Name	BOWLING				Average
	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts	
Cpl. A. Adair ..	59	13	188	19	9.6
Lt. B. K. Clayden ..	62	7	196	16	12.2
Pte. A. Burton ..	11.4	2	39	5	6.0

SERGEANTS' MESS

Events during the past quarter have been in short, nil, but matters of interest have not been lacking. Firstly, it must be mentioned that the weather has not been of the "long leave" type, but numerous members have taken the plunge and had a bash. R.S.M., C/Sgt. Taylor, 30 days' apiece; C/Sgt. Dodkins, Sgts. Hook and Milburn (R.A.P.C.), and the handsome Warrant Officer (who is it?) about 21 days' apiece. Future periods of considerable length will no doubt be taken by Sgts. Clemments and Beeslee (Arm.), who are receiving not one, two, or even three, but four letters per day—code signed and numbered ("Forgotten," "Swalk," etc.), and no doubt Bells, Wedding, Mk. 1, will soon be ringing in the Manchester area.

More definite news of wedding bells is that Charlie (West Africa) M. is getting married at the time of going to press, and has volunteered for a further tour in Far East.

Bells of a different sort have been ringing in so far as there are now new additions in the Sgts. Da Costa and Milburn families, and we congratulate them on their abilities.

C/Sgt. "Imperial Echoes" Redpath has now risen to the dizzy heights of R.Q.M.S. and is leaving us to go to the Infantry Boys' Battalion. His place has been taken by C/Sgt. "Spud" Taylor who has pulled his sub. rank, and to take his place the "You won't get it in Civvy Street" Sgts' Mess Caterer, i.e. Sgt. "George" Markham, is filling the chair of financial "genius", and is promoted to Colour/Sergeant, and all applications for extra pay must now be in the Pay Office three months before required.

Owing to the impending move of C/Sgt. Dodkins and Sgts. Da Costa and Hook to the 1st Middlesex there will be a general auction of u/s vehicles "going cheap", in the near future.

Our best wishes go to all past and present members of the Mess wherever they may be, and hope that we shall see some of them at the Reunion in October, 1954.

CORPORALS' CLUB

Once again we have the pleasure of welcoming three more N.C.O.s from the 1st Battalion—Cpl. Davies who is to join the Gymnasium staff, and Cpls. Peck and Dyson who are to try their skill at training recruits.

Also we welcome back into the fold Cpl. Higgins, who is still telling us all about that terrible place which he has just managed to escape from—"Civvy Street."

We say goodbye to Cpl. Chase who is about to leave us for the perils of civilian life, and so we lose one of our budding snooker champions.

So now with summer behind us, and most of our leave taken, it is noses back to the grindstone until Christmas comes round.

With that thought behind us we extend our regards to the Corporals of the Battalion and close our notes for the quarter.

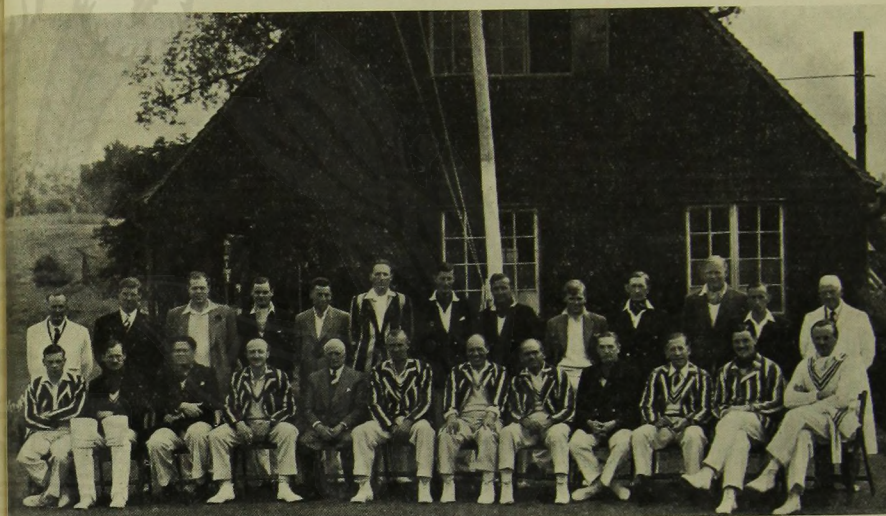


Photo by J. J. Chivers, New Barnet, Herts.

OFFICERS' CLUB v. FREE FORESTERS

CRICKET WEEK, 1954

In the so-far dismal summer this year the weather was kind enough not to interfere with play, for which we were duly grateful. More players offered themselves for games than for some years, for which the Secretary was also grateful, and the results of the win, one loss and three draws were quite satisfactory, as two of the draws might well have been wins. The bowling was stronger than for some time, although Pike was missing for two games with an injured finger, but Cullen and Price bowled steadily, the latter's hat-trick against the Foresters definitely turning the game in our favour. Unwin, 6 for 39 against the Cryptics, and Patrick Wollocombe provided very useful support.

The batting was pretty consistent throughout the week, without any very large scores. Patrick Wollocombe and Unwin batted very well as usual, and Pike achieved his ambition of having at least one innings—on one occasion being promoted to No. 4.

Col. "Joe" Weston managed to tear himself away from his arduous studies at the I.D.C. and appeared on the field for the opposition and the Regiment, whilst Brigadier "Stumps" Green, on leave from Jordan, was more nimble than ever in the field.

The Band of the 1st Battalion made a welcome appearance and added materially to the enjoyment of the week, being enthusiastic spectators in the intervals of playing. An unusually large number of members of the Officers' Club turned up for the Sunday match. Altogether it was a successful and enjoyable week.

CRICKET RESULTS

JUNE 19-23, 1954

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) v. FREE FORESTERS

FREE FORESTERS		
D. P. Henry, b. Price ..	..	14
G. P. L. Weston, c. Legge b. Unwin ..	..	9
P. W. Francis, lbw b. Price ..	..	0
H. F. D. Gillett, c. Unwin b. Price ..	..	0
M. J. Rogerson, b. Price ..	..	20
P. E. Crook, run out ..	..	17
M. Morton, c. Unwin b. Price ..	..	5
U. C. Begg, b. Unwin ..	..	6
P. Auster, c. Honess b. Stephenson ..	..	8
D. S. Shuttleworth, b. Price ..	..	2
R. A. Shaddick not out ..	..	0
Extras ..	..	12
Total ..	..	93

Price ..	6 wickets for 45 runs.
Pike ..	0 .. 13 ..
Unwin ..	2 .. 12 ..
Stephenson ..	1 .. 10 ..

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

Major J. W. G. Ormiston, not out ..	..	32
Capt. N. F. Legge, c. Gillett b. Shuttleworth ..	..	48
Capt. S. E. Honess, b. Shaddick ..	..	7
Lt. J. Phillips, not out ..	..	25
Extras ..	..	10
Total (for 2 wickets) ..	..	122

Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, Lt.-Col. J. G. W. Stephenson, J. L. Price, Capt. C. N. Clayden, Lt.-Col. C. M. M. Man, Capt. J. I. D. Pike, and J. Cullen did not bat.

Auster ..	0 wickets for 25 runs.
Morton ..	0 .. 18 ..
Shaddick ..	1 .. 20 ..
Shuttleworth ..	1 .. 34 ..
Henry ..	0 .. 6 ..

Result: Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) won match by 8 wickets.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) v. HAMPSTEAD HEATHENS

HAMPSTEAD HEATHENS	
A. W. Stansfeld, c Clayden b Unwin	2
J. Sutherland, c Wollcombe b Wollcombe	14
P. Mennim, c Man b Price	5
G. M. Shuttleworth, c Man b Cullen	7
A. L. Warr, c Clayden b Wollcombe	31
A. Bush, not out	69
H. B. Smith, c Wollcombe b Unwin	31
R. W. Skene, c Unwin b Price	33
Extras	24
Total (for 7 wickets dec.)	216

G. F. R. Dark, P. B. Berliner and M. Fitzgerald did not bat.

Price	2 wickets for 40 runs.
Unwin	2 " " 42 "
Wollcombe	2 " " 47 "
Cullen	1 " " 63 "

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

Major J. W. G. Ormiston, c Warr b Smith	43
Major J. R. B. Worton, lbw b Smith	11
Capt. S. E. Honess, c Shuttleworth b Skene	16
Lt. J. Phillips, c Smith b Smith	14
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, c Bush b Shuttleworth	63
Lt. P. A. S. Wollcombe, lbw b Shuttleworth	33
Lt. P. C. Kay, c Sutherland b Shuttleworth	2
J. L. Price, c Warr b Fitzgerald	4
Capt. C. N. Clayden, not out	18
Lt.-Col. C. M. M. Man, not out	4
Extras	6
Total (for 8 wickets)	214

J. Cullen did not bat.

Shuttleworth	3 wickets for 43 runs.
Fitzgerald	1 " " 39 "
Mennim	0 " " 3 "
Smith	3 " " 66 "
Skene	1 " " 57 "

Result: Match drawn.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) v. CRYPTICS

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

Capt. N. F. Legge, run out	32
Major J. R. B. Worton, lbw b Melhuish	47
J. Price, c Houghton b Melhuish	56
Lt. J. Phillips, not out	49
Major J. W. G. Ormiston, c O'Callaghan b Melhuish	4
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, c Jennings b Crawford	58
Extras	3
Total (for 5 wickets dec.)	249

Lt. P. A. S. Wollcombe, Col. G. P. L. Weston, Lt. H. N. Evans, Lt.-Col. C. M. M. Man, and J. Cullen did not bat.

