



# The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

No. 52

DECEMBER 1984

PRICE 25p

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FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE, WESTMINSTER – 10 NOVEMBER 1984

Rev W.E.B. Jones - I/P C. Painter - Mr A.A. Moody - I/P G. Fulton.

*Photograph by The Observer EC4*

#### FORECAST OF EVENTS 1985

- 18 Mar Regimental Association Executive Committee Meeting at County Hall, London SE1. at 6.30 p.m.
- 27 Apr 1/7th Bn (1939-45) Dinner Club at TA Centre, Hornsey N8.
- 10 May Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club Dinner, Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London WC2.
- 11 May Albuhera Service of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral commencing 2.30 p.m.  
Annual Reunion at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2, commencing 6.30 p.m. Annual General Meeting 8 pm.
- 25 May 2/10th Bn Annual Luncheon at Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2.
- 11 Jun Massed Bands Queen's Division - Horse Guards.
- 14 Jul Queen's Regiment Reunion to be held at Depot The Queen's Division, Basingbourn commencing 11.30 am.
- 3 Sep Regimental Golf Meeting - North Hants Golf Club.
- 4 Oct 2/7th Bn Annual Dinner at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2.
- 11 Oct Queen's Regimental Association meeting Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea SW3 11.15 am.
- 12 Oct Queen's Regiment Past & Present WOs and Sgts Dinner at Depot The Queen's Division, Basingbourn.
- 16 Oct Housing sub Committee meeting at Cadet Officers Mess, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea SW3 6.15 pm.
- Oct Regimental Association Church Parade with the Chelsea Pensioners at Royal Hospital. Date later.
- 9 Nov Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Westminster. 10.30. am.
- 10 Nov Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, at 10 am. followed by Reunion at TA Centre, Edgware.  
7th Bn Remembrance Service and wreath laying ceremony at Church of St Mary with St George at 10.20 am.  
2/10th Bn Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas Church, Chiswick, at 3 pm.

#### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I am taking this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year in 1985.

I regret that I was abroad (on duty and not to blame!) at the time of the Albuhera Service at St Paul's and the Annual Reunion at the Victory Club, but I did see a number of you at the Queen's Regimental Reunion at Basingbourn, the Remembrance Day Service at Mill Hill and at Edgware afterwards; as well as at the Korean Club Reunion and other similar occasions.

I hope that in 1985, when I will not be abroad at the time of the Albuhera Weekend, I will be able to see even more Diehards. In this connection I do urge those of you who have not attended these Regimental functions recently to do so. Bring another Diehard - 'The More The Merrier' is absolutely true, so if you have missed coming recently do please make a point of doing so in 1985. Make a note in your diary of the dates shown under the 'Forecast of Events'. Final details will be sent to you by the Secretary.

If you are one of our regular supporters do please continue to be, and encourage other Diehards to come too.

Tony Pielow.

## BENEVOLENT CASES

During the period 1 January to 31 December 1984, the sum of £6216.42 has been spent in assisting 82 members of the Regiment.

The major function of our Regimental Association is to help those Diehards who are in need and priority and confidentiality is given to every application received. The Army Benevolent Fund is called upon to help with major cases and their help, providing it is recommended by the Regimental Association, is immediate. During the year I have called upon the A.B.F. on six occasions and they have contributed the sum of £880.00. It is not generally known that by the terms of their charter the Army Benevolent Fund do not make grants direct to individuals. They deal through Regimental Associations.

The majority of cases are brought to the notice of the Regimental Association by SSAFA, the Forces Help Society & Lord Roberts Workshops and the War Pensioners Welfare Service of the DHSS. Only 6 cases have come from the Royal British Legion and just 3 from our Old Comrade Clubs. The SSAFA representatives reports are reliable, lucid, and get to the heart of the problems. I cannot speak to highly of the quality of their reports and we must be grateful to this organisation who give so much time to the difficulties of those who have served in the Forces. Anyone needing help should report to the local SSAFA representative, the address and telephone number is shown in the Telephone Directory. They will advise you on any matter and will, if necessary, make contact with your Regimental Association.

Shown below are a few examples of the type of assistance that the Regimental Association have been able to provide during the past year:

Provision of orthopaedic bed, a wheel chair, spectacles, hearing aids, installation of a telephone for a cripple, replacement bedding on medical grounds, clothing for adults and children, heating bills, fares to hospital, convalescent holiday, special diet, etc.

It is the policy of the Army Benevolent Fund and the Regimental not to assist with funeral expenses. This is a matter for the DHSS.

## REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Between the period June to November this year there have been 1748 visitors to the Regimental Museum on the 105 days within that period that it has been open for public viewing - an average of nearly 17 visitors per day. When all aspects are considered, this is a most encouraging reflection on the continuing interest in our famous old Regiment, its history and its memorabilia as it is now re-arranged and exhibited in our Regimental Museum. Many of the visitors have been school children which demonstrates that our museum has an educational role, and quite a few of the visitors have come from overseas, probably paying a visit whilst on holiday to this country and some to renew ties with their old family regiment. There have been some from the Regimental Association but these numbers so far have been rather disappointing. All old Diehards are encouraged to make a special effort whenever they can to visit their regimental museum, where the Curator, Major Dick Smith, will always arrange a most warm welcome.

A recent acquisition of particular note and interest to many old Diehards has been a presentation by the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) to mark the affiliation and special relationship between our two Regimental Associations. The presentation consists of a polished rifle butt, bearing a silver plaque to commemorate our liaison and flanked by the regimental badges of both regiments. A silver framed photograph of the Tyndareus Memorial Stone to the 25th Battalion at the top of the Peak on Hong Kong Island was also included, together with a complete set of The Volunteers insignia including buttons, collar dogs, etc. All these presentations will shortly be placed on display in the Regimental Museum.

Other recent acquisitions are:

Documents and diaries of the late Major M.P. Weedon, MC, consisting of:  
Eight small diaries for the period October 1942 - October 1945, which take in the sinking of the Lisbom Maru and Kobe Camp, Japan.  
Typed proof of the diaries consisting of two books - first book 1942-44, second book 1945.  
Maps, drawings, newspaper cuttings and a copy of the war diary of B Company during the Battle of Hong Kong.  
These diaries were published as a book titled 'Guest of an Emperor' in 1948 by Arthur Barker Ltd., the author being Martin Weedon.

Presented by his widow, Mrs Jean Weedon.

Medals of Brigadier A. Innis-Irons, CB, DSO, who commanded the 19th Battalion during the First World War 1914-19.

The medals are - C.B.; D.S.O. and Bar; B.W.M. 1914-18; Victory Medal 1914-19 with oak leaf; 1939-45 Star; Africa Star; Italy Star; Defence Medal; War Medal 1939-45.

Presented by his widow Mrs Ruby Innis-Irons.

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Medals of 22200425 Cpl R.D. Weaver, killed in Korea on 5 July 1951. Korean United Nations Medal and Korean Medal.

Presented by Mr Ronald Evans.

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Death plaque and newspaper cutting concerning Private Henry Codiferro (TF/5673) killed on 16 August 1916, whilst serving with the 1/8th Bn, plus Roll of Honour Book produced by Deal, Walmer, Sandwich and District.

Presented by Mrs Alla Codiferro.

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Four photographs of Albuhera Cottage built in 1863 as living quarters for the Farriers of the 57th Albuhera Middlesex Regiment of Fort Henui, New Zealand.

Presented by former Band Cpl A.A. Coleman, 1st Bn, now living Birkenhead, Auckland, New Zealand.



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1914-18 Star of L/14586 Private A.T. Clark, 4th Bn.

Presented by Mr C.D. (Steve) Cox (6199597).

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The following miscellaneous items:

- Three letters from German POW Camp dated 10.6.1918, 15.6.1918 and 15.8.1918.
  - A Red Cross Parcel Card dated 19.12.1918.
  - Cigarette Case marked 1914-18 Reims with Cathedral badge and marked 'Berry Au Bac'.
  - A Prayer Book for Open Air Services dated 1915.
  - An Athletic Medal awarded to 128755 Pte A. Cooper, 53rd Middlesex Regiment, for Cross Country Race 1917, by the Aldershot Command Athletic Association.
- Presented by Major A.R. Cooper, MBE.

