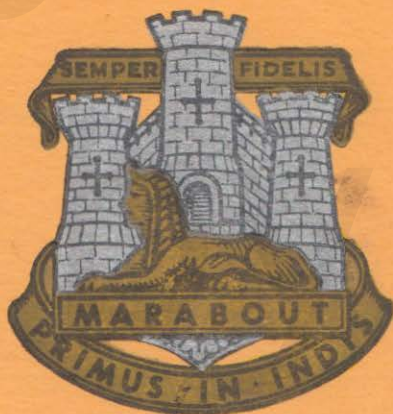


THE
REGIMENTAL JOURNAL



THE DEVONSHIRE & DORSET REGIMENT

11th, 39th and 54th of Foot

VOL. 5, No. 18

PRICE 4/-

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OF

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Vol. 5, No. 18



May, 1963

THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT (11, 39 and 54)

The Sphinx superimposed upon the Castle of Exeter

The Castle and Key superscribed Gibraltar 1779-83 and with the motto
'Montis Insignia Calpe'

The Sphinx superscribed 'Egypt'

Semper Fidelis

Primus in Indis

"Dettingen," "Plassey," "Martinique, 1794," "Marabout," "Albuhera," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Peninsula," "Ava," "Maharajpore," "Sevastopol," "Afghanistan, 1879-80," "Tirah," "Defence of Ladysmith," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1899-1902," "Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914, '18," "La Bassee, 1914," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Hill 60," "Ypres, 1915, '17," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Loos," "Somme, 1916, '18," "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Guillemont," "Flers-Courcelette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Ancre, 1916, '18," "Arras, 1917," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "Bullecourt," "Messines, 1917," "Pilckem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcapelle," "Passchendaele," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Hazebrouck," "Bois des Buttes," "Marne, 1918," "Tarennois," "Amiens," "Bapaume, 1918," "Hindenburg Line," "Havrincourt," "Epéhy," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Beaurevoir," "Cambrai, 1918," "Selle," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Piave," "Vittorio Veneto," "Italy, 1917-18," "Doiran, 1917, '18," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suvla," "Landing at Suvla," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Egypt, 1916-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Nebi Samwil," "Jerusalem," "Tell 'Asur," "Megiddo," "Sharon," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Basra," "Shaiba," "Kut al Amara, 1915, '17," "Ctesiphon," "Defence of Kut al Amara," "Tigris, 1916," "Baghdad," "Khan Baghdadi," "Mesopotamia, 1914-18," "St. Omer-La Bassee," "Normandy Landing," "Port en Bessin," "Villers Bocage," "Tilly sur Seules," "Caen," "Mont Pincon," "St. Pierre La Vielle," "Nederrijn," "Arnhem, 1944," "Aam," "Geilenkirchen," "Roer," "Goch," "Rhine," "Ibbenburen," "Twente Canal," "North-West Europe, 1940, '44-45," "Landing in Sicily," "Agira," "Regalbuto," "Sicily, 1943," "Landing at Porto San Venere," "Italy, 1943," "Malta, 1940-42," "Imphal," "Shenam Pass," "Tamu Road," "Kohima," "Ukhrul," "Mandalay," "Myinmu Bridgehead," "Kyaukse, 1945," "Mt. Popa," "Burma, 1943-45."

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LT.-COL. P. F. ANDERSON, M.C., GSO 1 (Co-ord def plans) Air
HQ, Malta GC, BFPO 51.
LT. J. E. A. ANDRE, Wessex Bde Depot*.
MAJ. D. O. APPLETON, Wessex Bde Depot.
MAJ. (Bvt. LT.-COL.) A. J. ARCHER, M.B.E., GSO 2, Staff College,
Camberley.
LT.-COL. R. J. G. T. BAHIN, GSO 1, The War Office (Inf 2).
LT. A. E. O. BASTYAN, ADC to HE The Governor of South
Australia.
CAPT. P. MCL. BAXTER, Trucial Oman Scouts, BFPO 64.
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CAPT. (T MAJ.) J. D. C. BLAKE, GSO 2 (Int), HQ Land Forces,
Persian Gulf, BFPO 63.
CAPT. (T MAJ.) G. B. BLIGHT, 1 GLOSTERS, Cyprus, BFPO 53.
MAJ. A. F. BLUNDELL, GSO III (Int), HQ Cyrenaica Area,
BFPO 55.
LT.-COL. H. A. A. BRAY, M.C., GSO 1 & CI, Psychological
Operations Centre, Uckfield, Sussex.
CAPT. G. J. BRIERLEY, 1 Para Regt, Gullemtot Bks, Cove.
MAJ. M. F. R. BULLOCK, C Coy, 1 D & D.
CAPT. C. W. G. BULLOCKE, MTO, 1 D & D.
CAPT. (T MAJ.) P. BURDICK, GSO 2 (Ops), GHQ, FARELF,
c/o GPO Singapore.
(ssc) LT. A. G. BUTCHER, B Coy, 1 D & D.
CAPT. F. J. CANN, Trg Coy, 1 D & D.
CAPT. (QM) F. L. CANN, QM, HQLF, Hong Kong.
LT.-COL. C. CHETTLE, M.C., The Muscat Regt, BFPO 63 (A).
2 Lt. R. J. COATE, C Coy, 1 D & D.
CAPT. J. COBB, RSO, 1 D & D.
MAJ. G. G. C. COLERIDGE, GSO 2/DAQMG, War Office (AR (a)).
LT. (QM) A. T. COOMBE, 1 GLOSTERS, Cyprus, BFPO 53.
CAPT. A. M. J. CORNER-WALKER, RAPC Unit Pmr, 1 D & D.
CAPT. (T MAJ.) D. T. CRABTREE, DERR, HQ Coy, 1 D & D.
CAPT. R. W. CULLEN, School of Inf, Hythe.
CAPT. J. M. DEANS, IO, 1 D & D.
(ssc) MAJ. B. G. DILLON, Perm Pres Courts Martial, HQ
Southern Comd, Salisbury.
MAJ. H. C. EALAND, 1 TR, Dar es Salaam, Tanganyika, E. Africa.
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minster.
CAPT. P. N. ELGAR, 1 GLOSTERS, BFPO 53.
MAJ. S. S. ELVERY, 1 GLOSTERS, Cyprus, BFPO 53.
MAJ. P. K. ESSAME, SC, Q (Maint), HQ 42 (Lancs) Div/Dist (TA),
NW Dist, Preston, Lancs.
MAJ. R. H. B. FELTHAM, GSO 2, School of Inf, Warminster.
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2 Lt. M. S. FRIEND, A Coy, 1 D & D.
LT.-COL. D. A. GILCHRIST, Wessex Bde Depot.
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LT. (QM) W. C. HARRIS, QM 2, 1 D & D.
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CAPT. J. M. HEWITT, ITCRM, Lymington.
CAPT. J. C. F. HILL, Recce Pl, HQ Coy, 1 D & D.
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BAOR, BFPO 40.
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LT. A. G. JEFFERIES, C Coy, 1 D & D.
LT. H. JONES, A Coy, D & D.
(esc) MAJ. J. JORDAN, M.B.E., M.C., DAQMG, 53 (Welsh) Div/
Dist, Brecon.
CAPT. R. JURY, C Coy, 1 D & D.
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 CAPT. R. SHEATHER, GSO 3 (Ops), HQ 2 Div, BFPO 22.
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 MAJ. B. J. SIMS, DAA, HQ 1 (Br) Corps, BFPO 39.
 LT. COL. J. B. SMITH, DORSET (TA).
 MAJ. C. E. K. SPELLER, All Arms Junior Ldrs Bn, Towyn,
 N. Wales.
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 Devonport, Plymouth.
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 MAJ. R. V. WOODIWISS, A Coy, 1 D & D.

