

LORD PRIVY SEAL VISITS MERCIAN

Sir Ian Gilmour at Stockport

While Sir Ian Gilmour PC, Lord Privy Seal in the new Thatcher administration, was Conservative shadow spokesman on Defence he, with other VIPs, visited A Company 1st Battalion Mercian Volunteers at Stockport on 18 April. He was supporting Mr John Last, Conservative candidate for Stockport North and although the visit was held during the election campaign it was carried out with MOD approval. He was welcomed at the Armoury Drill Hall by Lt Col H A Woolnough the CO, Maj Mike Sasler, OC A Company and Lt John Norman acting 2IC.

Sir Ian, who served as a Lieutenant with the Grenadiers from 1944 to 1947, said 'The TAVR is more than a reserve, it is the front line,' and added, 'It is the Conservative intention, as stated in our manifesto, to see an expanded TAVR with all the best equipment.'

The visitors looked in on Cpl Philip Daniels giving a lecture on N and B warfare, saw the company shooting against a Manchester Police team and spoke to men in training and in the Mercian Club.

Sir Ian was impressed by the strength and enthusiasm of A Company and hoped to make an early return visit. It was Mr Last's third visit. 'They are a good lot,' he said 'and I am behind them in all they do.'

Mr Brunson McKinley, a First Secretary with the US Embassy, on a tour of marginal constituencies was also a visitor to the Stockport Mercians. A former infantry officer, he spoke favourably of his first contact with the TAVR. With him was Maj Andrew Greenwood MBE TD, Vice-President of the Royal British Legion and a deputy lieutenant for Derbyshire.



Photo: Stockport Express

In the picture (left to right), Sir Ian, Lt Col H A Woolnough, 2Lt Mike Weaver, L/Cpl Pete Williams and O/Cdt Ian McClarence. Man with the gun is Mr John Last (pity he didn't get in. It looks as if he's a good shot and we could do with some of those in the House now the rhubarb shooting season is open).

ALTEN KAMERADEN



It gave Lt Col Mike Dudding very great pleasure to welcome as a guest to 6/7 Queens (V) before Easter, Lt Col Albrecht Petersohn of the Bundeswehr. The two Colonels first met in 1964 when the then Captain Dudding spent a fortnight attached to 193 Panzer-grenadier Battalion at Munsterlager. Hauptmann Petersohn was a Company Commander in that battalion, and later saw something of 1st Bn Royal Fusiliers in Osnabruck, where Captain Dudding was Adjutant. They have remained in touch with each other ever since, and Lt Col Dudding spent a night at the Petersohn home in Monchengladbach last year when his civilian work took him to Germany. On this latest occasion Col Petersohn and his elder son spent ten days at Col Dudding's London home and covered the usual tourist features. But unlike a normal tourist, Col Petersohn attended a dinner party at the Horsham Headquarters of 6/7 Queens (V), which his friend now commands, and visited their Shooting Team practising at Ash Ranges. Col Petersohn has a particular interest in the TAVR as he is currently on the staff of Territorialkommando Nord, which is a Headquarters responsible for reserve units in Northern Germany. The picture shows him presenting a Territorialkommando Nord plaque to Lt Col Dudding.

LOWLAND TAVR ASSOCIATION PIPE BAND COMPETITION 1979

The results of the competition held at Alnwickhill Road, Edinburgh, on Sunday 6 May, 1979 are:

Solo Piping (Confined) — Dryborough Trophy

- 1 O/Cdt McInnes..... Edinburgh & Heriot Watt UOTC
- 2 L A N Gunn Edinburgh Academy CCF
- 3 P/Sgt Macleod Daniel Stewart & Melville College CCF

Solo Piping (Open) — Miller Cunningham Challenge Cup

- 1 P/Maj Marnoch..... Aberdeen University OTC
- 2 O/Cdt Duncan..... Tayforth Universities OTC
- 3 Sig Lawson..... 32 (Sc) Signal Regiment

Solo Drumming — Edinburgh and Leith Challenge Cup

- 1 D W Hamilton..... George Heriot's School CCF
- 2 G D Ritchie..... George Heriot's School CCF
- 3 L/Cpl Marshall 154 Lowland Tpt Regiment RCT (V)

Quartets

- 1 Glasgow & Strathclyde Universities OTC
- 2 32 (Sc) Signal Regiment
- 3 1/51 Highland Volunteers

Pipe Band — The Cameron Bowl

- 1 Glasgow & Strathclyde Universities OTC
- 2 32 (Sc) Signal Regiment
- 3 Edinburgh & Heriot Watt UOTC

Drum Major — The Mackintosh-Reid Challenge Cup

- 1 Drum Major Hill..... 1/52 Lowland Volunteers
- 2 Drum Major Lyall..... 32 (Sc) Signal Regiment

The Association congratulates all competitors whose standard of performance increases year by year.

Next year's competition will be held on Sunday, 4 May, 1980. Please note this date in your diaries.