#### DONATIONS TO THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges the following donations to the Charitable Fund:

- A donation of £75 has been received from Gordon Moore, author of the book 'Prelude to Battle', resulting from sales. This book was mentioned in the December 1983 newsletter and resulted in increased sales of the book and a number of members of the former 1/8th and 2/8th (1st Bn) joining the regimental association. A reminder to readers of the circumstances - Gordon Moore's book was about his service which commenced in 1942 with the Training Company at Chester, followed by service with the 70th Bn at Hounslow December 1942 until July 1943 and finally with the 8th Bn, D and HQ Companies 1943-44. It has enabled many members to get in touch with one another after 40 years.
- A donation of £25 from members of the 2/7th Bn collected at their annual dinner.
- Individual donations from:
  - A.N. Anonymous (3 separate donations), Mr C.H. Barnes, Major K.R. McK Biggs (In memory of the late Lt-Col G.L. Fox), Mr D. Bradnam, Mr A.E. Brown, Mr A.W.J. Brown (2/7th Bn), Mrs C.A. Brust (Ealing Br), Mr D.E.S. Cavill, Major A.R. Cooper, Mr R.J. Cotton, Mr B.A. Crawley, Capt W.H. Craydon, Mr A.E. Freeburne, Mr A.W. Gibbs, Mr R.H. Gilbertson, Major D. Hiddleston, Mr R.G. Lomax, Mr L.C. Page, Major C.E.E. Scott, Mr H.F. Stillwell and Mr L. Woodman.
- A bequest of £300 from the late Lt-Col G.L. Fox, TD, DL, to the Middlesex Regiment Museum Trust for the purchase and upkeep of 9th Bn The Middlesex Regiment exhibits.

#### FREE NEWSLETTERS

The Editor wishes to thank the following members for their generosity in donating extra subscriptions so that free copies of the DieHards Newsletter can be sent to deserving Old Comrades:

Mr C.C. Bradish, Mr D. Bradnam, Mr A.W.J. Brown (2/7th Bn), Major J.G. Chiverall, Mr R.A. Clarke, Mr B.A. Crawley, Mr A.W. Gibbs, Mr H.J. Hart, Mrs Tilly Jones, Lt-Col H.P. Lambert, Mr A.W. Lewin, Major I.M.E. Lloyd, Mr R.J. Lomax, Mr J. O'Sullivan, Mr L.F. Pettigrove, Mr W. Phillips, Mr J.A. Poole, Mr H.F. Stillwell, Mr W.J.E. Turner, Mr F.A. Walsh and Mr L. Woodman.

#### FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual ceremony at the Field of Remembrance took place on Saturday 10 November 1984, at 10.45 a.m. Owing to the continued closure of the Middlesex Guildhall an abbreviated form of service was held. Members of the regiment formed up outside the Guildhall and proceeded to the Regimental Plot led by Sgt J.L. Ashmere, B(Middlesex) Company 6/7th Queens followed by the Regimental Standard borne by Mr Alan Moody, escorted by In Pensioners C. Painter and G. Fulton.

The Service commenced with Prayers by the Rev W.E.B. Jones, former Padre to the 1st Bn. Lt-Col T.W. Chattey then read the Exhortation which was followed by the Two Minutes silence.

Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, President of the Regimental Association, after saying "We plant these crosses today in memory of our fallen comrades of The Middlesex Regiment", planted the first cross.

Crosses were then planted by The Rev W.E.B. Jones, Brig B.A.M. Pielow, JP, Chairman Regimental Association; 1st Bn Major B.St. G.A. Reed, MC, DL; 2nd Bn Col A.S.J. de S. Clayton, OBE; 3rd & 4th Bns Brig D.B. Rendell, CBE, MC; 1/7th Bn Mr A. Rose; 2/7th Bn Mr A. Bailey; 1/8th Bn Mr M.C. Quinn; 2/10th Bn Mr L.T. Plumb; 13th Bn Mr A.E. Lewin; Korean Veterans Mr R.H. Gilbertson.

The Chaplain then read the Collects of the Middlesex and Queen's Regiments and gave the Blessing.

The attendance of Maj-Gen Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB, was much appreciated.

#### REMEMBRANCE WREATHS

Hong Kong Liberation Day was held on Monday 27 August 1984 at the City Hall, Hong Kong and WO2 G. France, The Queen's Regiment, laid a Middlesex Badged wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association.

A Middlesex badged wreath was laid at the Hong Kong Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday, 11 November, by WO2 G. France, on behalf of the Regimental Association.

On Thursday 8 November the Secretary planted a Middlesex badged Cross on the Far East Prisoner of War Plot at the Field of Remembrance, Westminster.

A Middlesex badged wreath was laid at St Paul's Church, Mill Hill, on Remembrance Sunday, 11 November, by Mr L.T. Plumb, on behalf of the Regimental Association.

#### REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The Regimental Remembrance Day Service was held at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on Sunday 11 November 1984, and commenced at 10 a.m. The service was attended by the Postal and Courier Depot, Royal Engineers, 12 Company Women's Royal Army Corps and a contingent from B(Middlesex) Company, 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment and by members and their families of the Middlesex Regimental Association. By the kind permission of the Commandant the service was held in the Gymnasium and the congregation numbered over 600. The service was conducted by The Reverend P.G. Whiting, CBE, QHC, CF, Deputy Chaplain General, assisted by Deaconess P.H. Masterman. Brigadier B.A.M. Pielow, JP, Chairman of the Regimental Association read The Lesson. The Regimental Standard was carried by Mr R. Pile. After the church service the congregation moved to the Regimental Memorial where the Padre read the Exhortation, this was followed by the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille', and wreaths were laid by:

Postal & Courier Depot R.E.  
Regimental Association  
12 Company W.R.A.C.  
B(Middlesex) Coy 6/7th Queens  
Mill Hill Branch  
Hounslow Branch  
9th Bn Branch  
Korean Club

Col D.L. Streatfield  
Brig B.A.M. Pielow, JP.  
Major S.I.F. Johncey  
Major P.I. Roberts  
Capt W.H. Craydon  
Major R.G.C. Thornton  
Mr K. Anderson  
Mr D. Peck

At the March Past the salute was taken by Col D.L. Streatfield, Commandant Postal & Courier Depot RE, Brig B.A.M. Pielow, JP, Chairman Middlesex Regimental Association and Major S.I.F. Johncey, 12 Company Women's Royal Army Corps.

As usual former Sgt L.T. Plumb commanded the Regimental Association Old Comrades on the march past and they were very smart indeed and we were proud of them.

The Church collection amounted to a record £192.00 and a cheque for this amount was forwarded to the Royal British Legion Earl Haig's Poppy Appeal.

The following senior officers were present - Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, Brig B.A.M. Pielow, Col A.S.J. de S. Clayton and Col W.D. Ellis who deserves a special mention and we are very appreciative of his effort.

At the end of all this hectic activity we moved to the T.A. Centre, Edgware, where Ann and Jim Torbet had laid out a splendid spread of goodies and Ernie and Daisy's hands were in good form on the beer pumps. It was also very good to see some of our new members on parade - the long lost - Fanny Gibbs, Jack Warner, Don Jones, D. Townshend, etc and a strong contingent from Albuhera Close.

## THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

Two of our regular battalions are still serving overseas while the third has recently returned to England and Arms Plot moves are forecast for them all. The 1st Bn leaves Omagh for Gibraltar in January 1985 and will then move to Tidworth in January 1987. The 2nd Bn, which left Northern Ireland at the end of November 1984 for Oakington and is scheduled to move to Minden in August 1986. The 3rd Bn leaves Fallingbommel to return to the 'Home of the Regiment', Canterbury, in January 1986.

As part of the Governments enhancement of the TA, the Regiment will have a third TA battalion in 1986. This is to be entitled '9th Volunteer Battalion, The Queen's Fusiliers (City of London)' as it will incorporate an existing RRF company at Balham. The Bn HQ will be at Clapham and all sub-units are to be located in the London area. In addition, two Home Service Force companies are due to form up in January 1985. One will be part of our 5th Bn (V) and the other of our 6/7 Bn (V).

A notable event at Regimental Headquarters was the retirement of Major Guy Weymouth MBE, on 1 August, after 17 years service at Canterbury. His successor as Deputy Regimental Secretary is Lt-Col John White.

The Grand Reunion at Bassingbourn on 15 July 1984 was much enjoyed by almost 2,000 former and serving members of the Regiment who attended it, many accompanied by their wives. This was followed by a most successful WOs' and Sgts' Past and Present Dinner, also at Bassingbourn on 6 October 1984.

Massed Bands of The Queen's Division will perform on Horse Guards in June 1985. The Queen's Regiment 'night' will be Tuesday 11 June, when Mrs Margaret Thatcher has kindly consented to take the salute.

J.J.W.

## 7th BATTALION REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The usual Remembrance Sunday Service was held at the Parish Church of St Mary with St George, Hornsey, on Sunday 11 November 1984.

As has now been established with the Rector it was a special service at which Old Comrades of the 7th Bn were joined by the local parishioners, a marching detachment from B Company 6/7th (V) Bn The Queen's Regiment under the command of Captain Derek Harwood, and the 16F Wood Green and Hornsey Sqn ATC with their Band and Colour, under the command of Flt Lt C. Lawton.

