

also took place, with the Germans having a chance to sample our 24-hour compo pack!

INFANTRY EXERCISE

The Wednesday was devoted to an exercise with the two Jäger companies, whose tactics were similar to those of our own infantry.

Friday was free time, and the party spent the morning in Flensburg where they toured the city, visited the Town Hall, and, after lunch, took a Deutschland Marine tender along the Flensburger Forde, past the naval yard to the castle at Glucksburg. The day finished in a relaxed way with "socialising" (by now the company catch-phrase) with the German NCOs both at home and in their Mess.

Saturday "kicked off" with another friendly interlude, a seven-a-side football match in which the Germans won back the honours with a final score of Germany 10, U.K. nil!

The whole visit was a great success for both hosts and visitors, as is amply demonstrated by the volume of certificates, badges and plaques which changed hands at the end. The German media were actively interested, and we can only hope that they were as favourably impressed by the TAVR as we were with our Jäger friends—the spirit of friendship and co-operation was first-class, and everyone came back with a much better understanding of our "neighbours" in N.A.T.O.

RFA — How others see us

Note
8

Now that the 1975 year of RFA activities has ended, we would like to thank all those individual and Corporate members who not only participated in our "Serials", but who—by hosting NATO and other reservists—made it a vintage year; many did so at their own expense and this is all the more laudable in the present climate of economies. We try and keep not only our own MOD, but also our Attachés in foreign parts informed of our aims and activities. It seems that the cumulative effect of our determination to put Britain's Reserves on the NATO map is achieving a slow but definite change of attitudes. Nothing succeeds like success—so let us have plenty of reports on any activity in which overseas reservists were involved. Our prestige at home and abroad is rising, as the following miscellany of letters shows:

From Col. Q. A. Rhodes, TD (Regional Representative, RFA about 2 Wessex hosting Germans and Norwegians at Annual Camp—October)

"... the visit was an enormous success, greatly enjoyed by all concerned. I spoke to both the Germans and Norwegians who had nothing but praise both for the arrangements and the manner in which they had been received by the battalion. Not only did they find the hospitality overwhelming but the training interested them very much. They quickly became part of any platoon or section to which they were attached..."

From Lt.-Col. Hewson, CO 6/7 Queens to the German Military Attaché in London (about an attachment of TAVR to a German Reserve Unit—October)

"... told me it was an excellent visit and that they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. I understand they worked and played hard... They were most appreciative of the interest shown in them and the generous hospitality they received..."

From Maj. (GEAFR) Alex Bieling, Germany (about visit to training of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force—September)

"... as my visit to your unit was such an instructive impression, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to members of your staff... After having made my report to Bonn I am pleased to be the one to express the official thanks of the Verband der Reservisten der Deutschen Bundeswehr, too, our visit to your country was both instructive and enjoyable..."

From Lt.-Col. C. E. Wilkinson, CO 3 WFR (about attachment of German officers and NCOs to a large District exercise—October)

"... I must tell you how successful the visit of your reservists has been..."

We have thoroughly enjoyed having them with us and I feel they did some useful training as well as being good ambassadors for the German Army in particular and your country as well... I feel the exchange was an unqualified success. Your reservists went back dressed as members of my Regiment and there are eight members of my Battalion... in the uniform of your Army!"

From Lt. J. M. Veranneman de Watervliet (Belgium) (attached to 4 RGJ during their Annual Camp—July)

"... Any way the attachment was perfect... 4 RGJ is a very fine Regiment and everyone has gone out of his way to be nice... Once again many thanks for your help..."

From Capt. T. I. Robinson, Gordon Highlanders (Retd.) (about a visit to Belgium and reunion of the Reserve officers at Ghent—May)

"... This was quite a memorable occasion which was a privilege for me to attend, and it is hoped that when the next event takes place... our own association will send a representative group in support..."

From Lt.-Col. M. Lambert (France) (about TAVR winning the Commando raid exercise and competition at Nancy—October)

"... Congratulations to the British officers and NCOs who have given such a fine demonstration of their training in winning, without any penalties..."