Gibb	0 wickets for 32 runs.
Houghton	3 " " 102 "
Melhuish	3 " " 72 "
Beldham	0 " " 16 "
Crawford	1 " " 22 "

CRYPTICS

R. F. B. O'Callaghan, c Evans b Unwin	52
T. S. Pearsall, lbw b Unwin	61
A. Wright, c b Unwin	1
S. Tucker, b Unwin	10
R. Jennings, c Weston b Price	20
S. Houghton, run out	1
P. L. Crawford, b Unwin	0
A. M. Gibb, not out	5
J. B. Beldham, b Unwin	3
G. C. Melhuish, not out	13
Extras	21
Total (for 8 wickets)	187

D. Carroll did not bat.

Price	1 wickets for 46 runs.
Cullen	0 " " 35 "
Unwin	6 " " 39 "
Wollcombe	0 " " 44 "

Result: Match drawn.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) v. INCOGNITI C.C.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

Major J. W. G. Ormiston, b Martin	7
Major J. R. B. Worton, b Batcock	10
J. L. Price, c Bradley b Martin	23
Lt. P. A. S. Wollcombe, b Bradley	23
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, b Martin	3
Lt. B. K. Clayden, st Bavin b Batcock	3
Lt. H. J. Evans, c b Martin	4
Capt. J. I. D. Pike, b Batcock	10
Brigadier A. E. Green, lbw b Pickard	2
Lt.-Col. C. M. M. Man, lbw b Batcock	0
J. Cullen, not out	1
Extras	19
Total	85

Batcock	4 wickets for 12 runs.
Martin	4 " " 38 "
Harper	0 " " 2 "
Bradley	1 " " 9 "
Young	0 " " 2 "
Pickard	1 " " 3 "

INCOGNITI C.C.

D. Lomax, b Pike	49
J. C. Hanna, b Cullen	5
J. L. Lane, lbw b Cullen	50
A. J. Pickard, st Man b Clayden	1
F. Young, c Price b Pike	45
R. H. Martin, c Man b Cullen	16
J. H. Harper, c b Cullen	14
D. G. Batcock, hit wicket	28
K. Vane Percy, b Cullen	1
F. H. Bradley, not out	0
Extras	17
Total (for 9 wickets dec.)	226

A. J. W. Bavin did not bat.

Price	0 wickets for 32 runs.
Pike	2 " " 38 "
Cullen	5 " " 70 "
Wollcombe	1 " " 35 "
Clayden	1 " " 18 "
Unwin	0 " " 16 "

Result: Incogniti C.C. won by 141 runs.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) v. I. ZINGARI

I. ZINGARI

Sir William Becher, c Price b Pike	14
Major H. J. D. Gillett, not out	104
Major D. Millar, b Price	12
J. Reason, b Cullen	2
Lt.-Col. A. J. C. Rose, b Price	7
Lt.-Comdr. R. H. Martin, b Price	18
M. Pearson, c Weatherhead b Pike	18
Lt.-Comdr. J. O. Roberts, b Pike	6
S. C. Griffith, lbw b Wollcombe	1
Lord Cobham, c Worton b Wollcombe	1
T. A. Bird, not out	12
Extras	18
Total (for 9 wickets dec.)	213

Pike	3 wickets for 70 runs.
Unwin	0 " " 3 "
Clayden	0 " " 6 "
Price	3 " " 52 "
Cullen	1 " " 38 "
Wollcombe	2 " " 26 "

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

Major J. W. G. Ormiston, c Bird b Martin	22
Major J. R. B. Worton, b Pearson	0
J. L. Price, run out	6
Capt. J. I. D. Pike, c Reason b Pearson	69
Lt. P. A. S. Wollcombe, b Martin	6
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, c Pearson b Martin	6
G. Weatherhead, not out	25
Lt. B. K. Clayden, lbw b Cobham	10
Lt. H. J. Evans, b Martin	6
Extras	150
Total (for 8 wickets)	150

J. Cullen did not bat.

Martin	4 wickets for 50 runs.
Pearson	3 " " 26 "
Cobham	1 " " 64 "
Reason	0 " " 4 "

Result: Match drawn.

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

The Battalion went to camp this year at Ewshot Camp, near Aldershot, from July 4 to 17. The camp was a tented one pleasantly sited on a slope amongst trees. The weather, although indifferent, was better than at Bodney last year, and we were more fortunate than our predecessors in the camp, the Northampton, who were completely washed out a week or so previously.

Training this year was on an "individual" basis and was mainly carried out at platoon and company level. However, we took part in an inter-Battalion exercise in the second week in which we skirmished with the London Irish Rifles.

The tempo of the camp was very high. Many events were sandwiched into a short space of time with the consequently heavy burden of duties falling on a few officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s, who must have had little time to spare.

However, camp is the one time of the year when the Battalion really gets down to its task of fitting itself for war, and much useful training was accomplished this time.

Whilst at camp we were visited by many senior officers who, in each case, expressed their satisfaction with the work of all ranks. We were especially pleased to welcome Col. Maitland, our Hon. Colonel, who visited us on the second Monday in camp. He inspected training during the day and in the evening visited the Sergeants' Mess. He afterwards dined with the officers.

On the social side each Company held a smoking evening in a selected local inn. Reports on their relative successes are vague and non-committal.

During the first week of camp we ran some sporting events. Unfortunately the programme was delayed owing to the weather, but the final results were as follows:

Inter-Company Knock-Out Basket Ball Competition: Winners, "B" Company; Runners up, "S" Company.
Inter-Company Knock-Out Seven-a-Side Football Competition: Winners, "H.Q." Company; Runners up, "D" Company.
Cricket, Soccer and Basket Ball League: Winners, "H.Q." Company; "S" Company and "B" Company, a tie.

BATTALION RIFLE MEETING

Champion Company: "H.Q." Company.
Inter-Company Rifle Competition: Winners, "H.Q." Company; Runners up, "D" Company.
Inter-Company Rifle and L.M.G. Competition: Winners, "B" Company; Runners up, "S" Company.
Inter-Company Falling Plate Competition: Winners, "B" Company; Runners up, "H.Q." Company.
Best Individual Rifle Shot: Officers, Capt. R. G. Garrett; W.O.s and Sergeants, Sgt. Larache; Corporals, Lance-Corporals and Privates, Pte. Bavester.

We are now settling down to planning our winter training which will commence in September and will be run along the same lines as last year.

On May 21 the officers held a most successful ball in the T.A. Centre at Hornsey. Nearly 200 guests attended including many distinguished past officers of the Battalion, and dancing continued until the early hours of the morning. The function promoted much favourable comment from those who came and it is hoped to make it an annual event. Next year it may well be able to be included as part of the Regimental celebrations to be held in honour of the bi-centenary of the raising of the Regiment.

One most important item to be recorded here is that R.S.M. Tostevin is leaving us in August on terminating his Army service. He joined the Battalion as a P.S.I. in July 1950 and has given us his loyal and efficient service ever since. He was promoted and appointed as R.S.M. in January 1953 and has carried his very heavy burden of responsibility in his ever cheerful and reliable fashion. Owing to his many talents he has often been asked to do far more than his normal share of work but has always unhesitatingly accepted whatever tasks he has been given, however onerous they may have been. We will be very sorry to see him go and everyone joins together in wishing him every success and happiness in civilian life.

In place of Mr. Tostevin we will be very pleased to welcome R.S.M. E. Pike, who will be rejoining the Battalion from the 1st Middlesex in August.

He has served with the 7th Battalion previously as a P.S.I. and as R.S.M. and so will not be new to the problems of the present-day Territorial Army. We congratulate him on his well-deserved promotion and wish him every success in his new appointment.

Outside the Battalion we should mention that Brigadier A. G. V. Paley, C.B.E., D.S.O., O.B.E., A.D.C., Commander 47th (London) Infantry Brigade has been relieved by Brigadier D. G. Moore as our new Brigade Commander. We wish both of these distinguished officers every success in their new appointments.

We were very pleased to be recently visited at Hornsey by Brigadier A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., our late C.O. He was home on leave from Jordan and took the trouble, amongst all his other activities, to come along and see us.

A list of current promotions is shown below.

To W.O.2.—C/Sgt. F. Firman, Sgt. A. G. Cooper.
To C/Sergeant (O.R.Q.M.S.).—Sgt. C. Munds.
To Sergeant.—Cpls. M. Young, G. Charge, G. Payne, D. Rodbard, B. Wright, D. Jones and K. Iddenton.
To Corporal.—Pte. N. Aldrich, L/Cpls. A. Beauchamp and N. Spencer, Pte. B. Wright, L/Cpl. F. Chesterman, Ptes. R. Farley and C. Organ, L/Cpl. J. Wright, Ptes. D. Fox and R. Prosser, L/Cpls. G. Downer, D. Fordham, I. McGlashan, L. Parry, P. Tuffnell, P. Lee, L. Roberts, E. Eyre, A. Hughes and R. Bishop.

To Lance-Corporal.—Ptes. M. Whiteley, H. Freegard, L. Kirkby, T. Simmonds, A. Linden, R. Bristow, A. Galley, J. Rose, E. Silks, B. Tame, W. Webb, P. Lee, H. Edwards, C. Chard and A. Collier, Bdsms. F. Smith, Ptes. D. Ricketts, R. Axon, R. Cozzi, L. Franklin, R. Jiggins, A. Lane, S. Lavers, A. Pyatt, R. Walding and R. Wheeler.