During the Service a procession of clergy and wreath bearers moved to the 7th Bn Memorial Chapel in the north aisle of the church; the Rector read the Collects of the Middlesex and Queen's Regiments. The act of Remembrance was led by Lt-Col D.E. Simpson, saying the famous lines "They shall not grow old". The Last Post and Reveille were played by buglers from the ATC. Wreaths were laid by Major R. Bartram on behalf of the 7th Bn Officers Club, former CSM A.E. Sills for the Hornsey and Enfield Diehards Club, Capt D. Harwood for B Company 6/7th Queen's Regiment and Flt Lt C. Lawton on behalf of the ATC. The service continued with a sermon by the Rector, The Rev. Geoffrey Seabrook and Lt-Col Simpson read the Lesson.

After the Service the two uniformed detachments marched back to Hornsey Drill Hall and on the way the Salute was taken by Lt-Col D.E. Simpson, accompanied by Major R. Bartram and the Rector.

The Drill Hall was open for refreshments by kind permission of Major P.I. Roberts, Officer Commanding B Company, the company provided some excellent snacks and one felt that the Company cooks were living up to Egon Ronay's recent praise of army catering.

While it was a pity that there were only a few Old Comrades of the 7th present, those who came found it a moving, short, Service and we all wished that the many of the Bn who have retired to the West country could have been with us. We hope that next year more Old Comrades will make the effort to come, the service is short and definitely tailored to Remembrance Day; the local parishioners like to join us and we are honoured by their presence; the church was nicely full, but there is always more room.

Since last year a further improvement has been made to the Chapel; the old altar rail from the original Chapel has been found, restored, and is now put in front of the Chapel, thus fully marking it off from the aisle.

D.E.S.

## 2/7th BATTALION - ANNUAL REUNION

And still they come!

Yet again, we had two members attending for the very first time when we met for our 38th Annual Reunion at the Victory Club on Friday, 5 October 1984. Jim Welch travelled down from Pickering, in North Yorkshire and Jack Pace from Bradford. Incredibly, the near 40 year span since we had last seen them had left them virtually unchanged and they were soon happily engaged in renewing old friendships.

Together with three others putting in an appearance after long intervals, namely, Frank Edmonds, Joe Snelson and Phil Foster, and including Lt-Col Dennis Robbins, who was present early on but had to leave before the dinner, we achieved a total attendance, under the chairmanship of Brigadier E.W.C. Flavell, of 65, two down on last year. Lt-Col T.W. Chattey and Major A.E.F. Waldron, President and Secretary of the Regimental Association respectively were our guests. Once more there were over 40 apologies for absence so I still cling to the hope that we may get our numbers back over the 70 mark. How about it lads?

Amidst the general jollity there were moments of sadness as we paid tribute to our seven old comrades who had died since the last reunion. They were Fred Allen, Stan Hurlock, Norman Kerley, Major 'Taffy' Jones, Terry Parkes and Nobby Robinson.

Our usual collection raised the second highest ever total of £334, of which £215 was subscribed by those unable to attend. A donation of £25 was made to the Regimental Association Charitable Fund.

If there are any reading this who have not yet got the message we always hold our reunion at the Victory Club on the first Friday in October, of FFO for short, and we are always delighted to welcome anyone who served with the battalion during 1939-45 - we do not even stipulate FFI !! Major Frank Waldron will always be pleased to give you my address if you want to get in touch.

RHT

## 2/10th Bn THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT 1914-18 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Old Comrades Association of the 2/10th Battalion held their customary Remembrance Service at St Nicholas Church, Chiswick, on the afternoon of Sunday 11 November. The Service was very well attended by Old Comrades, relatives and 'Friends of the 2/10th' and was conducted by the Reverend Patrick Tuft, MA, Vicar of Chiswick and Honorary Chaplain to the Association. Brigadier B.A.M. Pielow read the Lesson.

Among those present were Lt-Col and Mrs T.W. Chattey, Brig and Mrs B.A.M. Pielow, Colonel and Mrs A.S.J. de S. Clayton and Major and Mrs A.E.F. Waldron. Members of the original Battalion attending were Messrs A.D. Scudamore (88 years) President of the 2/10th OCA, C.A. Rush (90 years), A.J. Dean (93 years), A.L. Surfleet (88 years), and G.E. Hone (89 years).

Poppy wreaths were placed on the Memorials to the 1/10th, 2/10th and 3/10th Battalions, and after the Service tea and refreshments were served in the Church Hall. Those delicious sausage rolls were again made by Mrs Ann Webster, daughter of the late Lt-Col D.B. Watson, a former Commanding Officer of the 2/10th.

The 57th Luncheon Reunion of the Association will be held at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2, on Saturday 25 May 1985, and will commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings in April and August 1915.

A.D.S.

## CHURCH PARADE - ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

A contingent from the Regimental Association attended the Royal Hospital Church Parade on Sunday 21 October. The party was led by our President, Lt-Col T.W. Chattey and 40 members attended. The Regimental Standard was carried by Mr R. Pile. Prior to the service the old comrades were formed up on parade under the command of Major Dick Smith and were inspected by the Governor of the Royal Hospital, General Sir Robert Ford, GCB, CBE. The service was conducted by the Hospital Padre, the Rev A.D. Bartlett, MA.

After the service we moved to the Ives Room of the In Pensioners Club where a buffet had been arranged. Here we met our In Pensioners Charlie Painter and George Fulton. This service is very popular with our old comrades and their wives and we do appreciate the facilities that the Royal Hospital provide so generously. As Secretary one very sad note I must mention – The 1983 parade was attended by Stan Hurlock, he carried the Standard, Stan Lloyd, Sam Platten and Alby Windows, all of whom have since died.

Our deepest sympathy goes to the widows of Stan and Sam and we hope to see them in 1985.

#### 51st (HIGHLAND) DIVISION DINNER CLUB

The 84th Annual Dinner was held at Gleneagles on 23 October 1984 (the anniversary of the opening of the Battle of Alamein).

Major A.B. Carter attended and represented the 1/7th Bn. Regrettably Major M.F. Pearson was unable to be present.

During the evening the Chairman, Maj-Gen Somerville, paid a glowing tribute to the late Major 'Tiggit' Hughes steadfastness in his support of the 51 Div Dinners since the war and an equally glowing tribute to the support given by 1/7th to the Highlanders throughout the Desert Campaign, thence to and in Sicily, and finally during the NWE campaign.

The 51(H) Div very kindly sent a British Legion wreath made in Edinburgh with the HD motif picked out in poppies in the centre to the funeral of Major 'Tiggit' Hughes.

#### 7th MIDDLESEX OFFICERS CLUB

The 57th Annual Dinner of the 7th Middlesex Officers Club was held at the T.a. Centre, Edgware, on Thursday 8 November 1984.

Lt-Col J.D. Gunnell presided and the guests were: Maj-Gen B.P. Hughes, Mr J. Higham and F/O J.A. Rook.

The following members attended: Major M.J. Beaumont, Capt S.A. Blausten, 2Lt K.I.A. Carter, 2LT P.A. Chattle, Major H.E. Couch, Capt M.J.S. Doran, Capt S.le M. Enthoven, Capt M.S. Gedye, Capt D. Harwood, Major S.L.J. Henshaw, Lt D. Herriott, Lt S.B. Hurst, Capt J.K. Laurence, Major R.J. Leighton, Major A.E. McManus, 2LT J.A. McNamara, Major T.J. Medcalf, Major E.J. Naish, Lt P.J. Ottino, Major P.I. Roberts, Lt-Col G.C.D. Scott-Lowe, Lt-Col D.E. Simpson, Capt J.K.E. Slack, Capt J. Spencer Richards, Major R.F. Sykes, Col D.R.W. Thomas, Major R.G.C. Thornton, 2LT W.E. Vukmirovic, Lt D.K. Wray and Major J. Webb.

The 1985 Dinner, the 58th, will take place on Thursday 7 November.

#### REGIMENTAL GOLFING SOCIETY

The annual Golf Meeting took place at the North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, on 18 September. Annual, because it had been decided to hold one meeting only this year as we have been unable to get sufficient support for the usual two meetings. Even so, at one stage it seemed that we would get insufficient entries to justify this one meeting – but when the day came 19 playing members turned up and these, together with the six stalwarts who joined us for lunch and to watch the play, made it a most successful and enjoyable day.

The weather remained fine throughout most of the day but heavy rain the previous day and during the night had left some 'casual' water which meant that the course was playing long, and understandably this was reflected in the scores. The singles scratch competition for the Transvaal Cup was won by Tony Chippington and the runner-up was David Miles. The Darjeeling Cup, played as a stableford competition, was won by Major Alan Bisset and the runner-up was Richard Hardcastle. The Horton Cup, now played as a bogey competition was won by Major Harold Couch, with Richard Hardcastle again as runner-up. In the afternoon a foursomes handicap stableford competition for the Jay Cup was won by the partnership of Tony Chippington and Alan Bisset; the runners-up, who were awarded the Cooper Cup, were Don Carson and Alec Torrie. The Divot prize was won by Bill Grogan. Colonel Tom Chattey thanked everyone for taking part, and Mrs Pam Hardcastle graciously presented the prizes.