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 MAJ. B. D. CASEY, C Coy.
 LT. C. P. COLLINSON, B Coy.
 MAJ. M. J. P. S. DICKSON, D Coy.
 CAPT. G. G. ELLISON, A Coy.
 MAJ. P. W. R. F. FALKNER, Adm Offr.
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 2 LT. P. G. GLEDHILL, B Coy.
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 CAPT. E. W. HAWKRIDGE, A Coy.
 LT. R. J. E. JENKINS, A Coy (Asst Pnr).
 LT. P. I. LAMBERT, D Coy.
 2 LT. E. J. T. McDONALD, A Coy.
 MAJ. G. C. MIDDLETON, HQ Coy.
 LT. (QM) J. A. MYALL, QM 2.

CAPT. J. NORRISH, D Coy.
 2 LT. P. J. B. L. PENFOLD, D Coy.
 2 LT. E. D. PHILLIPS, C Coy.
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 MAJ. A. B. PIER, 2IC.
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 CAPT. C. R. B. SMALE, MTO.
 MAJ. R. E. STAMP, B Coy.
 2 LT. W. D. THOMAS, D Coy.
 CAPT. J. L. WHITESIDE, HQ Coy.

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 MAJ. P. F. STOOP, E.R.D., HQ Coy.
 CAPT. J. O. TAYLOR, A Coy.
 2 LT. J. A. TINSLEY, B Coy.
 2 LT. J. C. V. WHEATLEY, A Coy.
 LT. S. W. L. WILKINSON, RSO.

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22259157 CSM D. ALLEN, 1 D & D.
 14857451 RSM R. G. BATE-JONES, 4/5 R Berks (TA).
 7961833 BM R. W. BENSON, 1 D & D.
 LS/
 5618336 RQMS A. BOLTON, HQ Cyrenaica Area, Benghazi.
 14439628 RSM G. BOYES, Glos, DORSET (TA).
 886054 RSM L. D. BURGOYNE, Wessex Bde Depot.
 5510896 CSM J. CLEVERLEY, Wessex Bde Depot.
 5619900 CSM S. A. COLES, DORSET (TA).
 LS/
 5618306 CSM J. E. CRAWFORD, Camp, HQ, Southern Comd.
 21045062 CSM G. L. EVANS, 1 D & D.
 6015499 CSM A. L. FOSTER, DEVON (TA).
 10632827 SQMS D. A. GALLICHAN, ACC att HQ Coy, 1 D & D.
 14624904 CSM J. E. GRANGER, C Coy, 1 D & D.
 LS/
 14624904 GSM V. F. HOWE, British C-in-C Mission to Soviet
 Forces in Germany, BFPO 45.
 LS/
 5616703 ORQMS W. R. HUNTER, B.E.M., Camp Comd, Kahawa,
 E Africa.
 22222376 CSM J. HUTCHINSON, DEVON (TA).
 LS/
 CSM E. KENNEY, M.M., Adm Unit Episkopi,
 5724166 BFPO 53.
 22222392 RQMS R. C. MCGREGOR, HQ Coy, 1 D & D.
 5735762 CSM I. D. McNAUGHT, Wessex Bde Depot.
 1929043 RSM M. NOTT, DEVON (TA).
 5631259 RSM R. S. POLLARD, 1 D & D.
 5619283 CSM K. ROOKE, DORSET (TA).
 21015456 ORQMS R. D. ROSE, 1 D & D.
 19048922 CSM J. SHEARSBY, 1 D & D.
 21182911 CSM W. SUTHERLAND, A Coy, 1 D & D.
 22557310 RSM R. THOMAS, B.E.M., 4/5 R Hamps (TA).
 19036219 CSM K. WOOD, 1 D & D.

Permanent Staff Instructors (Sergeants) of The Devonshire and Dorset Regiments (T.A.)

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 22800163 SGT. J. S. DAVIES, DORSET (TA).
 14466211 SGT. V. FARMINER, DORSET (TA).
 22868766 SGT. D. GILBERT, DEVON (TA).
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≡ Editorial ≡

Major General H. A. Borradaile Retires

ON March 29, General Borradaile retired from the Army after 37 years service. An account of his distinguished career was published in the May, 1962, Journal when he was appointed Colonel of the Regiment. Whilst he was Vice-Adjutant-General we much appreciated the way the General found time to attend a variety of Regimental functions, both on business and for pleasure, and we hope that now he will find these occasions less demanding of his time.

We wish General and Mrs. Borradaile a happy retirement and all good wishes for the future.

The Editor's Illness

Since the February number went to Press, our Editor, Geoffrey White, has had a serious illness which has put him out of action for the time being. We offer his family our sincere sympathy and wish him a speedy recovery.

In the meantime the 2nd XI is on the job and has received splendid support from Mrs. Matthews at R.H.Q. Dorchester, and from our publishers and printer. We hope that our readers will overlook any short-comings arising in this number. There may be no amateurs in first-class cricket these days but there certainly are some now in the Editorial Office!

Journal Finances

From time to time we have mentioned in these pages the difficulty of maintaining the high standard of the Journal on our limited revenue. Although the price of the Journal has remained at 4s. for the past three years, there have been increases in the cost of material and labour, bringing about a financial crisis which can no longer be ignored. A decision on future policy taken by the Regimental Trustees at the end of March will become apparent in the August issue. That decision could not be implemented in this number, however certain immediate steps have been taken to reduce our production costs. If therefore you find some special feature is missing, or your efforts have been severely pruned, and that there are fewer photographs than usual, it is not due to Britain's failure to enter the Common Market but to our more local financial difficulties.

The BARCE Earthquake

Everyone must have read about the disasterous earthquake in February which destroyed the town of Barce in Libya, and so it was with considerable pride we heard that within 45 minutes of receiving the call for aid, help from "C" Company 1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment was on the way to the scene of the disaster. It was a real pleasure these days to hear from Major Hollingshead, the Company Commander, that "it was touching to witness the faith and trust the people had in the British". A more detailed account appears elsewhere in the Journal.

The Company was honoured by receiving a congratulatory signal from our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. Princess Marina. We should like to add our congratulations to all ranks on a splendid performance which has brought great credit to the Regiment and the British Army.

EXERCISE "MAGIC CARPET"

by Major D. T. Crabtree

"Magic Carpet" was an exchange exercise between the Danish and British armies. The Danish army sent an infantry battalion to train for three weeks with the Buffs in Norfolk while British soldiers trained with 1 Sjaelland Brigade in Sjaelland, Denmark.

Battalion Headquarters and Headquarter Company left for Denmark with six days' notice, suddenly replacing a Gurkha battalion which was to have gone but which was ordered at the last minute to stand-by for the Far East. Under command were our own "A" Company, who had been scheduled to go originally, and "D" Company of 1/6 Gurkha Rifles. In the rush of excitement and activity, the pending administrative inspection was temporarily forgotten and all minds focussed on arrangements for our unexpected journey. Documents were checked, vehicles loaded, flight plans adjusted and cold weather equipment hastily drawn up and issued. Within the week the battalion was away, in spite of the fact that the worst winter for 15 years brought blizzard and snow to block the railway lines. Battalion Headquarters reached Abingdon air-head at its second attempt. All the 25 vehicles, by dint either of brilliant driving or good fortune, safely negotiated 180 miles of hazardous roads, rutted with ice. After some delay the Hastings and Beverleys took off, and four hours flying found the first men at Vaerloese, an airstrip 15 kilometres north-west of Copenhagen. They were greeted by television cameras and flash bulbs, a foretaste of the enthusiasm and goodwill which welcomed us throughout our stay.