11th Bn. THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT

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

Our main activities since our last notes have concerned boxing, shooting, parachuting and Company exercises, with some athletics thrown in. Also in May we had our annual T.E.W.T. in the Aylesbury area.

In the Divisional boxing, Johnstone, "C" Company, won the middleweight by a clear margin. Kemp, "B" Company, reached the finals where he lost narrowly. Sgt. Cowell, "D" Company, and Wells, "S" Company, both boxed well but did not make the finals. In the T.A. boxing, Johnstone met a "tiger" early and was beaten. Kemp, "B" Company, however, represented the 16th Airborne Division at bantam and became T.A. champion after knocking out all three opponents.

Our shooting has improved this year. At the Brigade meeting we won the rifle and L.M.G. match with a score of 843 and the L.M.G. competition with a score of 990. Lt. Laurence was second in the individual with a score of 147, one point behind the winner. At the Divisional meeting on May 8-9 we were third in the L.M.G. match with a score of 128, second in the Volongdis with a score of 71, fourth in H.M. Queen Mary's Prize with a score of 1,378 and fourth in the China Cup with a score of 249. Lt.-Col. Corby was third in the Lathbury Cup with a score of 148. At Bisley, Cpl. Falla was in the first 50. We won the Cambridgeshire and were in the first five in the Volongdis.

Parachuting has suffered this summer like everything else from the weather. Our first week, April 26-30, was "blown off" every night except one. Our aircraft week-end on May 29-30 looked quite hopeless but, in fact, we achieved 300 odd descents. Our next parachuting week-end, this time combined with Company training at night at Frensham, was very nearly ruined by the weather, but we did get the important Saturday evening drop in. Again, as usual, it was raining. Next week we are ballooning again at the Scrubs, but from the look of the weather we shall not see much of the prison this time.

Congratulations to "C" Company on winning the Harrow T.A. sports again by such a clear margin, also to L/Cpl. Blaxall on being second in the 220 yds. in the T.A. sports on June 26.

We are now looking forward to camp and hoping for fine weather. After two years at Stanford, a seaside camp at Folkestone, given decent weather, should be a great success. Judging by the recesses and the preparations made by companies to win the various camp competitions we shall certainly have a hardworking camp with some keen rivalry.

"B" COMPANY

Training of all kinds—parachuting, weapon training and field training—has got under way with a swing. We did exceptionally well in the Battalion weapon

training competition winning, besides the weapon training cup itself, the shooting cup, the L.M.G. cup, the China Cup and the rifle and sten competitions; in all 9 out of the 11 cups.

Our first jumps this year were carried out from a balloon anchored off Wormwood Scrubs, but foul weather restricted jumping to one evening only. Those disappointed had ample compensation on the week-end of May 29-30, when all carried out aircraft descents using the new equipment containers. It was the first Hastings jump for most of us and we were glad to find it satisfactory. As usual Cpl. Slattery and Pte. Nelson wangled more jumps than anyone else. Cpl. Slattery managed a little variety in this activity by collecting an inverted chute, a torn panel and thrown lines.

Pte. Kemp must be congratulated on his fine win in the T.A. boxing championships in which he won the bantamweight title. Another champion is Cpl. Furness, who was a member of the Battalion team which won the L.M.G. match at the T.A.R.A. meeting at Bisley.

The airborne exercise on July 3-4 must be mentioned. In spite of rough weather all went well, C/Sgt. Carlton manfully keeping the rain out of a magnificent supper. Sgt. Reynolds, who jumped after the main party, successfully surprised us all in our defensive positions—once again we learnt the camouflage value of a full moustache.

Major and Mrs. Lee are to be congratulated on the birth of their third child, a second son.

Lt. W. G. Williams has all our best wishes on his marriage.

"C" COMPANY

We announce, with very deep regret, the retirement from the T.A. of our old Company Commander, Capt. Spencer, through an attack of polio contracted whilst on business abroad. He will be very sorely missed by all "C" Company, in particular those of us who knew him right from his old Platoon Commander days, and we all hope to see him around the drill hall as often as possible. In his place we extend a very warm welcome to Capt. Latham, late of "H.Q." Company, who has always been a very popular figure amongst "C" Company bodies. In June we participated, as usual, in the Harrow T.A. sports and again, as usual, swept all before us to hold the sports shield for another year. Our star athlete, L/Cpl. Blaxall, was again in brilliant form and showed a clean pair of heels to all.

During the last few weeks we have been supplying a scratch tug-of-war team to give Messrs. Guinness and Co.'s team practice for their big events of the future. These evenings prove very popular, as we are entertained afterwards in their club house with a more or less unlimited supply of Guinness at our disposal.

We said au revoir, not good-bye, to another of our old officers, Lt. Elworthy, who has gone to Canada for a short period—"gold hunting" so he tells us. If there is any gold in Canada he is the one to find it.

Training within the Company has now taken a more serious vein and most of our training evenings are spent on Stanmore Common on practical field work under the ever watchful eye of Lt. Price. Of course any attack finishes somewhere around the "Case Is Altered."

During the recent jumping week-end most of our jumpers managed to fiddle four jumps, thus striking a pretty good note for keen spirit within the Company. Our next big event before annual camp is the popular Company week-end, to be held this year around Berkhamstead, where many of us will be renewing some old acquaintances made during previous years. Our members have not differed a lot of late but our number of parachutists continues to grow as more and more of our new members are persuaded to savour the glories of parachuting and sport the wings to make them real members of "C" Company.

8th BATTALION

John Whybrow (who is now a Flight-Lieutenant in the R.A.F.) at Innsworth, Gloucester, came over to see us and a few of the old stalwarts now with the 11th Para.—Ian Brotherton, "Ali" Barber, Jack Castree, "Bert" Warner and "Alf" Sharp—were able to make his visit worthwhile.

Cpl. "Bert" Warner is leaving us after 22 years' service in the Territorial Army. It is a very hard wrench for him, but he is now in business as a butcher

at 136 Buckland Avenue, Dover, and if any of the old 8th go along they can be assured of an "offally" good reception. What a pity meat is now off the ration!

We in the 11th are very sorry to see him go and our special sympathy goes out to his twin, Cpl. "Alf" Sharp; they have been inseparable since 1934. We shall, however, see Warner when we go to camp.

As a result of my notice in the last issue of the Journal Col. Sherbrooke-Walker has sent me his address and L/Sgt. E. Garner of "D" Company has made contact. Most of you will remember Garner as both Officers' and Sergeants' Mess Caterer. He has been ill, but is now on the way to recovery. I was delighted to hear from him; he is now living at 42 Wightman Road, Harringay, N.4, and is most anxious to get in touch with old friends.

Subscriptions to the Memorial Fund are coming in as fast as "lawyers go to heaven," and since my address book was made out by Jack Widows in 1945 most of my application forms are returned "Gone Away." Will those of you who read this and have not yet subscribed kindly send your donations to me at: 20 St. Heliers Avenue, Hounslow. Cheques and postal orders should be crossed "Sec. O.C.A. 8th Mx. Regt."

REGIMENTAL BAND

Under the very able baton of Bandmaster Turner, the Regimental Band are pulling out all the stops, practising the latest tunes, and although our numbers have not been increased, we expect to have 100 per cent. attendance at camp.

We still have vacancies for Bandsmen, and should anyone reading these notes think of joining, come along any Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. You can be sure of a warm welcome.

IN PASSING

During annual camp last year, when we entertained two American Army officers, the Commanding Officer was asked by one of them—"Colonel, what is the title of this Regiment?" On being told—"595 L.A.A./S.L. Regiment, R.A. (9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) T.A.)"—the officer was heard to reply, "Gee Colonel—that's some nomenclature."

SERGEANTS' MESS

Farewell

On May 14, 1954, we held a farewell party in the Sergeants' Mess to B.S.M. T. McCarthy. The party was very well attended by some 30 of our 37 Mess members and we were grateful to our Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. B. A. G. MacFadden, T.D., the Adjutant, Capt. C. H. T. Barber, and the Quartermaster, Major G. W. Wickers, for attending.

Altogether it went off very well indeed and was much enjoyed by all.

We all join in wishing him "Bon Voyage" (or what-

595 L.A.A./S.L. REGIMENT, R.A.

(9th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), T.A.)

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

As these notes go to press we will be once more experiencing the rigours of annual camp at Stiffkey, in Norfolk. Of all the practice camps, Stiffkey is the most popular, and we are even more fortunate in having the same camp area as last year.

The tempo of activity has increased, getting ready to move and trying to remember what not to leave behind—always a difficult problem. This year we are entering for the *Sunday Times* Competition, and from latest reports have a formidable task if we are to win. Also with us in the adjacent camp are our old friends, the Royal Fusiliers from Paddington, and no doubt much rivalry will be evidenced throughout the 15 days, both of a military and a social nature.

OFFICERS' MESS

Guest Night will again be held on the first Friday of camp, which, for some inexplicable reason, is followed on the Saturday morning by the Ceremonial Parade—a test of great endurance when the body is suffering from the excesses of the night before.

It is with much pleasure that we can say this year that no fewer than six past Commanding Officers will be with us for the first weekend.

Several faces will be missing at camp this year. Capts. Pughe and Nichols, who, for business reasons, have had to go to camp at different times, and Lt. "Ding-Dong" Bell, the first of our National Service officers to complete his service.

ever it is by aeroplane travel) on his journey to Cyprus where he joins the 26th Field Regiment, R.A.

"Very Good Luck" in your new Regiment Sergeant-Major, where we are sure you will be as popular as you were here.