No date has yet been fixed for next year's meeting but everyone will be notified in due course.

#### THE SAGA OF COUPESARTE (Normandy)

In September 1983, as Secretary of the Regimental Association I received a letter from a French author – Eddy Florentin – who asked for information about an action at Coupesarte (Normandy) that took place on 18 August 1944 and involved 14 Platoon D Company 1/7th Bn, who were in support of 152 Bde 51(H) Division.

The villagers had asked Florentin to find out the name of the officer who was involved and wounded. They thought his name was Captain Minschin/Minsche etc. They were not sure if he was Middlesex or of the 5th Camerons.

I passed the letter to Major Alan Carter who became the Adjutant of the 1/7th Bn and asked if he could help. Various enquiries followed and eventually Major Carter spoke to Major R.C. Gascoigne the Secretary of the 51st Highland Dinner Club, who is a Seaforth officer, and he made enquiries resulting in making contact with a Colonel R.D. Upton, a retired officer working at the Ministry of Defence, Stanmore. Colonel Upton pored over old army lists and eventually concluded that no Minschin/Minsche existed. He continued his search and went to the Public Record Office at Kew and browsed through the war diaries of the 1/7th Bn and the 5th Camerons and solved the problem. The officer was identified as Captain D.M.L. Ainslie, MC, of 5th Camerons. More research followed and Captain Ainslie was found to be living in the South of England and contact was made. He was the officer who was wounded and he confirmed this fact.

The interest of Colonel Upton was aroused and he continued with his research resulting in the following members of 14 Pl D Company being traced. They are:

Captain (Jack) HWL Clay.  
Cpl V.N. Groves  
Pte M. Scotter

Now retired and living in Western Australia.  
Now living at Shepperton Mx.

Sadly he died 4 years ago. Major Carter made contact with his widow who lives near Filey, Yorkshire.

Sgt John Horn

He later became CSM and works as Head Porter at HQ Bank of Scotland. He has joined the Regimental Association.

Sgt R. Lowe

Now living at Elmfield, Isle of Wight.

The account written by CSM Horn on 9 May 84 and sent to Major Carter – 40 years after the incident – is exceptional and is of great credit to the men of 14 Platoon D Company.

After a year of continuous lengthy correspondence by Major Alan Carter I feel that he must be congratulated for his part in solving the saga of Coupesarte. Our thanks must be recorded of the part played by Colonel Upton for his exceptional interest and hard work which produced the salient facts.

The file on the saga of Coupesarte will now be placed in the archives of the regimental museum.

#### HOUNSLOW BRANCH

A party from the Hounslow Branch of the OCA made their annual pilgrimage to Lille to commemorate the 41st anniversary of the death of Captain Michael Trobabs, the 'Capitaine Michel' of the Resau Farmer – Sylvestre Group. The Service took place on Sunday 25 November.

The party consisted of Mike Ward, Gordon Young, David Eagle, George Lewis, T. Thomlinson, J. Morgan and John Raby. Major Richard Thornton was unable to attend – unfortunately he was in hospital due to a mugging which broke his nose – he is now fully recovered.

While in France they visited the following first World War memorials: The Beaumont Hamel Newfoundland Memorial Park, Thiepval and Lochnager Crater and ended up by having lunch in Albert.

#### 51st HIGHLAND DIVISION

Major Alan Carter represented the 1/7th Battalion at the 84th Annual Dinner of the 51st (Highland) Division Dinner Club held at Gleneagles on the 23 October 1984 (the Anniversary of the opening of the Battle of ALAMEIN).

### ARMY RUGBY

The Army vs Navy match takes place at Twickenham at 3 p.m. on Saturday 2 March, 1985.

The majority of the spectators are Royal Navy. Your support is obviously required. It is a very good day out.

### KOREAN CLUB

On Saturday 22 September 1984, the Korean Club, by kind permission of Colonel D.L. Streatfield, Commandant Postal and Courier Depot Royal Engineers, held a Special Service of Dedication at the Military Chapel, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill to Dedicate their Roll of Honour Book, commemorating the 42 members of the Regiment who died in Korea.

The service was conducted by the Reverend W.E.B. Jones, former Padre to the 1st Bn in Korea. Following the service the congregation moved to the Regimental War Memorial. The Standard Bearers were - Mr R. Pile for the Korean Club and Mr W. Longman for the Korean Embassy. A bugler from the Scots Guards sounded 'Last Post' and 'Reveille'. Mr C. Bogart was the Piper. Wreaths were laid by Major M.P.D. Eastap and Mrs D. Webb. Mr W. Rawlinson was the bearer of the Roll of Honour Book.

At the March Past of a contingent from the Postal and Courier Depot Royal Engineers and about 50 old comrades of the Korean Club the salute was taken by Colonel A.M. Man, DSO, OBE, President of the Korean Club and Captain Nam Kyu Paek, the Korean Defence Attache.

Following the Service members of the Korean Club, and their guests, adjourned to the Viking Club, where the 4th annual reunion of the club took place. During the evening Brigadier B.A.M. Prielow, Chairman of the Regimental Association, accepted the medals of the late Cpl R. Weaver, for presentation to the Regimental Museum, and congratulated the committee of the Korean Club on a most successful day.

### PERSONAL JOTTINGS

A new member to join the Regimental Association is ex Private Edwin Brinley Andrews (6211898), who served with the 2/7th Bn from 18 January 1940 to 1 May 1946. Ted Andrews was with A Company when in October 1944 the Company Headquarters was set on fire by an enemy shell and he organised the removal of all vehicles which could be got away. Many were by this time burning fiercely and there was danger of their petrol tanks exploding. At the same time ammunition on the trucks was detonating, while, to make matters worse, the enemy shelling had increased. He drove away a burning truck and, having extinguished the flames, endeavoured to remove a further two. Ted Andrews has just retired after 32 years with the Post Office where he became a Postman Higher Grade. His local round was Beaconsfield and he lives at High Wycombe, Bucks.

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Major Mike Ball has been selected for promotion to Lt-Col in 1985 and will take command of 1 Queens in January 1985. He was the last officer to be granted a regular commission in The Middlesex Regiment(DCO).

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A newly joined member of the Regimental Association is former National Servicemen L/Cpl John Richard Beck (21029656) who served from 1947-1949.

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Former Cpl Anthony Brian Birch (23318992) has joined the Regimental Association. He served with C Company, 1st Bn, in Cyprus 1956-58. He is a postal worker and now lives at Redhill, Surrey. I have noted that he is a 'golfer'.

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Former Sgt Albert Edward Brown (6856045) has joined the Regimental Association. He served with 7th KRRC from December 1941 to May 1943 and was then transferred to the Middlesex Regiment and posted to the 2nd Bn joining D Company. He served throughout the N.W. Europe Campaign and was Mentioned in Despatches. He was also awarded the G.O.C.'s Commendation Card. He was transferred to the Army Reserve in 1946.

Another Diehard has been traced living on our doorstep - Tottenham! He is former Private George Albert Burdge (6303211) who was immediately signed on. He served from 1936-1946, commencing his service with the 2nd Bn. In 1938 he was drafted to the 1st Bn in Hong Kong joining A Company. Usual story, POW, Lisbon Maru, Kobe House and discharge in May 1946. He represented the Bn at Water Polo and Swimming.

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Colonel Rex Cain has been appointed Honorary Colonel of the Middlesex and North West Army Cadet Force.

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I have recently received a very unique photograph of a former Diehard, Major Donald Carson, MBE, LTCL, psm, Director of Music of The Scots Guards Band, shaking hands with the Pope. He must be the first Diehard to have had this honour. His Band was playing at a concert in the centre of Rome and the tour was to culminate with a Cocktail Party/Retreat Beating at the British Embassy. At the last minute the Band was asked to play for the Pope's Sunday morning blessing, on this occasion at his Summer residence at Castol del Golfo. This was agreed and after the performance the Pope gave a special blessing to the Band. The Band were then invited up to his Throne Room where numerous photographs were taken and the Pope and Major Carson had a short and pleasant chat and exchanged trophies. Major Carson received a silver medal and the pope a Scots Guards wall plaque! I wonder where it is now? The tour was followed by three weeks in Cyprus where he no doubt visited Alma Camp and Alexander Barracks.

Major Don Carson also conducted the Massed Bands Display at the 1984 Edinburgh Tattoo.



A recent correspondent was Major Ken Clayden who keeps me informed of the 'goings on' at Longridge, Preston. He is hoping to move to Cumbria in order to continue his 'mountain goat' activities. His falls and injuries from previous encounters with the mountains do not seem to curb his enthusiasm to try and get nearer to his maker.