The Battalion was stationed at Vordingborg, a town 100 kilometres south of Copenhagen, and was accommodated in the barracks of the Falsterke Fodregiment, whose 1 Bn had left for the U.K. Detailed arrangements for the exercise were made from here. The troops settled in warm barracks, with under-floor heating, and tasted their first Danish food.

To start the tea meal with pudding was a surprise, but breakfasts of bread, cheese, jam and coffee, caused dismay. Everyone soon realised, however, that, apart from the unusual breakfast, the Danish diet was a pleasant change from the heavy starches eaten so frequently in the U.K.

At Vordingborg the troops carried out company training and a Battalion practice night attack. They paraded for the Colonel of the Falsterke Fodregiment, who welcomed the Battalion to Denmark. The officers and men of both armies met and mixed and established most cordial relations. The hospitality and kindness of the Danes cannot be too highly praised. The British and Gurkha unit was wholeheartedly welcomed and feted. Nor was this hospitality confined to official circles, for, wherever the troops went on the exercise, farmers and local inhabitants provided accommodation, coffee or extra food.

Denmark is colder than England and the snow deeper. The air is dry and gives the illusion of being less chill, although on most nights the thermometer read -14 degrees centigrade and day

temperatures rarely rose above freezing point. The troops were grateful for parkas and C.W.W. boots.

On February 13 the Battalion moved from Vordingborg to the exercise area in north-west Sjaelland and joined battle with two Danish battalions on the morning of February 14. The Battalion, in the attacking role, acquitted itself well in adverse weather conditions and drove the enemy back towards Nykøbing in the most northern part of Sjaelland.

One of Col. Randle's difficulties was to maintain command and control over a British company, a Gurkha company, a squadron of Danish tanks, and Danish supporting arms. This was overcome by English speaking liaison officers kept firmly at Battalion Headquarters.

For two days and two nights the Battalion pushed forward against steadily increasing opposition. At night the extremely cold weather dictated that the troops must either have some form of cover or suffer severe frostbite. The attacking troops realised that defending forces would be located round farms and buildings and made their plans accordingly. It was a new experience for troops accustomed to digging in on ridges and hedgerows, and all ranks adapted themselves well to the different circumstances.

On the morning of February 16, Part One of the exercise ended and the troops moved to villages and farms for a well-earned 48 hour rest and were again overwhelmed with hospitality. A Danish newspaper, quick to note how well the men were cared for, published a cartoon with the words, "British soldiers in Denmark are now believed to be non-operational because of too much hospitality received from the Danish population." Only the resumption of the exercise prevented this from becoming true.

During Part Two of the exercise the Battalion defended the same ground against two Danish battalions. Col. Randle's task was further complicated by the addition of a Danish company to his command. The Battalion found the defensive role of waiting for enemy attacks most uncomfortable in such cold weather and generally agreed with the Company Commander who, when asked by the Brigade Commander how he was enjoying himself, replied, "All right, Sir, but I prefer to advance."

The Battalion was delighted to see the Brigade Commander, Brig. Short, who had escaped from his office in Tidworth to visit the men on the ground. The Gurkhas were especially pleased to see their former Commanding Officer and showed their appreciation with huge smiles. The Brigadier was unfortunate enough to choose the coldest night of the exercise, with temperatures of -16 degrees centigrade or 34 degrees of frost fahrenheit, to visit Company positions. Indeed there were several mishaps connected with his visit; among them his plane to Denmark was delayed with engine trouble and his train connection to Germany was lost because of ice conditions in the Baltic sea. However, the officers were very pleased to find him still in

(Continued on page 47)

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“BULL”

There has been a great deal of talk about “Bull” in the Army lately. It has recently caused an eruption in that stronghold of the Army, The Brigade of Guards.

What is “Bull”? It is an adjunct to discipline. It entails taking a pride in your personal appearance and turnout; in your arms and equipment; in your living quarters; and in all things appertaining to smartness. It is no new thing among disciplined men.

In the Old Testament the men of those days were frequently enjoined to “Gird up your loins” which in present day parlance is translated as “Pull yourself together and smarten yourself up!” If such exhortations were necessary in those far off leisurely days they are even more necessary now, and the more often the men of today are reminded of it, the better.

Since the last war “Bull” has acquired a new meaning. Prior to that time it was known as “Eyewash”. “Bull” used to mean “Talking out of the top of your hat” or expounding on subjects beyond your knowledge—a very favourite pastime in the Army of yester-year.

In the First World War we went into action smart and clean with buttons and brasses polished; and we were properly shaven, although water was at a premium. In the Army the smartest order of turnout was known as “Review Order” and on all occasions when turning out to meet an important person, the order of dress was “Review Order” in compliment to the exalted rank of the person concerned. Therefore, when ordered into action where there was every probability of suddenly appearing before God our Maker we turned out in

“Review Order”, and if we got battle-stained on the way we had made that gesture of respect due to the highest V.I.P. of all, and it was not due to lack of prompting on my part if any one failed to do so.

To have the honour of wearing the King’s or Queen’s uniform and to bear arms in the service of one’s Country is the highest privilege to which one can aspire, so, therefore, let us maintain “Bull”.

Gentlemen, I give you a toast—here’s to “Bull” may it continue unabated! “Sinbad”.

Editor’s note.—This article was written by an old soldier with a fine fighting record and many years’ service. Young soldiers will probably regard him as a “square”, but do not be too hasty in your judgment, perhaps he has got something here!

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(Continued from page 46)

Vordingborg on their return and to have the opportunity of offering him better hospitality than had been possible in the exercise area.

In a moment of inspiration it was decided that the band should go to Denmark. They delighted not only the Danish troops but also the inhabitants of many towns and villages where they played. Always a people keen on martial music, the Danes were completely won over by the British rendering of their favourite march, “Colonel Bogey”. It is understood that fan-mail from Vig is still arriving at Plymouth, and that Mr. Benson may be invited to lecture on “How to Prevent Musical Instruments Freezing in Cold Climates.”

The exercise ended on February 20 with the umpires, as usual, victorious. The Battalion praised the enthusiasm with which the Danes fought the battle and the manner in which Exercise Headquarters had controlled the manoeuvres. Everyone, however, was pleased to return to Vordingborg and wallow in the warmth of central heating and hot showers. The troops had trained well in adverse conditions and after a day’s rest were ready to enjoy three days of sight-seeing organised by the Danes.

On the first day coaches took the Battalion to places of interest in Copenhagen. Undoubtedly the most popular were the breweries of Carlsberg and Tuborg, where the men seemed pleased to remain

for at least two hours. Only the prospect of an evening in Copenhagen finally enticed them away from the smell of hops. Surprisingly, at 22.30 hrs., the Battalion was complete, assembled in coaches and ready to return to Vordingborg. Less surprising is that several men immediately made enquiries about the next pay parade. The next two days were spent in local visits to state farms, dairies and historical monuments, a parade for Gen. Kragh, Commander of the Danish East Land Forces, and packing for the return flight.

Saturday, February 23, our last day but one, was hard for the officers. Duty-free liquor and beer had improved the drinking capacity of all ranks (a fact that was noticeable at times on first parades), but the officers and many of the warrant officers and sergeants, had, in addition, been introduced to the lethal Danish custom of schnapps and beer at lunch. On this particular day, the officers attended a lunch in honour of Gen. Kragh, gave a cocktail party for all the officers of the Falsterske Fodregiment and last, but not least, entertained Danish officers and their wives until the early hours. All officers were glad that Sunday was a quiet day.