Education

The answer one gets nowadays should you enquire for someone's whereabouts is inevitably—"He's on education!"

P/A/B.S.M. R. W. J. Hughes is to be congratulated on his obtaining the Army 1st Class Certificate of Education in March, 1954. Our A/B.S.M.s R. Packer and N. Strange have sat for the Army 2nd Class Certificate of Education and are awaiting results with "baited breath and fingers crossed."

M/C Trials

B.S.M. Hughes, Sgt. Halls and S/Sgt. Davies formed the backbone of the Regimental M/C Trials Team this year. The team has well represented the Regiment in trials in Southern England.

Thanks

The Mess wishes to publicly thank B.S.M. C. Brown for presenting the Mess with a lovely effigy of H.M. The Queen, which is surrounded in lights coloured red, white and blue. It has taken up the place of honour in our Mess—centrepiece over the fireplace.

Congratulations, Welcome, etc.

We all offer our sincere congratulations to the following:—

B.S.M. Hughes, on his being promoted P/A/B.S.M. in this Regiment.

B.Q.M.S. A. H. Mitchell, on his promotion to W.O.2 (B.S.M.).

We welcome A/Sgts. F. W. Silvester and Godleman into the Sergeants' Mess and feel sure they have settled down comfortably.

Sgt. and Mrs. K. Pedlar on the birth of a daughter—Eileen Elizabeth—born July 1, 1954.

Social Life

We have held many very successful Socials during the past quarter, two of which were held in the Main Hall.

We leave for camp at Stiffkey on July 31, 1954, until August 14, for which we have a comprehensive social programme—details of which we shall make known in our next contribution.

"P" BATTERY

At the time of writing we are in the throes of preparing for camp at Stiffkey in Norfolk. The summer(?) is half gone and our weekend training periods throughout these months have been spoiled by rain. However, the Battery is looking forward to a successful camp and we have one or two schemes which we hope will advance our prospects of winning the competitions.

We fired our annual musketry course at Purfleet on May 29-30, together with "Q" Battery. We arrived in a storm which kept everyone vehicle bound for half an hour; however, the weather was kinder on the Sunday

and everyone managed to complete the programme though the results were not so good as last year.

On the weekend June 12-13 the Battery was responsible for the Regiment's task in a Brigade exercise. A composite troop set out from Kingsbury in driving rain—the Battery Commander's hoodoo was working again—and all guns were in action on time, in spite of the conditions. As this was our first exercise with this Brigade, the Brigadier paid us several visits, once bringing the Group Commander, Gen. Fanshawe. Owing to the weather the exercise closed down very early on the Saturday and later the rain eased a little. During the night a terrific storm woke everyone and one or two detachments who were camping under trees wondered if they would be safe. Everyone survived both the storm and the soaking, but conditions under foot made it rather difficult to get one of the guns from its position.

There is a dearth of senior N.C.O.s at the moment and the Nos. 1 are all Lance-Bombardiers. L/Bdrs. Barnett, Garwood and Mulhall have taken the first step towards the Sergeants' Mess, and it is hoped that together with other Nos. 1 they will advance another step in the near future. Bdr. Vincent, who recently joined the Battery, has had experience of the 15-in. coastal down to the 25-pounder, and is now learning our weapon which is rather smaller than he has been used to. He should be a great asset in the future.

"Q" BATTERY

Sport

"Q" Battery were well represented at the Queensbury and District Sports Meeting. Bdr. Cornes won the mile and half-mile events, Gnr. Page the 100 yards and 220 yards (the former for the third year running), B.Q.M.S. Biddlecombe took second place in the long jump, and Gnr. Perkins came third in both the half-mile and the one mile.

Exercise

A mobile exercise took place on April 25 to test communications. The L.A.A.C.C. were unfortunate in their efforts as it appears that everything that could go wrong with telephones and radio did go wrong, and did not decide to go right until the exercise was nearly over. One telephonist, who shall be nameless, manned a hand set at Troop Headquarters the whole day, but doubtless received his messages by telepathic means as the absence of wire between him and the L.A.A.C.C. rendered any telephonic communications rather doubtful.

"Q" Battery in Summary

Doomed the dome . . .	O.C.'s purgatory.
The arm of the law . . .	"D" Troop Commander.
No cheap golf . . .	B.S.M.'s lament.
M.T. Blues . . .	Battery Captain.
See that they're empties . . .	B.Q.M.S.'s battlecry.
Six little boys in blue, girls . . .	Sergeants' Mess go gay.
The singing Sergeant . . .	Pennies to Heaven.
The missing link . . .	Cyprus's gain.
"Q" Battery's wake . . .	P.S.I.'s farewell.

Venimus! Vidimus! Vicimus! (with apologies to Julius Caesar and sundry classical scholars) being "Q" Battery's battlecry after camp.

"R" BATTERY

The emphasis in the last quarter has been on training. The specialists have had their ration of laying practice and similar activities; most members of the Battery had the small arms range course at Purfleet on what must have been one of the wettest weekends ever recorded, even in that notoriously cheerless spot, and practically everybody took part in an enjoyable and profitable mobile deployment exercise in company with the Searchlight Battery. On this occasion the weather was exceptionally favourable and a section of the Watford by-Pass was successfully occupied and defended from the attacks of an amusing gaggle of variegated aircraft which provided excellent air co-operation. Our ground references at B.H.Q. were subjected to some severe verbal whipping by a few local residents who affected not to be able to see the object of the exercise, but the situation was restored by some heavy artillery support provided by the Commanding Officer, and the opposition withdrew in confusion, persuaded that we were not disturbing their Sunday merely for motives of personal pleasure.

"S/L" BATTERY

The Searchlight Battery provided two of the team of three motor-cyclists entered for the Sunbeam 200-mile Motor-Cycle Competition in May. They were B.S.M. Hughes and Sgt. Halls, the third was S/Sgt. Davies, Regimental L.A.D. All were riding war-service machines and each had the kind of mechanical breakdown expected with veteran engines under duress. We did not win anything, but the team rode well and two finished the course, "unofficially"—"officially" was not allowed because on one inner tube had blown out and had had to be vulcanised at a service station, and the other had caught fire and was for a moment consumed in smoke. The flames were quelled, however, by united effort and this machine finished the course.

Rifle Shooting

Many of us will long remember the rain on June 12-13 and the conditions under which the Searchlight Battery's rifle shoot was held at Purfleet that weekend. Everybody has fired at Purfleet in the wet and has taken cover with the scoreboards and silver in a friendly marquee, but on this particular weekend all available canvas was needed for "P" Battery's exercise which had prior need.

The Purfleet Range is wide and flat and in the rain it is wider and flatter. And on this Saturday it was at its widest and flattest. It started at about 11.15 with a sticky drizzle under a heavy grey sky and soon developed into the steady, wetting, relentless type of rain that is usually produced mechanically by jets for a

dramatic film sequence. The battledress has a remarkable quality of absorption and by lunchtime our trousers and greatcoats had changed colour from khaki to nigger brown and the rain "let-up" until about 3 p.m. Then the sky deepened to that fashionable iron-grey and poured a steady stream which found its way playfully down our necks and through our gaiters into our boots. Tempers and morale, unaccountably, remained smooth and high, even when the ground sheets, pathetically laid between us and the ground, contained shapeless pools that rose under us as we fired and made mockery of everything "waterproof." The will to score and the wisecracks about qualifying for bounty kept gloom at bay and that night the dryout process was followed by a "wetting-up" inside, largely with beer.

The following morning, after a brief glimpse of the sun, more rain came and only a glance of the horizon was needed to see it had come to stay. We hung doggedly on and made a hurried adjustment of the programme in order to complete the classification at the expense of Practice and Instruction.

After lunch merry smiles had disappeared. Vehicles were in danger of sinking into the developing bog, visibility had deteriorated, and by 2.30 there was enough mud and rain to stop a war.

We went back and took cover in the vehicles. The officers held a damp consultation in the mist and steam of the staff car and decided to capitulate.

Congratulations to the man who got the Sawyer fires alight with wet wood.

We were never more content to leave Purfleet very wide and very flat.

ATHLETICS

Once again Bdr. Cornes and Gnr. Perkins ran with distinction in the T.A. Cross-Country Championships in the face of the usual fierce competition.

Our main Regimental effort has been in the Annual Sports Gala of the Queensbury and District Sports and Social Association. Once more we walked off with many individual prizes, though it was a disappointment that we were not able to retain either of the Relay trophies which we won last year. Competition was a good deal keener than previously, but there is probably still enough talent within the Regiment to regain these honours, so why not join the Regimental Team and have a go next year?

These are the details of our successes:—

Men's 100 Yards: 1st, Gnr. Page (for the third successive year 10.8 secs.).

Men's 880 Yards: 1st, Bdr. Cornes (2 min. 7.5 secs.).

Men's Long Jump: 2nd, B.Q.M.S. Biddlecombe.

Men's 1 Mile: 1st, Bdr. Cornes (4 min. 41.7 secs.); 3rd, Gnr. Perkins.

Men's 220 Yards: 1st, Gnr. Page (24 secs.).

Men's 440 Yards Relay (4 x 110 Yards): 3rd. 595 L.A.A./S.L. Regiment.

NEWS LETTER BY M.B.

I am sorry to relate that Gen. Frank Ramsay, now our most senior veteran officer, is in the Edward VII Hospital. I visited him on July 28, as he said he was very bored and hated hospitals. Those who know him can be well aware that he would be a difficult patient needing cautious approach.