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Former RQMS George Cooper (6210526) recently returned from an organised D Day landings tour. One of the party turned out to be Sgt David Stockman who served with the 2/8th (1st Bn). George has sent me a number of photographs of Middlesex War Graves which will be passed to the Regimental Museum archives. Thank you George for your efforts.

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A newly joined member is former L/Cpl Reginald Joseph Cotton (6202683) who served with D Company, 9th Bn T.A. from 1936-37. On 21 August 1937 he enlisted on a regular engagement and was posted to the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and joined A Company. He ended up as a P.O.W., survived the sinking of the Lisbon Maru and served his time in Kobe House. He left the army in March 1946. He has lived in Australia for many years, now retired, he spends his time touring Australia in a caravan and 4 wheeled drive. During his travels he has met Drummer Bellchambers and Fred White and wife. Fred was in the Pioneer Section under Sgt Quick.

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Bernard (Buggsey) Crawley (22575868), NS 1952-53, tells me that the Middlesex Regimental plaque hangs proudly behind the bar in the 'Underwriter' pub, in St Mary Axe, in the City in pride of place, heading the Scots Guards and several Cavalry regiments.

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Captain George Cripps is still recovering from a motor car accident that happened a couple of years ago. After eight operations in all so far, he is still unable to walk without crutches. A caliper has just been fitted, but walking is still a great problem. His previous residence was a house, after a couple of falls down the stairs, he has moved to a bungalow. He now feels a bit safer. Our very best wishes to you George from all your Diehard friends and may 1985 be a year of recovery.

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Captain John Owen Dare has joined the Regimental Association and the Officers' Club. Captain Dare served with C Company 1/7th Bn from September 1940 until December 1942. He is now retired and living at Kingsbridge, South Devon.

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Former Private Albert Edward Downs (6208268) has joined the Regimental Association. He joined for service on 28 November 1939 and was posted to the 2nd Bn. He later joined the 1/7th Bn and was wounded in the right thigh during the Italian Campaign and was invalided out on 3 June 1945.

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Ex Band Sgt Percy Victor Edwards (6189349) has joined the Regimental Association. Percy enlisted into the regiment on 17 April 1917 at the age of 16 years. He joined the Band of the 1st Bn and eventually became the Band Sgt. He served in France, Germany, Shanghai, Palestine, Egypt, Singapore and Hong Kong. In 1939 he left Hong Kong for U.K. to take his discharge and whilst on his discharge leave the war commenced and Percy was recalled and posted as CQMS of 164 Officers Training Unit. In 1941 he was taken ill and medically discharged on 28 June 1941. Percy now 83 and his wife Rose reside in Torquay. Mrs Pat Newman, widow of Major Percy Newman, always kept in touch with the Edwards and it was through her good offices that I was able to sign Percy and Rose on again, never again to escape the clutches of the Regimental Association. They celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 20 December and a letter of congratulation was sent.

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Major (QM) Mick Flynn retired on 26 July 1984.

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Captain John Gerrard, 2/8th (1st Bn), was appointed Commandant Metropolitan St John's Ambulance Corps last year.

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Former OROMS Antony Walter Gibbs (19145508) has joined the Regimental Association. He enlisted on 6 March 1947 and joined the 1st Bn in May 1949. He served continuously until September 1964 with A, Support and HQ Companies, seeing service in Hong Kong, Korea, Austria, Cyprus and BAOR. In September 1964 he was posted to 1 Q Surreys/1 Queens and took his discharge on 21 October 1969. He is now with the Home Office - Prison Department and lives in Kent. It was a pleasure to meet him again over the Remembrance weekend.

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Colonel Mike Hayward assumed the appointment of OIC Manning and Records, Exeter, on 16 July 1984.

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Another Diehard has emerged from the woods of Hatfield, Herts, and joined the Regimental Association. He is ex Private Leonard Frederick Hipgrave (6202976) who served from 1936 to 1946, was with B Company 1st Bn in Hong Kong, ending up as a POW in Osaka Camp. He received a Mention in Despatches for gallant conduct.

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Our senior Diehard, Lt-Gen Sir Brian Horrocks is being well looked after in a nursing home in Sussex.

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Former RQMS of the 1/7th Bn, Les Hosslen, now living in retirement, in Frome, Somerset, sends his regards to all his Diehard friends. He is in close touch with RSM Rocky Knight.

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Mr Eddie Johnson, 1/7th Bn, who recently retired to St Just, Cornwall, has joined the local Royal British Legion Branch. He tells me that the Middlesex Plaque is now proudly displayed at the Club.

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Ex WO2 Robert James Jones (23896510) has joined the Regimental Association. Bob Jones enlisted on 22 January 1962 and served until 21 January 1984, when he retired to pension. During his service he served with our 1st Bn in Gibraltar, 1st Bn/4 Queens, Palace Bks, Northern Ireland, a 2½ year tour as Cpl Instructor at the Depot, Canterbury, 1966-68; and then as Sgt with B Company 4 Queens, Warminster and Brecon. In May 1970 he joined C Company 1 Queens, Lingfield/Berlin. This was followed by a 3 year tour as C/Sgt Instructor at the R.M.A. Sandhurst and on to 1 Queens as WO2 1975-81. A short spell as WO2 with HQ Company Infantry Demonstration Bn followed and he completed his service at the Signal Wing, School of Infantry, as a pamphlet writer. Bob Jones is now a Prison Officer at H.M. Prison, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

Sadly under the obituary column appears an entry to his father, Major Taffy Jones, a very faithful and long serving Diehard.

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A recent capture for the Regimental Association was former Private Harold Arthur Kneebone (6210172) who served with the 2/7th Bn and B Company from 1940-46. On leaving the army he resumed his civilian occupation, banking, and left U.K. to serve in Rhodesia 1954 and eventually retired as a Bank Manager ex Zambia in 1971; retiring to Port Elizabeth in South Africa with his wife. Despite retirement his itchy feet made him join the Ford Motor Company as a dealer auditor in 1974 and approximately 10 months of each year for the next 8 years was spent touring South Africa and adjoining territories visiting the Ford dealer network. He gave this up on 31 March 1984. Our thanks for this enrolment is due to his sister in law writing and asking for a blazer badge.

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Ex Private George Henry Langley (23304932) who served with B Company 1st Bn, in Cyprus from 1956-59 has joined the Regimental Association. He is employed as a train driver with London Transport.

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Former Sgt Richard Lawford (6204766), 9th Bn, sends his regards to all his old comrades. He tells me that he is now taking ice with his drinks from a regimental ice bucket, a recent birthday gift. Much better than one of those pineapple jobs.

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Major Chris Lawrence retired on 1 December 1984.

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A newly joined member of the Regimental Association is ex Private Alfred Lee (6210540), who served with the 2/8th (1st Bn) from 1939-46 as a Driver Operator with 15 Platoon, D Company. He is a professional artist and sculptor in metal and stone. His work has been displayed at Selfridges, Barnes Borough Art shows, the Ben Uri Gallery in the West end and at Church Farm Museum, Hendon.

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Major Ian Lloyd after 3 years with the DAMA IE(1) formerly I of E (Inspectorate of Establishments) has been posted to the Falkland Islands as OC FIAC (Falkland Island Admin Company) for a four months unaccompanied tour. He left in late November and will be back in April 1985, then providing all goes to plan off to HQ BAOR for three years. He recently fulfilled a long ambition by visiting Arras in France in order to locate the grave of his uncle who was buried there in 1917. He sent me numerous photographs of Diehard graves which will be placed in the museum archives.

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Ex L/Cpl Walter David Lucioni (6211954) has joined the Regimental Association. He served from 15 February 1940 to 24 April 1946 and was with HQ Company during Normandy, Arnheim and Germany. He is now retired and living at Lowestoft, Suffolk.

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Maj Gen Chris Man suffered a severe stroke in July. He is now out of hospital and being cared for by friends. He is determined to get well and is making progress. All members of the Regimental Association send him their very best wishes and we all hope that he will make a complete recovery. Unfortunately his wife, Mrs Topsy Man, is also confined to hospital.

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Former Sgt R.T. (Tom) Marshall (23611592) who served from 1959-74 keeps me in touch with the doings of other Diehards in County Antrim and I feel sure that he has now bought each one of them a regimental plaque.

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Our sincere best wishes go to former Sgt S.J. (Pony) Moore (6196908) who was a POW with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong. During 1984 he has been in hospital on four occasions with diabetes. His right eye has been taken out and the left one is of no use. He receives 100% disability pension. Lets hope that 1985 will be a better year for him and his family.

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Can any reader help me with the address of former Sgt Cyril Orme? I think that he may be living in the Dartford, Kent, area.

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Former Sgt Pedlar Palmer (6200376) has rejoined the Regimental Association and it was very pleasing to see him at the annual reunion in May. He served from 1932-61, is now retired and living at Earls Court.