Most of us were sorry to leave these kind and hospitable people. Many of us hope to return, at a warmer time of year, to revisit our new friends and to see more of the country and its people. Tjaj for dis Danmark!

THE BARCE EARTHQUAKE

The night of February 21, 1963, was stormy. It may be hard to imagine that the Cyreniaca Coastal Strip suffers at this time of year from gales and severe rainstorms. So strong was the wind that no one really took much notice of the tremors that we felt in Benghazi at about 1900 hrs.

At about 2100 hrs. the Duty Officer at H.Q. Cyreniaca Area, Benghazi received a request from H.M. Consul at Benghazi for assistance at Barce. The circumstances at this moment were not unlike a typical Staff College exercise. The Area Commander was in Cyprus attending a course; one squadron of 14/20th King's Hussars were field-firing 100 miles away at Charruba and out of radio contact until first light on the 22nd; one platoon of "C" Company were in Benghazi celebrating a 21st birthday, and after all, it was pay night; the Company Commander, Major John Hollingshead, was attending a rehearsal of the "Amorous Prawn" in Benghazi; and finally, the Headquarters and the Officers' Mess were in darkness due to a power cut.

Capt. Dick Jury immediately warned the Company duty platoon to move to Barce. Lt. Hurst with Sgt. Crocker and Support platoon left 45 minutes later in Land Rovers with rations, POL, and what hurricane lamps and rescue equipment were available. Ninety minutes later they reached Barce, and Lt. Hurst reported to the Cyreniaca Area Duty Officer. Practically all the Arab houses had caved in, and though the European-built houses were still standing, they were unsafe and uninhabitable. It was difficult to obtain an accurate estimate of the population, but about six to seven thousand people lived in Barce. It was tragic that this market town should suffer so severely, particularly at this moment as the Ramadan Festivities were about to begin.

What happened next is best described in Lt. Hurst's report. "The town was in a shambles and the local population dazed and stunned. We divided into three groups, each with a Land Rover and Cyrenaica Defence Force Guide. Each group was taken to a different area of the town and shown where to dig by the guide. Conditions were very difficult owing to the lack of lighting, although vehicle headlights were used where possible. It was impossible to reconstruct the form the buildings had taken as the collapse was in most cases complete, thus rescue operations were rather hazardous.

"As a body was recovered it was taken to a collecting point either in a blanket or on a stretcher. Having done this the group would start again. Rescue operation continued until 0415 hrs. Feb. 22 when the platoon was stood down by Col. Lough, Commander of the British Military Mission. At first light it was obvious that the damage was very extensive and an enormous area remained to be cleared. However, as the Libyan Army were in control, Col. Lough ordered the platoon to return to Benghazi. The platoon left at 0740 hrs. by which time the total number of dead recovered was 120."

Whilst Support Platoon were in Barce, the Company Commander and Capt. Jury were assisting

the G.S.O. II in the operations room, and Sgt. Alderman with eight men of 7 Platoon had moved off to Benina Airfield to escort a party of Italian doctors to Barce. At 0230 hrs. on February 22, Lt. Jefferies took a convoy of R.A.S.C. vehicles loaded with blankets, tents and medical supplies, into Barce. Meanwhile C.S.M. Granger and C.Q.M.S. Hill made preparations for the remainder of the Company to make a quick move.

On February 23 the Company put out a "maximum effort". At 0130 hrs. that morning 2/Lt. Coate and 7 Platoon left for Benina Airfield to unload aircraft from El Adem and Tripoli which were bringing in more tents and blankets. This platoon put up a magnificent performance unloading two Beverleys and four Hastings in record time without the help of mechanical equipment. On completing this job the platoon joined the Company in Barce. By 0730 hrs. that day the remainder of the Company arrived in Barce, and a systematic search of the ruins was carried out by 8 Platoon under Lt. Lillies, whilst the remainder erected tents in the refugee camp and moved stores to wherever they were needed.

The Company, reinforced by one platoon of S.C.L.I. from Tobruk on February 24, continued to erect tents and to provide assistance in moving families and their belongings from the town to the refugee camp. Apart from rescue work, the setting up of the refugee camp presented a big problem with the limited resources and man-power available.

On February 25, the Support Platoon assisted in the refugee camp, and a party from Company H.Q. recovered the furnishings from the Roman Catholic Church. At Benina Airfield 8 Platoon unloaded 30,000 lbs. of tentage and stores.

Further assistance, for the last time, was given in the refugee camp on February 26. Throughout this emergency the Company Signallers had operated a C 11 voice link between Barce and Benghazi during the hours of daylight.

That gives the bald outline of events. It does not do full justice to the fine work of the Company which can best be judged from the remarks of those who were on the spot.

Col. R. J. O'Lone, D.S.O., O.B.E., Commander Cyreniaca Area says "The Devonshire & Dorset men have done a magnificent job at Barce, working tirelessly, with good humour and great compassion. They set a wonderful example and I was very proud to have them in my command."

Mr. James, a surveyor, who was on the spot soon after Barce had been flattened said of "C" Company: "They were wonderful, and the Libyans—very pro-British—were very grateful".

The Bishop of Benghazi, leader of the Roman Catholic Church in Libya paid this tribute: "Your work of mercy in spite of danger and bad weather will never be forgotten by those with hearts to feel and with eyes to see. You will be remembered in our prayers for ages."

In a letter to the Commanding Officer, Major-General Lord Thurlow, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Commander Malta and Libya writes: "I would like

(Continued on page 49 foot of column)

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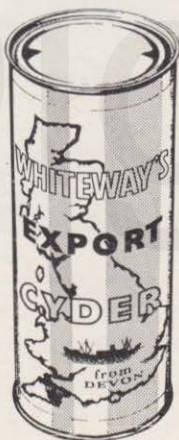


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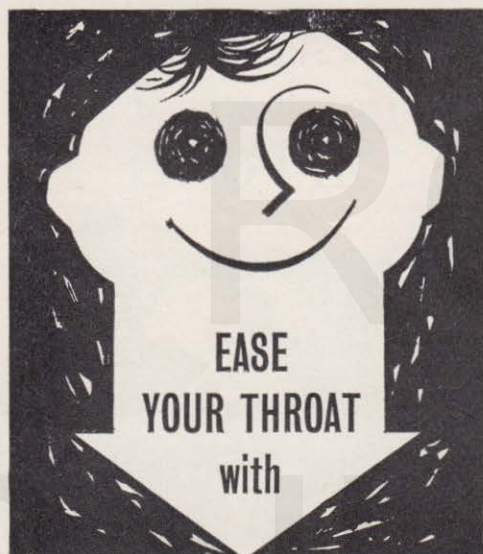
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H.M.S. DEVONSHIRE

On Saturday, March 16, 1963, at Devonport, the old friendship between the former H.M.S. *Devonshire* and The Devonshire Regiment was renewed by the new Ship and the new Regiment. A party of warrant officers and sergeants went on board in the morning. We are told that they think they disembarked at about 3 p.m., however they were sufficiently on the ball to hold a return match in the Sergeants' Mess, Plumer Barracks, that evening, with a team of chief petty officers and petty officers. In the evening Lt.-Col. John Randle and six officers were invited to dine on board. During the evening the Captain presented the Commanding Officer with a framed photograph of the Ship, and the Colonel presented a three-handled silver tankard to the Captain on behalf of the Regiment.

In 1958 when The Devonshire Regiment Regimental Committee was deciding who should have the silver after amalgamation, it was the Committee's wish that this piece of silver should be presented to the new H.M.S. *Devonshire* as a token of the renewal of an old friendship.