Col. Weston and Gordon Kent have been mentioned in H.M.'s Gazette for distinguished service in Malaya; the former is now at the Imperial Defence College, and the latter after leave is due for the 1st Battalion.

Miss Dorothy Longe writes from her cottage home in Tangier. She has given me some information which might lead to ascertaining the names of those who took the part of Drummers in Lady Butler's picture in our Depot Mess. Lady Butler told her at her home in Bantsha, Co. Tipperary, that her own son was the model for the youngest drummer boy, which disposes of later stories told me that they were Drummers serving in the Regiment in 1897 when it was painted. When first done the facings were not yellow, and the picture had to go back for that to be altered. Col. Longe (Dorothy's father) said he thought the picture better as first painted, although incorrect. That may be so, but you can imagine the comments had they been white. Morocco seems unsettled, as are many French possessions overseas, and cost of living in Tangier soars high.

I heard on July 12 from "Jimmy" Reid, who wished to contact Roly Gwyn, and did not know he had arrived. They wanted him to stay in New York. I have united the parties by now I hope. He was also glad to hear "Joe" Weston was coming to U.S.A. and would arrive in August. He and Barbara look forward to seeing the Roly family. "Jimmy" sees no hope of visiting U.K. yet.

I have a letter from Capt. D. A. Phillips from Kuala Lumpur. He is anxious for his son's future. The General has done his best, but nothing achieved and he must study a pamphlet called "The Queen's Commission," which I have never seen.

Invitations are out for Capt. Jordan's marriage on August 14. The P.M.C. is appealing for subscriptions for a present for him and for Beagley. I have met both future brides, and was much struck by their "husbands' good fortune, although I think these two officers are excellent people.

We were glad to welcome home on a visit Col. Hugh Dowbiggin, but recently Hon. Colonel Hong Kong Regiment. He is to stay as our guest here for a day or so on August 26-27 and witness a passing-out parade. We are interested to hear we now have an O.C.A. in Hong Kong. Capt. Moore, Adjutant of their Regiment, allied to us, is in charge, and we expect as good news about the detachment there as we get from Malaya.

I was delighted to see Aymar here. He had just sold his house, and being without his much better half was in a whirlwind of bother as to what to keep and to sell. My advice is to keep all you can for prices are fantastic, whether you buy or sell, so it is always safe to keep.

Tom South writes, July 9, from Colwyn Bay.

He thanks me for my kind reference to him, which I should have loved to do, but think the praise was due to the writer on the Golf in the June Journal. I find South is a member also of the Seniors Golf Society.

I have traced again Miss Owen ("Curly" Owen's daughter). She is now secretary to a Harley Street eye specialist—so now we all know where to go if our eyes weary us, and the N.H.S. is not satisfactory in our view, which happens sometimes.

I have more than one letter from Hervey. They are long compendiums of social activities, golf, shooting, and fishing: "age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn." I often wish he was here to do my correspondence.

Stanley Mirams wrote on June 25 to say how sorry he was to miss our Club Dinner. He had to dine in the city to entertain the Lord Mayor's Deputy, as the Lord Mayor had been summoned to dine with Her Majesty in Buckingham Palace. Col. Herbert Cook, 10th Middlesex, first C.O. in the last war, wrote to say he would not attend, being away from London.

"Stumps," our Brigadier, is a good correspondent, and writes often. He is very busy in Jordan, as we can all realise, and his warning that for him it is like active service is true. He appeared quite thin at the Cricket Week, and played well. It is a great joy to have him to confide in, and to be told I am quite wrong—it is good for the soul to be pulled down when one is uppish as the elder generation is inclined to be. His advice is always sound and always kind, and leaves no sore.

Jeffcoat writes from Singapore on June 5 complaining of the heat being against any form of exercise, mental or physical. He had spoken or telephoned to Kent en route home. He mentions Derek Lloyd, an ex-7th Battalion officer, who has been employed in Singapore since January, 1954, in a refrigeration company—that seems a need likely to be extensive, and cool to think about in any case, and I suppose they have all facilities. Lloyd is said to be in U.K. on combined leave and duty. I do not think he has been here yet. Jeffcoat likes his job and hopes to reach home end of 1955. He also has seen John Moore, who gave him all news. Mrs. Jeffcoat is with him to keep him happy and well.

On June 9 I heard from Roger Latham. He is very busy with films and a play all at same time. He was in Cardiff at the time. He is with Ralph Lynn still vital and active at 73. How often I have seen the former since the First World War years, and always with joy. His next stage is Eastbourne, and in late August Hanley, not far from Sid Emery's home. I miss him very much for he is ever a tonic.

I have had several letters crammed with stamps from every island and country in Central America. They are for Cpl. Grimes at our Depot; he will soon need another album if the flow continues. The sender is Capt. Vyvyan Holt, British Minister in San Salvador. His country is quiet, and he needs it after his terrible and long experience in Korea. I have always felt ashamed he received no reward, but such are the salt of the earth, who look for no decorations or mention in dispatches. To do their duty is enough for them. We remember him, and hold him in high honour, for his career has brought his Regiment distinction.

Early in May I heard from Hewitt about himself and Battye at H.Q. of C.-in-C. Allied Forces in North Europe at Oslo, Norway. They both find the work interesting and the people and country good to live with and in. They celebrated Albuhera together. We knew Hewitt's father and mother in Ahmednagar where the former was our chaplain. His mother is not now alive. Ski-ing and yachting are their pursuits, the former, of course, now over for a season.

On May 14 "Roddy" Sword wrote in answer to my sympathy over his father's death. Col. Sword did much to help at Acton over the War Memorial Fund collected there (the largest sum produced by any borough in Middlesex). He sat on the Council Sub-Committee, and endeared himself to Major Clark and myself. I understand he intends to retire. Everyone was fond of "Roddy" Sword and I hope we may now see more of him. I hope for financial reasons he intends to stay on in the E.R.E. List.

I have recently met Major C. S. M. Burton, formerly The Black Watch, who has given me some information of his uncle in our Regiment, Lt.-Col. Reginald de Herdwick Burton, formerly of Athelney, Park View Road, Berkhamsted. His funeral took place on January 27, 1942, at St. Marylebone Cemetery, Finchley, only a mile from Inglis Barracks, where I lived all the war. Amongst the mourners were his nephews and nieces. Lt.-Col. de Herdwick Burton (called "de Horsey" in the Regiment) was well loved in the Regiment for he was ever a gentle and kindly man to all ranks. He was born in 1861, went to R.M. College, Sandhurst, and joined our 2nd Battalion (77th) on August 11, 1880. He was promoted Captain by January, 1889, and served in India and Burma with the Regiment for 17 years. He was on the staff of his uncle, Maj.-Gen. E. F. Burton of The Madras Staff Corps, then C.-in-C. Burma Command.

He served in the South African War in 2nd Battalion, 1899-1902, being present at the Relief of Ladysmith, Spion Kop (January 17-24, 1900), where he was severely wounded and lay on that hill from noon to midnight on January 24. On recovery he saw service in Transvaal, including action at Laings Nek (June 6-9, 1900), and in operations in Transvaal, Orange River Colony, and Cape Colony. He was mentioned in dispatches on July 18, 1902, and was awarded the Queen's Medal with five clasps and the King's Medal with two clasps. He was promoted Major in 1900 and later saw service with the Regiment in the Far East, including Hong Kong, and visited Japan whilst on leave. He retired in 1909 and settled in Berkhamsted. In 1914 he was appointed to command the Newfoundland Contingent in Scotland and took the Unit to Gallipoli where he was again severely wounded. He left the Colours at end of that war and went to his home already mentioned.

A few years before 1942 he suffered a stroke, which impaired his speech to some degree; later a second stroke removed the power of speech and he could not write. He so suffered till death released him. He was always spartan in habit and refused to live with anyone, but was grateful to friends for help. In spite of handicaps he volunteered for service in 1939, and received a letter of thanks and appreciation from the

War Office, but of course could not be employed.

I am happy to relate this story of a friend I knew when I was a young man, and others who will know him are Gen. F. Ramsay and Col. "Archie" Stewart and Passingham. We are, alas, the only people left who knew him.

My friend, Major G. S. M. Burton, was Staff Captain at Colchester in 1931, when H.R.H. Prince of Wales, as our Colonel-in-Chief, presented new Colours to the 1st Battalion. That set of Colours was lost in Hong Kong in the late war.

OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The Annual Dinner was held at the United Service Club on Tuesday, June 29, 1954. Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., presided, and the following attended: Brigadiers A. E. Green, B. B. Rackham, and O. H. Tidbury; Colonels G. Beach, M. Crawford, H. W. W. Gray, S. F. Hedgecoe, J. N. Lamont, J. K. Maitland, A. M. Man, M. Moller, A. M. O. A. Passingham, R. D. Sherbrooke-Walker, and G. P. L. Weston; Lt.-Cols. W. P. M. Allen, G. B. Ayre, W. D. Ellis, G. L. Fox, T. L. Marks, T. H. Reddy, J. D. Robbins, W. L. Roberts, and T. S. Wollocombe; Majors A. W. Clark, C. F. Denton, P. W. Galvin, L. W. Griffiths, J. H. Hamilton, E. L. Heywood, H. K. Harcastle, S. C. Jay, A. T. Jones, R. A. Kaye, H. Marsh, P. D. H. Marshall, P. F. Newman, J. W. G. Ormiston, M. F. Pearson, H. M. L. Price, H. Sherwood, J. N. Shipster, S. H. Short, and J. R. B. Worton; Capt. C. H. T. Barber, K. J. Carter, H. A. B. Claypole, V. W. Denny, R. E. Guest, G. Kent, C. H. Mievill, H. J. A. Moore, J. I. D. Pike, G. E. St. Clair, W. R. Tomkinson, and W. Ward; Lts. B. K. Clayden, H. J. Evans, S. Fothergill, E. C. Graham, B. H. Marciandi, J. R. Spooner, and S. Weller; and two non-members.