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Another Diehard to join the Regimental Association is former National Serviceman, Private Dennis Peck (22187785) who served from 1949-51. He joined the 1st Bn in Hong Kong in early 1950, joining B Company and served with them throughout the Korean campaign. He now lives at Woking, Surrey, and we have had the pleasure of his company at recent regimental functions.

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Former Cpl Michael Leonard Peterson (nee Posthumus) 24059477, has joined the Regimental Association and it was good to see him on the 11 November at the Remembrance Service. He served from 1965-77, 1 Mx 65-70, Depot Queens 70-71 and 2 Queens 71-77. He is now employed as an Accountant.

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I recently received a very nice letter from Bill Phillips (6201806) who emigrated to New Zealand

many moons ago. He sends his regards to all Diehards.

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Lt-Col Peter Packham retired on 1 December 1984.

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Brigadier Basil Rackham's recent cataract operation on one eye has been successful and he sends his regards to all Diehards.

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We are very pleased indeed to welcome to the Regimental Association former WO1(RSM) Walter Alexander Robertson (6000762 and 21003799). RSM Robertson commenced his service in 1920 by enlisting into the T.A., joining the Essex Regiment. On 30 October 1922 he joined the regular army and the Scots Guards, transferring to the Middlesex Regiment on 24 April 1940. He then served with the 2nd Bn P.L. Kensington Regiment until April 1943 when he was posted to the 2/7th Bn as RSM with whom he remained until completion of his service on 24 October 1945. On 4 August 1947 he joined the T.A. serving until 4 August 1957, with the R.A. and R.A.S.C. He will be remembered by many as the Chief Clerk at Barnet Drill Hall.

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A new member of the Officers' Club and the Regimental Association is Lieut R.S. Rothwell (149464). He enlisted into the Queens Royal West Surreys at Guildford in January 1940 and transferred to 170(MG) OCTU at Malplaquet Barracks, Aldershot, in May and was commissioned to the Middlesex Regiment at Mill Hill at the end of September. He was stationed at Purfleet and London Docks during the blitz of 1940 and was then posted to the 1st Bn in Hong Kong, arriving in April 1941. During the Battle of Hong Kong he was a Platoon Commander with D Company. After capture on Christmas Day 1941 he was held in Shamshuipo, Argyle Street, Bowen Road Hospital and back to Shamshuipo, remaining there from July 1944 until release. On return to U.K. in October 1945 and after a long spell of sick leave he went back to his teaching career and became a Headmaster in 1953 and served in three schools finishing up as the Head of the Comprehensive School in Newhaven. He has been a Magistrate for the past 20 years. Roger retired in 1979 and is now the Town Clerk of Newhaven, a part-time post. It has taken me (Secretary) a long time to catch up with him.

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Ex Sgt Alf Stone (6584906), now living at Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex, send his regards to all his Diehard friends.

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A newly joined member of the Regimental Association is former L/Cpl Donald Lloyd Townshend (23783532), who enlisted into the regiment on 29 March 1960. He joined the 1st Bn serving with A, C and HQ Coys in BAOR until 16 November 1962. The Bn moved to Gibraltar and he became employed in the Office and House of H.E. The Governor and Commander in Chief, Gibraltar, for two years where he gave excellent service in a job which entailed long and irregular hours. Towards the end of his employment, he deputised for the House Colour Sergeant and did that job very competently. On leaving the army on 28 March 1966 he joined the Merchant Navy and for the past 16 years has roamed the high seas. He is now land based and working for the BBC as a House Porter. It was a pleasure to see him at the Remembrance Service.

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Another Diehard has surfaced and signed on, he is former WO2 Jack Warner (14477426 and 22221098) who served from 1946 to 1969, the majority of his service being with the 1st Bn. It was good to see him at the Remembrance Service. Jack is getting married on 27 April 1985 at Hornchurch and Diehards in the area on that day are most welcome to attend. The honeymoon will be in Gibraltar. He is now employed as an engineering inspector.

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Former CSM Don (Sam) Weller (14476662) who is employed as the Supplies Officer at the Headquarters of the Kent County Constabulary, Maidstone, Kent, recently invited me to a conducted tour of Police Headquarters. After visiting the Operations Room, Finger Print Dept, Stores, etc, and their museum which displays all the gory items used in murder, assault on the person, etc, we adjourned for lunch. At the end of the visit I was presented with a police baton. Another memento of the visit is shown

below - Don Weller being the good looking chap on the left.



Another old soldier to become a member of the Regimental Association is former CSM A. (Tich) Williams (6193445) who enlisted into the regiment on 12 November 1920 and served until 15 October 1947. He spent his pre-war service with the 1st Bn in Germany, Silesia, China, Palestine, Egypt and Singapore, returning to the UK in 1937. Service with the 1/7th Bn followed and he was CSM of B Company 1940-42 and CSM HQ Company 1942-43 in the Middle East and North Africa. From 1943-45 he served at the Tower of London, Bellington Camp and the Repatriation Camp, Dorset. In October 1945 he was appointed Sergeant Major IC Troops Decks on the Empire Pride and sailed the seas until December 1946, when he was posted to the Depot Mill Hill for his last six months service.

CSM Williams trained the 1st Bn Football team pre-war and was himself an excellent player and member of the Bn team. He is now 81 and lives in Scotland.

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#### OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the following have died:

**BARRY** - On 29 June 1984, Ex Private James William Barry (6197074) aged 77 years. He enlisted into the regiment on 17 February 1926 and served with the 1st Bn until 29 January 1927 when he was posted to the 2nd Bn. He was transferred to the Army Reserve on completion of his 7 year engagement on 16 February 1933. At the outbreak of war he was recalled from the Army Reserve and posted to the 1/7th Bn. He was badly wounded in 1944, losing his right arm and was medically discharged on 23 April 1945.

Jim Barry resided at 2 Albuhera Close, Enfield, and was one of the original occupants of our Regimental Memorial Homes.

The funeral was attended by Major A.E.F. Waldron and Mr C. Evans, 1/7th Bn and Albuhera Close.

**CLARK** - On 5 December 1984, Lt-Col Arthur Kenneth Clark, OBE, aged 68 years. Colonel Kenneth Clark served as 2Lt, Lt and Capt(Adj) with the 2/8th Bn(1st Bn) from 1940-43. Subsequently with HQ 61 Div(GSOIII) and via Staff College Camberley to HQ 11 Army Group and HQ ALFSEA where he became Major(DAAG) and later Lt-Col(AAG).

The funeral and Thanksgiving Service were attended by Colonel I.R. Burrows, OBE, who represented the Regimental Association.

**COLLIER** - On 22 October 1984, Mrs Elizabeth Collier, wife of Mr Ted Collier of 12 Albuhera Close. Major and Mrs A.E.F. Waldron attended the funeral together with the majority of the occupants of Albuhera Close.

**EUREN** - On 30 November 1984, Captain Henry Dawn Euren, TD, aged 73 years. Captain Euren was 2IC C Company, 2/8th (1st Bn), during 1944-45.

**GASTON** - On 15 July 1984, Doctor Ian Gaston, aged 52 years. Lieut Ian Gaston was Medical Officer to the 1st Bn in Cyprus and BAOR during 1958-59 whilst serving his National Service period. He was a very popular officer, an excellent hockey player and represented the Bn on many occasions.

Major and Mrs C.L. Lawrence, together with Mrs Christine Pollard attended the funeral.

**HUGHES** - On 25 October 1984, Major Arthur John (Tigget) Hughes, MC, TD, DL, aged 70 years.

Major R. Bartram writes: In 1935 when commanding A Company of the 1/7th Battalion at Highgate I had posted to me a 2nd Lieutenant A.J. Hughes 'on probation' with a caution that he was 'a bit small and looked as if he might be a bit idle'. The first might be deemed correct but the second sadly astray. He was, in fact, a ball of fire. He served with the 1/7th in Monty's 3rd Division during the campaign in France in 1940 though he actually missed Dunkirk having been invalided home with jaundice a few days before. Returning to the battalion was 2IC A Company when the battalion was posted to the 15th Scottish Division on the East Coast and later when the Bn travelled to join the 51st Highland Division. The Bn, then commanded by Lt-Col J.W.A. Stephenson, DSO, served with the 51st through Alamein, North Africa and finally Sicily. Before the final capitulation 'Steve' went off to command another Bn and 'Tigget' assumed temporary command and brought the 1/7th back to England - still with the 51st. In N.W. Europe Major Hughes was awarded the Military Cross and was twice Mentioned in Despatches. He was awarded the Territorial Decoration and clasp in 1950.

On demobilisation Tigget took over as Managing Director of his family firm, Wm Hughes Ltd, manufacturers of piano wires, springs, etc. in Kentish Town.