On looking back through old numbers of "Semper Fidelis", The Devonshire Regiment Journal, it is interesting to note the various occasions on which the Regiment and the former Ship were together.

The first of these was at the commissioning ceremony at Devonport in 1928 when the 2nd Battalion, The Devonshire Regiment, mounted a Guard of Honour under the command of Capt. L. H. M. Westropp who, 20 years or so later, was Colonel of The Devonshire Regiment when the Ship paid off for the last time. After commissioning, H.M.S. *Devonshire* went to the Mediterranean where she was given a great welcome by the 1st Battalion on her arrival in Malta.

It was during this period that there was a most unfortunate explosion in one of the gun-turrets resulting in the death and injury of a number of the Ship's Company. The sympathy of the whole Battalion was shown on this occasion by the large sum of money which was sent to the Captain for the families of the men killed and injured in the accident.

In 1937 H.M.S. *Devonshire* was home for the Coronation Naval Review at Spithead and a party from the 2nd Battalion, then stationed at Dover, was entertained on board. A year later Ship and Battalion were together again in Malta, until, in May 1939, the Ship's Company carried out a rather unusual manoeuvre in the eyes of the military. H.M.S. *Norfolk*, a sister ship, was on her way home from the East Indies Station for reconstruction, but as H.M.S. *Devonshire* was to remain in the Mediterranean, although her Ship's Company had completed a 2½-year Commission, the two ships exchanged crews, and our friends from H.M.S. *Devonshire* went home in H.M.S. *Norfolk*. Those who were with the 2nd Battalion will remember the hectic farewell parties during the two days before H.M.S. *Norfolk* sailed at 2.30 p.m. on May 17. The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. E. D. Corkery, M.C., and a representative team from the Bat-

talion, together with the Band, were assembled at the end of the breakwater to wave goodbye as the Ship passed. She had been lying at the flagship berth, and as she cast off our Band played a selection of sea shanties which was borne down to the Ship on the wind. She steamed slowly down the harbour and as she reached the breakwater our Band struck up "Auld Lang Syne." The party on the breakwater saluted and as they did so, three deafening cheers rang out from the Ship's Company and the Royal Marine Band on board played the Regimental March. The account of this episode ends with the following words, "so we said goodbye and good luck to some people who have been our very good friends since we arrived in Malta. Their hospitality and kindness to us has been great, and they have contributed more than anyone to making our stay in Malta a happy one."

The next meeting between Ship and Regiment was in Colombo in 1942 when the 1st Battalion was delighted to find the Ship in port, and despite wartime restrictions, the customary sporting contests took place and, needless to say, hospitality exchanged.

After the war, H.M.S. *Devonshire* became a training cruiser and visited Torbay from time to time. When these visits coincided with Cricket Week, the Captain and Officers were welcomed at the "At Home". So it was a sad occasion when Col. Westropp, now Colonel of the Regiment, received the following letter from the Captain:—

"As you may have already heard, H.M.S. *Devonshire* is paying off in the near future and is likely to be scrapped. I fear this will bring to an end, temporarily at least, the happy association between the Ship and The Devonshire Regiment which has existed for so long. I hope the day may come when another Ship of the same name will be built and the association may be renewed. In thanking you for all your kindness to us in the past may I wish you and all members of your Regiment the best of luck in the future."

The day has come, and the happy association was renewed in the best tradition of former days on board the new H.M.S. *Devonshire* at Devonport on March 16, 1963.

May the new association between Ship and Regiment be a long and happy one.

(Continued from page 48)

to tell you of the wonderful job your Company from Benghazi did in the recent Barce earthquake. Everyone concerned in the direction of the relief was unstinted in his praise and, due to their efforts, the British Army's name is held very high throughout Libya. The political effects of this may well be far-reaching. I am hoping to go to visit the Company shortly to give them my personal congratulations".

Well done "C" Company!

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REGIMENTAL NEWS

Obituary

BRIGADIER J. S. HEWICK

John Hewick, whose death occurred at sea approaching Freemantle on January 4, was born in British Guiana, where his father was serving as a Colonial Judge. From school at Canterbury he went to a New Zealand sheep-farm returning at the outbreak of war to Sandhurst. He was commissioned in the Regiment in January 1916, and very shortly posted to the 2nd Battalion in Mesopotamia.

But before he could join the battalion Kut had fallen, and that glorious battalion had marched to captivity and death. A new 2nd Battalion was quickly reformed from the "Norsets" and the returned wounded of Shaiba and Ctesiphon, but it saw little more serious action in Mesopotamia. In Palestine, the battalion was in the first wave at Second Gaza, where Hewick was one of the first to fall seriously wounded.

Between the wars Hewick saw hard fighting in the Moplah Rebellion (now forgotten) and again in the Palestine Rebellion, both campaigns with the 2nd Dorsets. With the 1st Battalion he was adjutant under General "Algy" Ransome, then qualified for the Staff College, but not getting a vacancy was posted to the Adjutant-General's branch at Army H.Q., India, where he served a five-year tenure.

In 1937 he married Ethel (Judy) Seavill of New Zealand and very shortly was posted to Kenya, there commanding 5 K.A.R. and later Northern Rhodesia Brigade. Invalided home in 1944, he commanded the "Norsset" Depot at Norwich with enormous enthusiasm and distinction, but was invalided out in 1947, and promoted Hon. Brigadier.

Serving soldiers should note that of 30 years' service he spent 27 abroad!

In retirement John Hewick's hobby was his friends. He travelled the world to visit them, and conducted a vast correspondence, which he used to our benefit by writing about everybody in the Journal over his nom-de-plume of "Green Linnet".

It was on his third world tour that John Hewick was making a speech at a ship's function. He finished with some difficulty and fell dead, the happy merciful end which he had awaited for the last fifteen years.

**BRIGADIER JOHN HEWICK—
A PERSONALITY**

John and I joined the Regiment in the same horse-drawn cab in January 1916. Since that day our friendship has been perfect.

From the career point of view John has been an unlucky soldier. He joined the 54th in Mesopotamia after the fall of Kut when for a long time the battalion had little opportunity of distinction. When at last he led his company in the leading wave at the opening of Allenby's last Palestine offensive, one of the first Turkish bullets took him through the legs. I have always heard that his

language as the battalion advanced over him was a notable feature of the battle. And in the late war, after training first a battalion, and then a brigade in East Africa, he was, at the last moment, denied the cherished ambition of taking his command on active service.

But ambition was no part of John's make-up. From the first to the last day of his service his only thought was his men. No officer ever knew them more intimately and devoted more care and affection to their welfare. Though no soccer player it was typical of John that he made himself the outstanding referee in India, and for several years took the Durand Cup Finals. I am sure that John achieved his heart's desire when he became adjutant of the 39th and his tenure was memorable.

His service, too, ended on a very happy note, in command of the Norfolk/Dorset Depot at Norwich. Never was the traditional regimental friendship so enthusiastically maintained, and the recovery of the Sarah Sands Colour and the Dorset presentation to Norwich Cathedral are owed to his initiative.

John's service ended with a severe heart attack soon after the war ended, and thereafter, as he cheerfully maintained, he "lived on borrowed time." As an invalid he was a keen and generous President of the Portsmouth Branch of the O.C.A. For many years he edited the Regimental Journal, and in recent years he made two world voyages in which he travelled far off his route to visit both old comrades and serving members of the Regiment. Now, from a third voyage, he will not return. He leaves us an example of boundless and tireless enthusiasm for his duty and his soldiers, and happy memories of priceless friendship.