AT-HOME

The "At-Home" took place on the afternoon of June 29 at the United Service Club and was attended by 59 members, their wives and friends, and widows of former club members.

MUSEUM

Little of note has accrued in the past few months. Our library is still occupied by the Home Postal Detachment and there seems little likelihood of them moving before the autumn.

A Crimean medal, with the clasps of Alma and Inkerman, belonging to a Pte. J. Coleman of the 77th Foot, was most kindly given to the Museum by Brett, Reeve & Co. Ltd. in June.

Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., has presented to the Museum Col. G. B. Lempriere's diary of the South African War that was in turn given to Col. Browne by Major Hugh MacIlwaine, cousin to Major E. L. Heywood.

This is a very fine diary and covers the whole of the South African War practically day by day.

Finally, Major "Nobby" Clark has presented to the Museum a copy of the address the Prince of Wales gave on the occasion of the presentation of new Colours to the 1st Battalion at Colchester in 1931. Although we have a number of copies, this one is almost new, and is most gratefully received.

Extracts from "London Gazette"

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

May 7, 1954
6201203 W.O.2 Albert Edward Frank Waldron (434710) to be Lieutenant (Q.M.), April 6, 1954.

CORPS OF ROYAL MILITARY POLICE

May 14, 1954
The undermentioned Captain (Emp. List 3) to be Captain, May 15, 1954, retaining his present seniority:
F. R. A. Hill (204425) from Middlesex.

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

The undermentioned Cadet to be 2/Lieutenant,
Mar 13, 1954:
22911162 Michael Pern Easton (433996).

REGULAR ARMY

May 18, 1954
Capt. D. Sax (124279) to be Major, April 28, 1954.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

2/Lt. Colin Anthony Lamb (393422) from R.A.S.C. Emergency Commission to be 2/Lieutenant, February 25, 1954, with seniority October 11, 1952.

CORPS OF ROYAL MILITARY POLICE

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

May 21, 1954
The undermentioned Major (Emp. List 3) to be Major, May 22, 1954, retaining his present seniority:
G. C. D. S. Lowe, T.D. (40951) from Middlesex.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

May 25, 1954
2/Lt. (Acting Lt.) R. D. H. Wilson (413406) to be Lieutenant, May 26, 1954, with seniority, June 29, 1954.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

May 28, 1954
Capt. H. C. Pond, M.C. (255225) from Active List, to be Captain, May 24, 1954, retaining his present seniority.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

June 1, 1954
Lt. D. H. Jewell (337271), from Active List, to be Lieutenant, May 30, 1954, retaining his present seniority, and is granted the hon. rank of Captain.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

June 4, 1954
The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration upon the following officer:

Capt. (Hon. Major) J. H. Bonham-Carter (35101).

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

June 8, 1954
2/Lt. G. C. Ross (425004) is granted the acting rank of Lieutenant, June 6, 1954.

CORPS OF ROYAL MILITARY POLICE

June 11, 1954

The undermentioned Captain (Emp. List 3), to be Captain, June 12, 1954, retaining his present seniority:
L. Hunt (303872) from Middlesex.

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

The undermentioned Cadet to be 2/Lieutenant,
March 27, 1954:
22912118 John Michael Arthur Talbot (434241).

TERRITORIAL ARMY

Lt. (Acting Capt.) M. E. Baldwin (377236) from T.A. National Service List, to be Captain, June 10, 1954, with seniority October 8, 1953.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

June 15, 1954

2/Lt. (Acting Lt.) N. C. Berry (412602) to be Lieutenant, June 15, 1954, with seniority May 15, 1952.

June 22, 1954

Lt. (Acting Capt.) R. J. Leighton (369343) to be Captain June 20, 1954, with seniority September 1, 1952.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

June 29, 1954

2/Lt. R. Brown (412296) to be Lieutenant, June 30, 1954.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be mentioned in recognition of distinguished services in Malaya during the period July 1 to December 31, 1953:

Col. G. P. L. Weston, D.S.O., O.B.E. (49963).
Capt. G. Kent (85451).

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

July 6, 1954

The undermentioned Cadet to be 2/Lieutenant,
May 1, 1954:
22890569 Harry Edward Turner (434866).

TERRITORIAL ARMY

2/Lt. (Acting Lt.) G. L. Blacktop (424967), from T.A. National Service List, to be 2/Lieutenant (Acting Lieutenant) May 25, 1954, retaining his present seniority.

July 13, 1954

2/Lt. (Acting Lt.) J. M. Phillips (412774) to be Lieutenant, June 18, 1954, with seniority May 9, 1952.

July 16, 1954

2/Lt. C. A. Lamb (393422) to be Lieutenant July 16, 1954.

July 20, 1954

Lt. J. W. Scott (400354) is granted the acting rank of Captain, May 22, 1954.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration upon the following officer:

Capt. M. F. Pearson, M.C. (50790).

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the first clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration upon the following officer:
Capt. M. F. Pearson, M.C. (50790).

REGULAR ARMY

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

July 23, 1954

Capt. (Q.M.) R. W. J. Smith (274022) to be Major (Q.M.), August 12, 1952. (Substituted for notification in "Gazette" (Supplement) dated June 13, 1952).

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

July 27, 1954

Lt. (Q.M.) J. W. Badham, M.B.E. (294573), from Active List, to be Lieutenant (Q.M.), July 27, 1954.

REGULAR ARMY

August 3, 1954

Lt. R. M. Cain (389245) to be Captain, July 15, 1954.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

2/Lt. (Acting Lt.) A. W. Ramsay (412276) to be Lieutenant, August 3, 1954, with seniority April 24, 1952.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX T.A. HEADQUARTERS, 59 GREEN STREET, MAYFAIR, W.1, ON THURSDAY, MAY 27, 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., Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. W. D. Ellis, T.D., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major A. R. Waller, M.C., Major D. C. L. Nolda, R.S.M. L. Tostevin, Mr. C. Holford, B.E.M., Mr. G. H. E. Duffield, Capt. J. S. C. Flavell (representing Major P. D. H. Marshall), C/Sgt. A. T. Taylor (representing R.S.M. P. Donovan), Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brigadier E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major P. D. H. Marshall, R.S.M. P. Donovan, C.S.M. R. Budden, C/Sgt. R. Dodkins, Sgt. R. A. Bullock, Mr. J. R. Bell, M.B.E.

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 having been circulated prior to the meeting was adopted by the Committee.

During the quarter ending March 31, 1954, the sum of £409 11s. 4d. was expended in assisting 68 necessitous cases; of this sum £23 10s. 0d. was obtained from other Associations and Societies in co-operation.

Approximately 5,000 letters have been despatched notifying members of the Association of the Cricket Week programme and advising them that the Regimental Reunion would take place on Friday, October 20, 1954, and also inviting them to subscribe to the Association Charitable Fund.

Covenants. Our claim for £45 14s. 8d. refund of income tax under the Covenant Scheme has now been settled by the Income Tax Claims Department for the year 1953-54.

The Secretary requests authority to expend a sum of not exceeding £600 during the quarter ending June, 1954, and a similar sum for the quarter ending September, 1954, for the relief of distress.

3. Finance Committee's Report. In the unavoidable absence of Lt.-Col. Fox, Lt.-Col. Roberts informed the meeting that with the exception of a minor change of investments, the financial state of the Association Accounts remained as last reported.

4. Journal Committee's Report. The Committee considered a report on the financial position of the Journal as prepared by Major Nolda and circulated prior to the meeting. After much discussion

it was finally proposed by Mr. Duffield, seconded by Lt.-Col. Wollcombe and carried unanimously, that Proposal "B" be adopted as a trial for 12 months, commencing with December, 1954, issue.

Proposal "B": To cut down to three issues a year, keeping the yearly subscriptions at 5s. and printing 60 pages with 25 photographs.

Expenditure: Printing £600.

Income: Subscriptions .. £211 (no change)

Advertisements .. £210

£421

Deficit: £179, i.e. a saving of about £100 on last year's expenditure.

5. War Memorial Committee's Report. In the absence of Col. Beach Lt.-Col. Roberts explained the recent negotiations with the Middlesex County Council in respect of the vacant land adjoining the War Memorial Cottages at Enfield. The basis of the scheme was that the Middlesex County Council would consider converting the 90-year leasehold of Albuhera Close into a freehold, provided that the Middlesex Regimental Association would agree to sell unwanted land north of the Close to Chase Side Hospital. Major Hardcastle said he would take up the matter with the Urban District Council of Enfield to ratify the suggested proposals. The members of the Regimental Association were in favour of implementing the scheme.

6. Regimental History Committee's Report. Lt.-Col. Ellis reported that one co-ordinator had not returned the draft of the second phase, but had promised to do so without further delay. Upon receipt this draft will be returned to the Editor for passing on to the Printers.

7. Regimental Reunion. Lt.-Col. Roberts informed the Committee that the Seymour Hall had been booked for Friday, October 29 next for a Reunion similar to that held last year. A Military Dance Band had already been booked. After discussion it was agreed that—

(a) A cabaret turn consisting of a troupe of dancing girls be engaged for a sum not exceeding £50;

(b) No other cabaret be held;

(c) No Regimental tableau be arranged.