In 1946 he married Penelope Parker and I was privileged to act as his best man. After his family his great love was for the Middlesex Regiment, and, in particular, their connection with the Highland Division whose dinners, whether in London or Scotland, he always attended. A year or so ago they accorded him the great honour of replying to the toast of the Highland Division. This reflected not only their respect for him but also for the 1/7th. When he and his family went to live in Hertfordshire he took up public service with his usual wholehearted enthusiasm. He was, in succession: Member of Hertford RDC 1955-58, 1961-64; Herts County Councillor 1958; Alderman 1966-73; Vice Chairman Herts County Council 1968-69, 1971-73, 1974-77; Chairman Herts County Council 1973, 1977-80; Chairman Conservative Group 1974; Chairman Hertfordshire Society 1980; Deputy Lieutenant from 1974; Chairman Herts Police Authority from 1980 until shortly before his death. The Regiment and the country have lost a great man - and I a great friend.

The Memorial service at St Mary's Church, Welwyn, on Wednesday 31 October was packed out. In addition to his family, the Herts County Council headed by the Chairman, the Chief Constable and several senior police officers, members of the 1/7th Bn and his large circle of friends attended. An appreciation of Tigget Hughes, during the Church Service, was made by Major H.M.F. (Max) Langley, who served as a regular officer with the 2nd Bn. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow, Penny, his son Max and daughter Jane and their families and to his sister Meg and brother David.

**JONES** - On 21 August 1984, Major Albert Thomas Jones, MBE, TD, (6194301 and 88228), aged 81 years.

Taffy Jones enlisted into the regiment on 21 May 1921 and after his recruit training joined the 1st Bn in Ireland. This was followed by further service with the 1st Bn at Gravesend, Cologne, Silesia, Aldershot and Catterick until October 1930. (Jan - Dec 1927 Shanghai Defence Force). He was

promoted Sgt 1927. From October 1930 until January 1934 he was PSI with B company, 7th Bn, at Enfield. Promoted WO2 10 May 1934. In June 1934 he was posted to the 2nd Bn and served at Colchester and Portsmouth until October 1938. This was followed by posting to the 8th Bn at Staines as PSI to C Company.

When the T.A. was doubled in May 1939 he was appointed to a commission as Lieutenant(QM) of the 2/7th Bn an appointment he held until April 1941 when he was promoted A/Captain and granted a combatant commission and appointed OC B Company. He was awarded the M.B.E. in June 1941. In September 1942 he was appointed Adjutant, a post he held until April 1943, when he was promoted A/Major and OC MG Coy 'C' Group. In March 1944 he was appointed OC 'B' Support Group. During the Anzio campaign January - May 1944 he was Mentioned in Despatches. He attended No. 9 Junior Staff Course at the Staff College Camberley, from July to October 1944 and was awarded the symbol 'jsc'. In March 1945 he was posted to HQ L of C Command, Burma, as DAAG. From May - June 1946 he served as A/Lt-Col AAG, South Burma District, Rangoon. He was again Mentioned in Despatches. He returned to UK in June 1946 and in October was demobilised. He immediately joined the MX T&AFA as Cadet Executive Officer - Major TAVRA. and held the same office with the Greater London T&AVRA until resigning his commission on 31 December 1968, a total of 47 years 224 days continuous service.

His medals are - MBE, TD, 1939-45 Star, Burma Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45(2 MID's), LS&GC Medal and Cadet Forces Medal.

Major Taffy Jones was also the Housing Manager for the Regimental Homes at Albuhera Close from 1953 to 1966. His youngest son, Bob, joined the regiment in 1962 and retired in 1984 from the Queen's Regiment with the rank of WO2.

Major A.E.F. Waldron attended the funeral representing the Regimental Association and the 2/7th Bn.

**KIRBY** - On 6 July 1984 Ex Private George Sidney Kirby (14416222).

He served with D Company 2/8th (1st Bn) 1944-45. After the war he lived and worked in Germany and leaves a wife and family in Aachen.

**LANE** - On 1 November 1984, Major William Thomas Joseph Lane, MBE, (6199492 and 22221849), aged 72 years.

Bill Lane enlisted into the regiment in August 1930, joining the 1st Bn in Colchester in early 1931. He proceeded with the 1st Bn to Palestine and service in Egypt, Singapore and Hong Kong followed. He returned to the U.K. in 1939 and was posted to the Depot. In 1940 he joined the 2nd Bn as CQMS and served with them in UK and Iceland. In 1945 he was granted an emergency commission with the 8th Bn Durham Light Infantry as a Lt(QM) serving in N.W. Europe. He then left the army for a short period and on 17 December 1948 re-enlisted on a four year engagement. On 18 June 1950 he was posted to the 1st Bn as RQMS but the vacancy was already filled and he joined HQ 35 Infantry Brigade, Hong Kong, as Chief Clerk and this appointment was followed by posting to the Royal Hong Kong Defence Force as RQMS. He completed his engagement on 7 December 1953 and the following day was commissioned as Quartermaster to the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers), eventually retiring as Major (Quartermaster) in August 1965. He was awarded the M.B.E. in January 1952. Bill Lane in his younger days was a keen boxer and rugby player. A staunch member of the regimental association. Bill was also a member of the London Branch of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) Association and regularly attended the annual dinner held in London. He will be sadly missed.

**LIVENS** - On 13 April 1984, Ex Private Leonard Frederick Hume Livens (6197620), aged 73 years.

He served with the 1st and 2nd Bns from 1926 to 1934.

**LLOYD** - On 7 January 1984, Ex Cpl Stanley Leonard Lloyd (6197270), aged 74 years.

Stan Lloyd served from 1932 until 23 November 1943 with the Corps of Drums of the 1st and 2nd Bns. He suffered an injury to his right knee during 1943 and this resulted in his discharge on medical grounds. A quiet man who attended most regimental functions.

**MALONE** - On 12 August 1982, the Reverend Matthew V. Malone, R.A.Ch.D.

Padre Malone was the Battalion Roman Catholic Chaplain to the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and Korea 1950-52. He was very popular with all ranks. News of his death only reached the Regimental Association in July of this year.

**MANKTELOW** - On 23 August 1984, Ex Private Vivian James Manktelow (T/6096185), aged 68 years.

He served with the regiment from 1942 to 1944 when an injury to his right leg resulted in medical downgrading and transfer to the RASC.

**PACE** - On 2 October 1984, Sgt Arthur Benjamin (6201213), aged 72 years.

Arthur (Ginger) Pace enlisted at Mill Hill on 1 July 1933 and after recruit training was posted to the 2nd Bn at Colchester in early 1934, joining A Company. On 18 December 1935 he was posted to the 1st Bn and was a member of the 'Save Egypt' draft. On 16 March 1936 the Bn moved to Singapore and then on to Hong Kong on 19 August 1937. In July 1939 Cpl Pace was selected to attend the long course at the APT School, Aldershot, leaving Hong Kong on the 15 July. The war broke out in September 1939, the course was cancelled and he found himself posted to the 2nd Bn. On 6 June 1944 he was a member of the 2nd Bn who were part of the invasion force Overlord and sadly he was severely wounded during the fighting in Normandy and was evacuated to the U.K. on 21 July 1944. He was medically discharged on 5 January 1946 having completed 12 years and 189 days service.

Ginger Pace was a very good gymnast and excelled at all sports. A good and efficient N.C.O. who was popular and respected by all ranks. A regular attender at regimental functions he will be sadly missed by his family and his comrades in the regiment.

**PARKES** - On 24 June 1984, Ex Private George Terence Parkes.

He served with the 2/7th Bn during 1939-45. No other details are available.

**PILLEY** - On 27 July 1984, Major William Henry Pilley, aged 90 years.

Bill Pilley enlisted into the Queen's Bays in 1912 and transferred to the Middlesex Regiment on 19 March 1913, joining the 2nd Bn. He was posted to the 1st Bn 3 September 1913 and served with them at Mons until wounded on night of 8/9 September 1914 resulting in medical evacuation to U.K. His next tour in France was from September 1915 until May 1916, when he was posted to the U.K. When the 2nd Bn reformed to Peace Establishment at Colchester in April 1919, he was employed in the Bn Orderly Room becoming Orderly Room Colour Sgt on 15 January 1925 and on 7 March 1926 crossed to the QM's department and was appointed RQMS and a little later posted to the Depot. After 23 years and 85 days in the ranks he was commissioned as Lieut(QM) on 28 July 1935 and retired as Major(QM) on 12 July 1949.

On leaving the service Bill remained in Germany and was employed from 1950-1956 as Civilian Accountant Offrs Mess 33 Armoured Brigade and Mess Manager from 1956-1962 at HQ 1 BR Corps, Bielefeld. On retirement he moved to Bad Driburg where he remained until his death. In his early days in Bad Driburg he was very interested in teaching youngsters tennis and helped with coaching. He also helped several Spanish girls with their English grammar. He was buried in the Protestant Cemetery at Bad Driburg.