All our sympathy goes to the devoted lady whom our Old Comrades know so well. Her presence among us will always happily recall an outstanding regimental personality.

G.N.W.

PENINSULAR WAR MEMORIAL, BIARRITZ

It is doubtful whether either of our two former Regiments was ever aware that there is a memorial in the Porch of St. Andrew's Church, Biarritz to the Officers and Men of the British Army who fell in South-West France from October 7, 1813, to April 14, 1814.

The Vicar of St. Andrew's, the Reverend Walter Barnes, has recently written to R.H.Q. asking whether we will make a contribution towards the restoration of this Memorial. This we hope to do.

The Porch bears the following inscription:
"Pristinae Virtutis Memor.

This Porch dedicated to the Memory of the Officers Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the British Army who fell in the South-West of France from October 7th 1813 to April 14th 1814 was erected by their Fellow Soldiers and Compatriots. A.D. 1882.

Give Peace in our Time, O Lord"

The Vicar goes on to say that some 60 Regiments are named, including the 11th Foot, and the 39th Foot.

Of the 11th it is recorded that Lt. Wm. Dunkley fell at the Battle of Toulouse on April 10, 1814, with one N.C.O. and 13 rank-and-file. Lt. Dunkley had distinguished himself in January, 1814, by leading a most successful raid against the French fort at Bayonne, an operation which could not have been bettered by a modern Commando. Dunkley appears to have been a fine and most athletic leader.

Of the 39th Foot it is recorded that two N.C.O.s and 11 rank-and-file fell at Garris on February 15, 1814. At this battle Major-General Pringle was wounded and Colonel the Hon. R. O'Callaghan of the 39th took command of the Brigade.

The badges of the various Regiments, with a record of these events, appear on the inner walls of the Porch, all inscriptions being inlaid with lead on the marble.

Unfortunately the Porch suffered bomb damage during the last war and was open to the sky for some years. The French authorities have put a concrete roof on the Porch, but the inscriptions, as well as the stonework and the wrought-iron gates, need much expert attention.

It is the intention to restore the Porch in time for the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Toulouse which will be in 1964. The probable cost of the restoration work will be in the region of £1,000, which is beyond the resources of St. Andrew's Church, hence the appeal to the Regiments which fought in this campaign.

THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

The membership at the end of March, 1963, was 88 officers, 357 other ranks. There are still a number of officers, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers, mostly on E.R.E. jobs, whose names we should like to see on the Membership Roll. Please contact the Hon. Secretary, R.H.Q. Exeter, for details. As we have insufficient news to occupy a page of our own in the Journal, this short notice will appear under the heading of Regimental News.

INFANTRY BATTALION BARRACKS EPISKOPI, CYPRUS

We have been informed by the War Office that these Barracks have been named SALAMANCA Barracks.

JOURNAL TITLE SUGGESTIONS

In the Editorial of the February Journal, having summed up his own ideas, the Editor asked readers to make their choice for a new Journal title. We thank those who have put forward suggestions, though as we go to press, there has not been a marked preference for any particular title. We should appreciate further suggestions, particularly from some of the younger generation who joined after amalgamation.

RETIREMENTS

The following officers of the Regiment have retired during the last quarter: Major-General H. A. Borradaile, C.B., D.S.O., Col. R. H. Wheatley, D.S.O., Major (Q.M.) H. A. S. Titterington, M.B.E., Capt. A. J. Smoker.

4th BATTALION DORSET REGIMENT OFFICERS' REUNION

Once again a reunion of some former officers who served with the 4th Battalion in North-West Europe and Italy, 1944-46, was held in London.

On February 15, eight former Dorset officers who work in or near the City or who live in Essex met, at The Pillars of Hercules, Great Queen Street, London, for what is now an annual, although quite unofficial, event. The only disappointment was that Brig. Mike Lonsdale, one time Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion, was unable to attend as he was snowed-up at Midhurst, where he now lives.

Those attending were: John Hayes, John Kirkwood, Bob Pearce, David Lewis, Dickie Richards, John Adams, Ken Lucas and Guy Matthews.

THE INFANTRY JUNIOR LEADERS' BATTALION, OSWESTRY

There are at present 25 Junior Leaders of the Regiment undergoing training at Oswestry. J.L./Cpl. Brown and J/Pte. Smith recently won their weights in the Army Junior boxing championships. Although the weather has curtailed the training programme somewhat this term, it has been a great success, in that it has seen the inauguration of a completely new training system for the Battalion.

When recruits arrive at the Battalion (every 13 weeks, intakes of up to 100) they spend 13 weeks in "Z" (Recruit) Company where they are taught the rudiments of soldiering, cleaning boots, darning socks and drill; this is called the First Term. The Second, Third, and Fourth Terms are spent in educational studies where the boys try to obtain as many Army Certificates of Education as possible, with field days, drill, P.T., and external leadership (rock climbing, etc.) placed in the programme to keep them military minded. Fifth and Sixth Terms are basic training terms in W.T. and tactics with a small amount of drill, P.T. and external leadership. The Seventh Term is the passing-out term. Tactics takes up most of the training periods with the term culminating in a W.T. cadre comparable to a Bde. cadre. Boys also have the chance to finish their education in the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Terms.

RECRUITING

The bad weather after Christmas had a very adverse effect on the efforts of the Battalion recruiters, and operation "Blackbird" was frozen up in the "sycamore tree"—or is it the "wurzels tops?"

On the departure of the Battalion to N. Ireland, a small recruiting team, under Capt Rosenberg, will be based on Higher Barracks in order to support the Army Information Officers in the two Counties.

Summary of Regular Recruits Joining

Date	Young Soldiers	Men (Including N.S. conversions)	Total
Jan.	2	9	11
Feb.	10	6	16
Mar.	1	4	5
Total	13	19	32

DORSET MILITARY MUSEUM

The sickness of Col. White has temporarily removed the presiding genius from the sphere of his greatest interest and achievement since becoming the R.O. III in Dorchester. The lesser lights, guided by Mr. Avery, endeavour to keep the Museum flourishing and sustain the interest of the large public who now know of its existence. The bad winter weather kept visits to the Museum to a minimum, but in early March an impetus was given to the Visitors' Roll by Clayesmore School sending the first organised party of the year.

The most important recent acquisition is Capt. S. Cuppage's Peninsula medal with seven bars, and the Seringapatam medal bought for £90 from a most extravagantly priced London Medal Auction.

Dates For Your Diary

- Thursday, June 20
17th Div. (1914-18) Officers' Dinner, Trocadero Restaurant, London.
- Thursday, Friday, July 4 and 5
Regimental Cricket Week, Dorchester.
- Friday, July 5
Officers' Club "At Home", Dorchester.
- Saturday, July 6
Dorset Regt. Association Annual Reunion Service and Dinner, Dorchester.
- Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, July 10, 11 and 12
Regimental Cricket Week, Exeter.
- Thursday, July 11
Officers' Club "At Home", Exeter.
- Saturday, July 13
Devonshire Regt. O.C.A. Annual Reunion Service and Dinner, Exeter.
- Saturday, September 21
Dorset Regt. Association (LONDON) Annual Reunion Dinner and Dance, Empire Rooms, Tottenham Court Road.
- Saturday, September 28
Devonshire Regt. O.C.A. (LONDON) Annual Dinner.
- Friday, November 15
Officers' Club Tea Party and Dinner, United Service Club, London.

Sunday, November 17

Dorset Regt. Association, Annual Cenotaph Service, London. Assemble Horse Guards Parade 11.45 a.m.