8. Regulations Referring to the Election of Chairman of the Regimental Association. Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts explained to the meeting the Association Rules governing the election of Chairman. Mr. Duffield referred to Rule 6 (a) and requested that the word "officer" be deleted, so as to permit a W.O., N.C.O. or O.R. (ex-or serving) to be eligible.

The Chairman informed Mr. Duffield that this was a matter for the ex-officio members to decide and that it would be placed before them at a later meeting during the afternoon.

9. Other Business. On the suggestion of Mr. Duffield the Secretary was instructed to send a telegram of congratulation to Lt.-Gen. R. A. Hull, C.B., D.S.O., on his appointment to command Middle East Land Forces. He is the son of a late Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion (1912).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.45 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 29, 1954.

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

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
June 1, 1954.

From Maj.-Gen. R. A. Hull, C.B., D.S.O.

Chief of Staff, General Headquarters,
Middle East Land Forces, 17.

May 31, 1954.

Dear Sir,

I was very touched by your cable of congratulations to me, and hasten to send you and your Regimental Association my warmest thanks.

I always consider that my soldiering days started with your 4th Battalion in Raglan Barracks, Devonport, 1912-14. There are, in fact, still a few old comrades, and children of old comrades, from those days that I see from time to time, and indeed Major Finch's grandson has only just left the Canal Zone, where he has been serving with the Parachute Regiment.

Yours sincerely,

R. A. HULL.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX T.A. HEAD-QUARTERS, 59 GREEN STREET, MAYFAIR, W.1, ON THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1954, AT 3.45 p.m.

Present—Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L. (Chairman), Major D. C. L. Nolda (1st Battalion), Major A. R. Waller, M.C. (2nd Battalion), Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L. (3rd Battalion), Lt.-Col. T. S. Wolcombe, M.C. (4th Battalion), Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P. (6th Battalion), Lt.-Col. W. D. Ellis, T.D. (7th Battalion), Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D. (co-opted Legal Advisor), Capt. J. S. C. Flavell (Depot), C/Sgt. A. F. Taylor (representing R.S.M. 1st Battalion).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O. (5th Battalion), Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (9th Battalion).

1. Regulations relating to the Election of Chairman of the Regimental Association and Officers' Club were considered as a result of a submission made at the meeting of the Regimental Association held earlier that afternoon.

After a brief discussion it was proposed by Brigadier Rackham, seconded by C/Sgt. Taylor and unanimously approved by the meeting, that no change in the Rules of the Association be made.

2. *Membership.* Brigadier Rackham proposed and it was approved by the meeting that Brigadier O. H. Tidbury, M.C., be invited to join the Committee of the Regimental Association. Lt.-Col. Roberts informed the meeting that he would write personally to Brigadier Tidbury to express the hope that their invitation would be accepted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4 p.m.

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

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
June 1, 1954.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX T.A. HEADQUARTERS, 59 GREEN STREET, MAYFAIR, W.1, ON THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1954, at 4 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., Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wolcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. W. D. Ellis, T.D., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major A. R. Waller, M.C., Major D. C. L. Nolda, Capt. J. S. C. Flavell (representing Major P. H. D. Marshall), 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., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D.

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 having been circulated with the Agenda was accepted.

Subscriptions and entrance fees for the four months ending April 30, 1954, total £404 15s. 6d. The number of subscriptions for the Officers' Club Dinner to date is 26, and subscriptions for the "At Home" number 21 plus 9 widows and guests.

The expenditure from the Club funds for the Cocktail Party held on April 22, 1954, was £38 1s. 9d. against the approved subsidy of £40.

3. *Cocktail Party.* The Committee approved that a vote of thanks be extended to the O.C. Depot, Officers and Mess Staff for the excellent arrangements made for this party.

4. *Officers' Club Dinner.* The menu for the Officers' Club Dinner was approved by the Committee.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major,
Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.

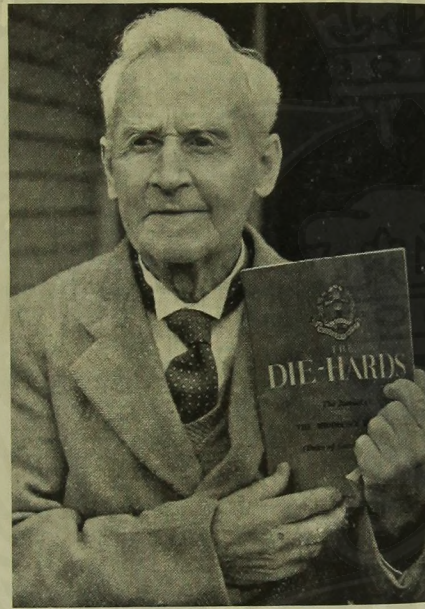
Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
June 1, 1954.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor, *The Die-Hards* Journal.

Dear Sir,

Here is the 1892 Queen Victoria soldier, who was invited (and attended) to the Investiture held in Christchurch. Very few of us left now. I have started my 81st year.



My warmest regards to any of the old warriors now living. Cheers for the "Die-Hards."

Yours faithfully,
A. H. SAY.

16 Chilcombe Street,
Fendalton, Christchurch.
June 16, 1954.

Deaths

EVANS.—On May 18, Q.M.S. R. E. Evans, D.C.M., aged 84. Mr. Evans served for many years with the Regiment and until a few years before his death was the licensee of the "Red Lion" at Hillingdon. His funeral at Hillingdon was attended by Major R. W. J. Smith, a C/Sergeant and a bugler from the Depot.

LOWE.—On June 11, T. W. Lowe, late Private 3596, aged 81 years, after a long and trying illness. As we were not informed of his death before the funeral it is regretted that the Association was not represented.

ENDICOTT.—On June 20, suddenly, whilst on holiday, R.S.M. F. Endicott of the 1st Battalion, No. 5202. He was 74 years of age and had been a journal reader for some years. Again as we were not informed early enough we were not able to send a representative to the funeral which was much regretted.

DUNSTONE.—On June 20, at Royal Hospital, Chelsea, Sgt. John Dunstone, aged 85. The funeral at Brookwood Cemetery was attended by Major R. W. J. Smith, a C/Sergeant and a bugler from the Depot. John Dunstone was a well-known figure at all Regimental functions and will be missed by many at reunions.

MANTELL.—R.S.M. R. H. Mantell died on June 27 and his funeral on July 2 at Hillingdon was attended by a C/Sergeant from the Depot. A wreath was sent from the Association.

STEPHENS.—On July 5, Capt. R. Stephens of the "Steam Packet," Whitstable, Kent. His funeral was attended on behalf of the Association by Mr. J. Painter, ex-R.S.M. An obituary appears elsewhere in this edition.

SUTCLIFFE.—On July 24, at his home in Manchester Square, Lt.-Col. B. L. Sutcliffe, T.D., late of the 9th Battalion. O.C. Depot was represented at the funeral by Capt. Flavell, who also represented the Association.

CAPT. DICK STEPHENS

DEAR MAJOR CLARK,

I am enclosing a short record of service of the late Capt. Dick Stephens for you to use as you wish, and at the same time I want to thank you and the Association, on behalf of the widow and family, for sending a representative of the Regiment to the funeral and for those beautiful flowers which, I can assure you, were very much appreciated.

Dick was a great friend of mine and every Thursday we, together with Mr. North, a 3rd Battalion man, and his wife met at the "Steam Packet," where we discussed and often argued about the old times in the Regiment, and we will miss his "one for the road" very much.

The most wonderful thing about Dick was that he always kept an old Army List under his counter and if any argument cropped up about a certain officer and when he served, out would come this Army List to prove who was correct, and generally Dick was.

Not only the Association but we, as well, have lost a true friend and a very gallant gentleman.

Kind regards and again many thanks.

Yours sincerely,
HARRY E. CROSS.

AN APPRECIATION

In the passing of Capt. Dick Stephens, licensee of the "Steam Packet," Whitstable, the Association has lost not only a loyal and most enthusiastic old comrade, but also severs a link which the Stephens family has had with the Regiment for many years, for his father and

his grandfather also served in the "Die-Hards" for many years.

Dick was born in the Regiment at Aldershot on July 31, 1887, his father being in the 1st Battalion. Strangely enough, though, when Dick enlisted he joined the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, not the Middlesex Regiment. He enlisted in 1903 and after serving nine years was transferred to Section "A" Army Reserve in 1912. On the outbreak of the 1914 war he was recalled to the Colours and went to France with the 1st Battalion D.C.L.I. on August 13, 1914. In October, 1914, he was wounded and was invalided to Ireland. In January, 1915, he was again in France with the D.C.L.I., and in September of that year was again wounded and was invalided home. In May, 1916, he was posted to a Machine Gun Company and for the third time went to France.

In May, 1917, Dick obtained his commission in the field and returned home as a M.G. instructor. In November, 1917, he was posted to Mesopotamia, joining the 256th Company M.G. Corps, and served with that Company until the end of 1918.

He was promoted to Lieutenant and appointed to the British Military Mission in Siberia with the temporary rank of Captain, and arrived at Vladivostok in April, 1919, where he instructed Russian troops. The Mission was disbanded in November, 1919, and the following month Dick arrived home. He was transferred to the Regular Army Reserve of Officers and in 1920 was recalled owing to the railway strike.