The funeral was attended by our former APTC Instructor in BAOR 1961-62, S/Sgt Ray and Mrs Issitt. Ray is the Professional at the Bad Driburger Golf Club. He tells me that they have been friends of Bill and his family for a number of years.

**PLATTEN** - On 27 October 1984, WO1(RSM) Samuel George (Sam) Platten (6196853), aged 75 years.

WO1 Platten enlisted into the Territorial Army at Hornsey on 14 May 1925 and joined the 7th Bn. His actual age was 16 but he gave it as 17. He continued to serve with the 7th Bn and in 1935 was promoted CQMS of B Company. On the 1 June 1939 he was promoted WO2(CSM). He proceeded to France with the 1/7th Bn in January 1940 and returned via Dunkirk. On 1 April 1943 he was transferred to the Royal Pioneer Corps and was posted to 158 G.P.W. Camp, North Burton, where he remained until his transfer to Class Z(T) Reserve on 29 November 1945. It was during this period of his service that he was promoted WO1(RSM).

Sam Platten was given the Freedom of the City of London on 31 July 1980 on account of his bravery at Dunkirk and in recognition of all the varied welfare work he accomplished. He was also a life Governor of the Masonic Hospital and was a member of the committee at Earl Haig No. 1 Branch of the Royal British Legion. He chaired his local Remembrance Day Parade Committee for nearly 30 years, he had been Standard Bearer for 20 years and took the Standard twice to the Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall. At the Dunkirk Veterans Pool of the London Branch in 1980 he became an Assistant Parade Marshal during the Dunkirk Pilgrimage and was chosen to accept the plaque from Dunkirk. Sam was a great T.A. stalwart and had a vast knowledge of the pre-war 7th Bn and was of considerable help to the Regimental Association on many occasions.

He and his wife attended many functions and his smart and soldierly manner will be sadly missed.

**ROBINSON** – On 9 August 1984, Cpl Noble Dacre Robinson (6206643), aged 63 years.

Cpl Robinson served with the 2/7th Bn from 2 September 1939 and was taken P.O.W. at Anzio. He was held at Stalag VIIA near Moosburg. Nobby Robinson was evacuated to UK at the end of the war and discharged on 31 July 1946.

**SHERBROOKE-WALKER** – On 27 July 1984, Colonel Ronald Draycott Sherbrooke-Walker, CBE, TD, DL, aged 87 years.

The death of Ronald Sherbrooke-Walker at Bath has ended a long career of public service by a man who devoted much of his time and talents to the affairs of the Territorial Army, The Army Cadet Force and the Royal Air Force Regiment.

He was born on 1 April 1897 at March Rectory, Cambridgeshire, the youngest son of The Rev George Sherbrooke-Walker, MA. He was educated at Sherborne School where he was fag to the late Brigadier E.E.F. Baker, CB, CBE, DSO, MC, DL, JP (Midx Regt). He married Miss Ruth Bindley who died in November 1983 and their closest surviving relative is Miss Peggy Bindley of Waterstreet Farm, Curry Rival, Somerset. He left school early as so many of his contemporaries did in World War 1 and joined the Dorset Regiment under age. He subsequently transferred to the Royal Flying Corps obtaining his wings. He was shot down over German lines in 1916 and was a P.O.W. for some two years.

He served with the 8th Bn The Middlesex Regt for a period between the wars but rejoined during the Munich Crisis to command the 2/8th during the doubling up of the T.A. He built up the Bn to full strength around B and D Companies seeing them through the difficult first year of the war with guarding VPs such as London Docks and Airfields and after Dunkirk the Inner Essex and Thames Defense lines. After his tour of command was up he was transferred as local Defense Commander to RAF Establishment, Gosport. From this he went on to help form the RAF Regiment seeing service with them at home and in Africa. (See Khaki and Blue by R.S.W.)

His direct links with the ACF started before World War II and after it he became County Commandant Middlesex ACF. He was later Rep: Comdt for London District and then Vice Chairman of the ACFA and during the serious illness of Gen Sir Lashmer Whistler he was in effect Chairman. After handing over this appointment he became Vice President.

After World War 1 he joined the family firm, Carter & Co, of Chartered Accountants, and subsequently a Company Director in particular Securicor.

During his life he wrote many short stories largely for fun, but his best known book was 'Khaki and Blue' which dealt with the ground defences of the RAF and the formation of the RAF Regiment.

Major J.G. Chiverall represented the Regimental Association at the funeral. WDE

**SUTHERLAND** – On 27 November 1984, Major George Stewart Sutherland, aged 86 years.

Stewart Sutherland served with the 4th Bn 1914-18. Major R.W.J. Smith, MBE, attended the funeral.

**SYMONS** – On 15 July 1984, Ex Private William Edward Wymons (6200177) aged 74 years.

Bill Symons enlisted on 14 August 1931, and on completion of his recruit training at the Depot, was posted to the 2nd Bn who had just arrived home from Khartoum after completing their foreign service tour. He was groom to the late Majors E.T. Pain and J.R. Thorp. He was transferred to the Army Reserve on 13 August 1938. He was recalled to the Colours on 3 September 1939 and joined the 8th Bn. He was later posted to GHQ 2nd Echelon, 21 Army Group, ending his service on 6 November 1945.

**WAGSTAFF** – On 14 February 1984, Ex Private Thomas Wagstaff (TF/932 and TF/265121), aged 89 years.

He served with the 9th Bn from 12 April 1912 to 31 March 1920, seeing service in India at Dinapore, Barrackpore, Rawalpindi and Ambala. He was at the crossing of the Lesser Zab. His medals are on display in the regimental museum.

**WARD** – On 8 October 1984, Major William W. Ward, MM, TD, aged 90 years.

RSM Bill Ward joined the 2nd Bn in Khartoum from the Grenadier Guards in March 1931, where he had been senior Drill Instructor. He first joined the army in 1909 enlisting in the Grenadier

Guards and was involved in ceremonial duties during the majority of his service. He served throughout World War 1 where he was wounded and earned the award of the Military Medal. His service with the 2nd Bn as RSM was outstanding and distinguished and he was held in high regard by all ranks. He left the 2nd Bn on 13 April 1938, after 29 years service, to become the Quartermaster of the 8th Bn, his appointment date 1 June 1938. He was wounded at Dunkirk whilst serving as QM of the 1/8th Bn and finally retired in 1949.

On retirement he went into the hotel business in the Midlands. One of his favourite pastimes was wine making. Bill was a widower with two sons, both ex-soldiers and a daughter Phyllis. The funeral was private. Bill Ward will always be remembered in the regiment as RSM 'Skers'. A proud and respected man who did the 'Diehards' proud.

**WATTS** – on 6 February 1984, Ex Private Henry Watts (6205366), aged 68 years.

He served with the 1/8th Bn and was taken P.O.W. at Dunkirk and was held at Stalag XXA. He was repatriated to the U.K. May 1945.

**WINDOWS** – On 5 July 1984, Ex Cpl Albert Edward Windows (6194793) aged 77 years.

He enlisted on 2 August 1921 serving with the 3rd Bn until the 3rd and 4th Bns were disbanded under the 'Geddes Axe'. He was posted to the 1st Bn on 1 October 1923 and joined the Corps of Drums where he was a piccolo player and bugler, eventually becoming the CO's silver bugler. With these two battalions he served in the Army of Occupation of the Rhine and Silesia, he also served with the 1st Bn in China, as part of the Chinese Defence Force in 1927 where they garrisoned Shanghai and Wei-Hai-Wei. In October 1936, he joined the 9th Bn TA and again became the CO's silver bugler. He later became a cook and was absorbed into the ACC in March 1941, continuing to serve with the 9th Bn until 1954.

The funeral was attended by Major R.W.J. Smith, Mr H.J. Mellor and Mr A.J. Martin.

#### KING EDWARD VIIS CONVALESCENT HOME FOR OFFICERS

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### REGIMENTAL GOODS

The following regimental goods are available for purchase. These can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, Lynsore Bungalow, Upper Hardres, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6EE. Cheques should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association. Postage and packing is included in the price.

Badges Blazer, Middlesex	£6.00 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with regimental emblazon	£11.00 each
Glass, Whisky tumbler engraved Middlesex Regiment Badge	£4.50 each
Ties Regtl Old Pattern Terylene (Maroon and Old Gold)	£2.00 each
Ties Regtl New Pattern Terylene	£2.00 each
Ties Officers Club Silk	£3.50 each
Wall Plaques, Middlesex	£11.60 each
History 'Diehards in Korea'	£5.00 each

### ADDENDUM

All members will be grieved to hear that Lt-Gen Sir Brian Horrocks, KCB, KBE, DSO, MC, LL.D(Hon), died peacefully on Friday 4 January 1985, aged 89 years.

A private family funeral has taken place.

Obituary tributes will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter.

D. Isom (Printers) Ltd.,  
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