SPORTING STOP PRESS

ARMY HOCKEY CUP FINAL (U.K./B.A.O.R.)

1 D. & D.—3 45 Regt., R.A.—1

ARMY HOCKEY CUP FINAL (U.K.)

1 D. & D.—4 H.Q. Eastern Comd.—0

3 DIVISION HOCKEY FINAL

1 D. & D.—8 3 Div. Engr. Regt.—1

3 DIVISION RUGBY FINAL

1 D. & D.—6 pts. 3 Div. Engr. Regt.—9 pts.

3 DIVISION SOCCER FINAL

1 D. & D.—4 5 Regt., R.A.—1

R.O. APPOINTMENTS AT THE SCHOOL OF INFANTRY

We have been informed that the School of Infantry experiences some difficulty in obtaining ex-Infantry Officers for employment at the School as R.O.s. Anyone interested in obtaining such an appointment should get in touch with the D.A.A. and Q.M.G., H.Q. School of Infantry, Warminster. Telephone number, Warminster 3101.

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TIME FOR A NEW TIE?

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Regimental Ties

Uncrushable Silk	-	18s. 6d.
Silk and Rayon	-	10s. 6d.
Woollen	-	8s. 6d.

Regimental Car Badges

Devon/Dorset	-	40s. 0d.
Dorset (from Dorchester only)	-	40s. 0d.

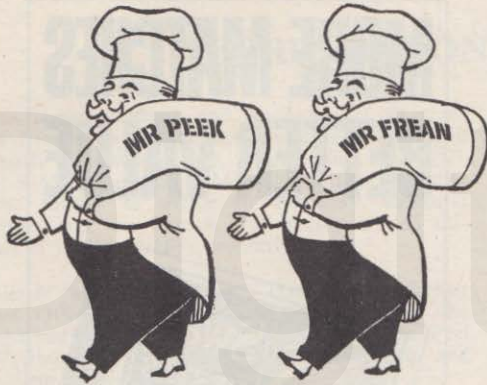
(These are Gaunt badges in correct colours)

Devonshire & Dorset Regiment Stable Belts

Please order direct from the PRI 1st Bn. The Devonshire & Dorset Regiment

Blazer Badges

Either wire embroidered or silk embroidered badges may be obtained from Messrs. Windsors Ltd., Princesshay, Bedford Street, Exeter, as prices vary, ask for a quotation



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1 x 16 oz. can TYNE BRAND
MINCED BEEF WITH ONION,
6 rounds of bread (approx.
1" thick and 3" in dia-
meter). Trim rounds of bread
and cut a circle from the
centre of each. Fry rounds
of bread in hot fat (370 deg.
F.) until golden brown. Drain
well and fill with MINCED
BEEF WITH ONION. Serve hot
with vegetables.



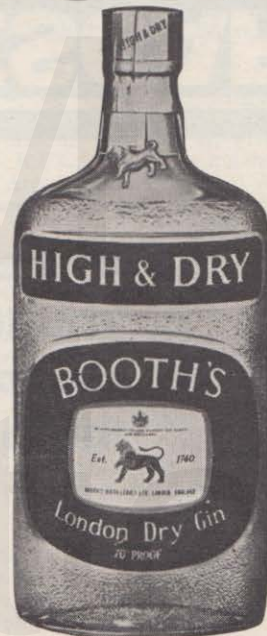
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WHERE BE YON BLACKBIRD TO?

The congratulations and good wishes of their many friends go to Alan and Patrycia Blundell on the birth of a second son, Mark Alan, born Feb. 15 at B.M.H. Benghazi. Mark is the third member of the family to arrive in February, daughter Georgina and son Patrick also having chosen this month in 1959 and 1961 respectively.

Friends of Col. "Bobby" Hamblin, a former Dorset Officer, will be interested to hear of the engagement of his son, John, to Ann Patricia Peel of Westbury-on-Trym. We congratulate them and wish them every happiness.

Col. George Carpenter-Garnier writes, with evident delight, that he was "appointed" Grandfather, w.e.f. August 15, 1962. He tells us that he has a grandson, and perhaps it may not be too much to hope that one day he will follow in his grandfather's footsteps!

We hear from Maj.-Gen. Paul Gleadell that in his recent tour to MIDEAST he met the cook to the Commander of Land Forces, Persian Gulf, one Ghulam Nabi. He was Officers' Mess Khansama to 1 Devon in Quetta, Pindi and Lahore. Among his treasured possessions were a wad of "chits", including some signed by Wilkins, Hatfield, Haynes, Carpenter-Garnier and Beck, all couched in glowing terms. He asked to be remembered to all officers of the Mess at that time.

The note continues, "I also had a Ramadan card from Mohd Raza Khan ("Popeye"), formerly Officers' Mess Bearer to, inter alia, Hanks and Worrall, and now Firewood Contractor at Sialkot."

Victor Thomas and Alison went to the annual S.H.A.P.E. Ball in the Gallerie des Botvilles at Versailles, and found it most impressive. They found themselves sharing a table with, amongst others, a major in the R. Canadian A.S.C. by the name of G. J. Boire. In the course of conversation it came out that he had received his first commission with Les Fusiliers de Sherbrooke and knew the late C.O. well. Victor expects to leave S.H.A.P.E. on June 1, 1963, to return to U.K., but at the time of writing these notes his plans for the future were unknown.

Jeremy Reid tells us that 4 K.A.R. are now 1st Bn., Uganda Rifles. He was interested to read Dickie Turrall's notes in No. 16, but maintains that Dickie appears to be rather better off than they are in Uganda. Jeremy says that they work very hard and that the Karamajong are just as wild and woolly as the Turkana!

An interesting "Yon Blackbird" note comes from Brig. G. R. Young, who is to hand over his Bde. in mid-June, 1963, to Tom Acton, R.B., who is, incidentally, a Devonian. Brig. Young has no idea, as yet, as to where he may be after June.

A cri-de-coeur from Tony Tawney. Despite the fact that we have corrected the Journal Roll to

read "Devonport, Plymouth," mail for him is still being addressed to Exeter!

Through our Grapevine we hear that Bill Edgar was snowbound at Wessex Bde. Depot for a night, moving from Canada to B.A.O.R. He has, apparently, acquired a very passable Canuck accent, and was obviously very taken by all things Canadian. We wish him luck in his new appointment.

John Edward-Collins and Roy Patmore, although with the Devonshire Regiment (T.A.), are both living at The Depot at Honiton at the moment. We understand they are very appreciative of the social amenities at the Depot, and are enjoying them to the full.

Geoffrey Brierley, with 1 Para., hopes to be in U.K. in April, when the Bn. will be at Guillemont Barracks, Cove. He and Veronica are making plans to call at Dorchester when leave time comes around. Geoff. mentions that during Maj.-Gen. Gleadell's tour of MIDEAST a very pleasant evening was spent by the General, Peter Baxter, Roger Green, and himself. He mentions that he heard that Douglas Lovejoy had arrived at B.F.P.O. 69, and would very much liked to have seen him if only time had allowed.

Paul and Susanna Freeland and their family are off to Malta in June where Paul will serve with 1 D.E.R.R. Their quarter is almost filled with car brochures in their quest for the ideal vehicle to transport themselves, and we expect that by the time the Journal is published the final decision will have been made.

Jim Hewitt gives us the news he played rugby for the Royal Marine Corps v. R.E.M.E. at Deal, on February 27, and that he continues to play for Devonport Services R.F.C. We congratulate Jim on playing for the Army v. the Territorial Army. Jim and Mandy expect an addition to the family in May.