Although the writer had met Dick many times with his father at our reunion dinners when they were held at the Grand Central Hotel, we had never served together until we were both recalled in 1920 and joined the 1st Battalion at Dover on their return from Germany.

Dick was a great Middlesex man and behind his bar he invariably wore the Regimental tie, while he proudly displayed the badge with the bottles. The Regimental Journal, too, was always on the counter for anyone to read.

He had been ill for a long time but refused to give up until a few days before his death. In fact only an hour before he died he was discussing wages, etc., with the writer.

He was twice mentioned in dispatches, in October, 1914, and in June, 1917.

Although he never complained or, in fact, mentioned his wounds, we who knew Dick knew that the shell wound he received in the face in 1915 troubled him a great deal. Neither did he claim a disability pension.

By his passing we have lost a wonderful friend and member of the Association, and we who knew him so well are proud to have known such a gallant gentleman.

H.E.C.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL B. L. SUTCLIFFE

Brian Lister Sutcliffe was commissioned on September 2, 1926, to the 9th Battalion and was posted to the Hendon Company. On promotion to Captain in 1937 he was appointed to command the Harrow Company. From the outbreak of War until August, 1940, he served with the Battalion, but he was then appointed Com-

mandant of the 2nd Anti-Aircraft Division School, originally created to deal with tactical training, but later developed into a school for training in all weapons.

Sutcliffe will probably be best remembered in the Regiment as the Architect of the Regimental War Memorial Cottage Homes. The manner in which he dealt with the many difficulties existing in relation to building at the time the Cottages were built was indicative of the man himself. His initiative and efficiency in his practice and his military service were outstanding.

Sutcliffe's successes were not, however, limited to work. He was a good all-round sportsman and gained a Middlesex County Rugby Cap.

There was no doubt of Sutcliffe's popularity amongst all ranks, and his death at the comparatively young age of 53 will come as a shock to all who knew and served with him in the Regiment.

R.Q.M.S. R. E. EVANS

The above named, well known to many, who passed away just a few days before his 85th birthday, was a regular reader for many years of the Regimental Journal,

and his daughter tells us that to the last he looked forward to receiving the quarterly issue and read and enjoyed every word. He enlisted in the Regiment in 1887, and was promoted Corporal in 1892, Lance-Sergeant in 1893, and a year later promoted to Sergeant. He became C/Sergeant in 1899 and finally R.Q.M.S. in 1906. He was discharged at his own request in November 1906. He was for over eight years in East India, and for over three in South Africa. He was awarded the D.C.M. in 1901 for his services in Operations in South Africa, and this medal together with his L.S. & G.C. Medal, Queen's South Africa Medal with six clasps, King's South Africa Medal with two clasps, have been presented to the Regiment by his daughter for which we are very grateful.

After leaving the service he became the licensee of the "King William" in High Street, Watford, and later in 1908 took over the "Red Lion" at Hillingdon, where many of his old comrades visited him. He retired finally in 1948, and from letters we understand he spent his hours of leisure tending a garden which he came to love.

SENIORITY ROLL THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

JUNE 30, 1954

Order on Bde Roll	Army No.	Name	Date of Promotion	Last Known Unit
SUBSTANTIVE W.O.s 1				
11	6198725	F. Britton	1.4.52	—
15	6201852	P. Donovan	1.8.52	Depot (P.S.)
17	6200112	R. Tarrant	20.12.52	1st Middlesex
BANDMASTERS				
	5382114	F. Jackson	—	1st Middlesex
SUBSTANTIVE W.O.s 2				
3	3768525	P. Dillon	1.4.52	Ships' Staff Pool, Southampton
9	6398348	L. Graham, M.M.	1.4.52	1st Middlesex
13	6200783	A. Rose	1.4.52	H.Q. Aldershot Gar- rison
21	6200940	S. Blacknell	1.4.52	No. 9 Trav. Wing, Colchester
23	6197047	A. Etheridge	1.4.52	Depot (H.)
31	6207112	F. Pike	1.4.52	7th Middlesex (T.A.)
54	6200798	A. Hastie	11.10.52	No. 7 Trav. Wing
61	6201070	F. Griffiths	11.10.52	1st Middlesex
77	5837545	M. Wild	11.10.52	1st Middlesex
79	5619855	T. McMillan	11.10.52	1st Middlesex
98	4267040	A. Goodie	4.5.54	1st Middlesex
103	8048114	R. Budden	4.5.54	Depot (P.S.)
104	1520025	J. Thom	4.5.54	1st Middlesex
105	6200579	F. Firman	4.5.54	7th Middlesex (T.A.)
109	6210526	A. Cooper	4.5.54	7th Middlesex (T.A.)
110	6211901	A. Kendrick	4.5.54	1st Middlesex
	6403901	F. Redpath, B.E.M.	8.5.54	Inf. Boys' Bn.

COLOUR-SERGEANTS

18	4122954	A. Ridgeway	1.8.52	Depot (H.)
21	6200175	F. Jacques	1.1.53	Emb. H.Q. Harwich
24	6200792	G. Hockley	1.1.53	Malay Basic Trg Centre
27	6200351	T. Perry	1.1.53	1st Middlesex
31	6137066	A. Brown	12.3.53	Camp H.Q., B.T.A.
58	6538021	G. Whitehead	5.1.54	Depot Buffs
64	6205098	L. Shrubl, M.M.	22.1.54	W. Africa Trg School
75	6550324	F. Powell	25.3.54	W. Africa (1 Sal. R.)
77	6201815	C. Martin	25.3.54	Depot (H.)
79	6200015	V. Corner	25.3.54	7th Middlesex (T.A.)
	6205077	A. Taylor	9.8.54	Depot Middlesex

ORDERLY ROOM SERGEANTS

6202735	C/Sgt. E. Colebeck	1st Middlesex
14476433	Sgt. B. Soper	E.R.E. (E. Africa)

SUBSTANTIVE SERGEANTS

7	6200180	G. Bignell	1.4.52	7th Middlesex (T.A.)
34	4124485	W. Landreth	1.4.52	O.C. Tps, Selarang
61	5959742	H. Davis	1.4.52	4th K.A.R.
72	6203433	S. Barile	1.4.52	1st Middlesex
74	6197647	F. Markham	1.4.52	Depot (P.S.)
84	6201818	J. Morgan	1.4.52	1st Middlesex
85	6398357	A. Avery	1.4.52	1st Royal Sussex
94	6204207	J. Bream	1.4.52	1st Middlesex
112	6210183	F. Waterfield	1.4.52	Para. Regt.
123	2221076	G. Rodgers	1.4.52	F.A.R.E.L. Trg Centre
127	6068442	R. Dodkins	1.4.52	Depot (P.S.)
138	6217070	W. Thorogood	1.4.52	1st Middlesex
153	6203247	C. Burgess	1.4.52	1st Middlesex
162	6200385	W. Turner	1.4.52	1st Middlesex
171	6217107	D. Bayton	1.4.52	Kneller Hall
173	5194261	L. Bentley	1.4.52	Kneller Hall
181	6202959	D. Hanlon	1.6.52	Eaton Hall O.C.S.
183	6584006	J. Stone	1.6.52	G. Adj., Graz
204	6203405	R. Cubitt	20.5.52	Malay Regt.
210	6200322	W. Snell	14.10.52	7th Middlesex (T.A.)
211	14862617	W. Wright	21.10.52	1st Middlesex
212	1445482	D. Ellis	23.10.52	1st Buffs
215	14006039	P. Dive	31.10.52	1st Middlesex
224	6215907	W. Morton	16.12.52	Para. Regt.
237	3852333	T. McGowan	15.1.53	Depot Surrey
244	6109760	R. Bullock	1.4.53	Depot (P.S.)
253	6107864	G. Beedle	1.5.53	Lond. Assem. Centre
260	6200376	G. Palmer	1.5.53	Inf. Boys' Bn.
269	6201260	A. Page	1.4.53	1st Rhod. Regt.
293	6107742	A. Ellis	5.11.53	Inf. Boys' Bn.
304	21014189	S. Michel	8.1.54	Sch. of Inf., Hythe
313	6215553	C. Walden	22.1.54	1st Middlesex
314	19030053	A. Da Costa	22.1.54	Depot (P.S.)
323	6027319	E. Steward	22.1.54	1st Middlesex
325	21014126	A. Mason	22.1.54	Depot (P.S.)
331	2718503	R. Simpson	25.3.54	Lond. Assem. Centre
336	14795788	J. McCormick	25.3.54	1st Queens
337	21014210	S. Reynolds	25.3.54	Para. Regt.
338	6198371	F. Butters	25.3.54	Depot Buffs
341	6202925	R. Hope	25.3.54	1st Middlesex
342	22229443	M. Eastap	25.3.54	7th Middlesex (T.A.)
344	22221109	D. Bailey	29.4.54	1st Middlesex
356	61133015	G. Crapps	29.4.54	1st Middlesex
357	21931814	L. Beale	29.4.54	R.M.A.S.
362	21187041	A. Hook	17.5.54	Depot (P.S.)
363	6201236	J. Marable	17.5.54	1st Middlesex
367	6142543	S. Gurr	17.5.54	Mons O.C.S.
368	22276303	R. Clements	17.5.54	Depot (P.S.)
370	6205018	J. Preston	17.5.54	O.C.S. Chester
371	14408477	J. Ashlin	17.5.54	1st Norfolk
373	6202181	J. Field	17.5.54	Emb. H.Q., Liver- pool
377	14470810	D. Walters	17.5.54	1st Middlesex
	22541159	E. Sharp	13.7.54	H.Q. West Africa Command