In August next David Gilchrist says that John Reynolds, Jocelyn and family will be joining them at the Depot. Apparently the quarter at Honiton is rather small, and so, by courtesy of Teddy Hatfield, they will probably be living in Butts Road. John is to be D.A.A.G. at Wessex Brigade.

Bill Edgar gives us the information that he has changed his name by Deed Poll to I. H. Fergusson-Edgar—he is rather concerned that we will now have to allow him two lines on our Journal roll!

From Taunton comes the information that Lt.-Col. (Q.M.) Red. Marshall is retiring on June 6. We shall be interested to have further details as to his future plans when he has a moment to drop a line to "Yon Blackbird".

Peter Burdick is having a busy and interesting life in the Far East. Part of his job is in connection

with the preparation of the new Federation of Malaysia. He also had a busy time during the Brunei operation at the end of last year. "Yon Blackbird" was pleased to have a note from him and to hear that he sees the Cotton-Thomas family occasionally. Daughter Daphne Cotton-Thomas, is P.A. to Admiral Luce, the new C.-in-C. Far East.

* * *

It was good to have a note, however short, from Bob Reep. He says, somewhat regretfully, "there appears to be no West Country 'Cell' tucked away in this part of the world." Bob expects to be at Northern Comd., York, until the end of next year.

* * *

Charles Metcalfe hopes to visit 6 R. Malay Regt. in March or April, and will try to send us a report of their recent operations in N. Malaya. He says that he is due to return home in August, but has, as yet, no news of his future posting.

* * *

We were very sorry to hear the news of Maj.-Gen. Vivian Street's retirement because of ill-health. We wish him a speedy recovery and a happy retirement.

* * *

Bill Tong, now serving with G. Branch H.Q. 1 (Br.) Corps, has been appointed Assistant Hon. Sec. to B.A.O.R. Modern Pentathlon Association, and works with Gordon Richards. Apparently B.A.O.R. Pentathlon Championships are making a big splash this year and national teams from Germany, Italy, and probably Switzerland and France, are competing. An interesting tit-bit for "Yon Blackbird" was that the M.P.A.G.B. team for Tokyo is being launched from H.Q. 1 (Br.) Corps.

* * *

We must thank Col. Godfrey Wycisk for the interesting information that Gen. Sir Dudley Ward, Governor of Gibraltar, is to succeed Lt.-Gen. Sir Reginald Denning as Colonel of the 3rd East Anglian Regiment. During the war Dudley Ward, while still only a substantive captain, commanded the 4th Division in Italy.

* * *

Speaking of Gibraltar brings to mind Nigel Notley's new appointment as A.D.C. to the Governor and C.-in-C. there. We would like to wish him good luck in his new job.

* * *

Our congratulations to Ann and Tony Laurie Chiswell on the arrival of Andrew John on February 23.

* * *

Maj.-Gen. J. N. Carter, Secretary of The Officers' Association, is to give up his job for health reasons. We hope he will soon be fit again, and

look forward to seeing him at Dorchester in the near future.

* * *

We are very sorry to hear that George Cope has had to come back to this country for an operation on his sound leg. He was flown back from Kenya in a R.A.F. "Casevac" aircraft which put down at Aden en route for the U.K. Douglas Lovejoy met him there and was immensely impressed by his courage, fortitude and good humour. George expects to be home for about eight months and is at present in the Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Exeter. On March 21 a minor exploratory operation was carried out, and until the result is known, we shall not know whether a major operation will be necessary. Meanwhile George would be delighted to see any of his friends who live in the Exeter area. Camilla continues to run the farm at Turi and we wish her every success, and assure her that we will keep an eye on George as long as he is in Exeter.

* * *

We congratulate Brig. Raymond Coate on his appointment as Paymaster-in-Chief and on his major-generalship, also congratulations to Robert Coate on being selected for entry to Christ Church College, Oxford, in October 1963. This must be the first occasion a Regular Subaltern from the Regiment has been selected for a University course after commissioning.

* * *

Peter Graystone, whose tour with the Royal Nigerian Army ends in January 1964, is now 2 i/c of the 3rd Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment. Writing from the Congo in January he says: "The Bn. is in Kongolo in Northern Katanga, the scene of the massacre of 20 priests by Central Government Troops. Katangese Gendarmerie are dug in across the 600-yard wide river Lualaba on which Kongolo stands. Their mercenaries blew up the excellent road and railway bridge with a piece of demolition work that is straight out of the S.M.E. pamphlet! How we are going to cross, or if we are to be allowed to cross remains to be seen. We have repaired an "African Queen" type all-steel tug and are constructing a raft which we hope will carry across a ferret scout car."

* * *

Jimmy Butts was married in Nairobi in January. Peter Roberts (now a tobacco baron) was the chief usher. The Army was well represented at the wedding.

* * *

Our latest news (at the end of March) of Geoffrey White is that he is in the Tidworth Military Hospital and becoming quite mobile again. He is full of plans for his return to the Editorial chair.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THE OFFICERS' CLUB

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Lecture Room, The Devonshire Regiment (1st R.V.) T.A., Barrack Road, Exeter on Thursday, 11th July, 1963 at 11 a.m.



1st BATTALION THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT



The period since November has again involved the Battalion in a variety of tasks, expected and unexpected, pleasant and not so pleasant.

Christmas came and passed in the traditional manner—Carol Service; the Officers to the Sergeants' Mess and then on to serve the Men's Christmas Dinner; Children's Party; Sergeants' Mess draw; and the dining of all wives in the Officers' Mess.

On January 17, as a result of an unexpected blizzard descending on the Moor, some young soldiers of Training Company became overdue. Next day the whole Battalion, in a number of officer-led patrols, quartered the area and finally found the missing men "shacked" up in a cottage, with minor frostbite. Because the R.A.F. and R.N. were asked to assist with helicopters in the search operation, the incident received considerable publicity in the Press and TV.

On January 19 and 20, a "get-together" week-end was held to entertain the officers, warrant officers, sergeants and men of our brother Battalions of the Territorial Army. We were fortunate that both the Colonel and the Deputy-Colonel of the Regiment were able to attend, together with the Commanding Officers of the First Rifle Volunteers and the Dorset Regiment (T.A.). An exceedingly pleasant week-end followed, with the emphasis (due to the weather), on the social rather than the military side of regimental life.

Next day, off went a party from "A" Company to carry out winter warfare training in the Cairngorms in Scotland, and then, at five days' notice, Bn. H.Q., H.Q. Company and "A" Company (who had been going in any case) were ordered to fly off to Denmark to take the place of 1/6 Gurkha Rifles, who were standing-by for rather warmer climes.

The exercise in Denmark was a most pleasant change, all the more so because it was unexpected. To maintain our numbers, a company of 1/6 Gurkhas was placed under command, and the usual happy relationship between British and Gurkha soldier was soon established. The Battalion took part in an exercise with the 1st Danish Brigade under conditions of extreme cold. One night there was 17 degrees Centigrade of frost, but thanks to our excellent boots and parkas no one suffered from frostbite. At one stage the Battalion had under command a Devon Dorset Company, a Gurkha Company, and a Danish Company—a truly NATO force.

When not on the exercise, the Battalion was quartered in Vordingborg, in South Zealand, as the guests of the Falsterske Fodregiment. A warm relationship was quickly established and a presentation of pictures and plaques was made. The friendliness of the Danes, both military and civilian, was exceptional, and wherever the Battalion went it was generously and hospitably received. "Runs ashore" in Copenhagen and visits to places of interest, such as Carlsberg Brewery were arranged

by our hosts, all in all the exercise was a great success.

Whilst in Denmark, news was received of "C" Company's great work in the relief of the earthquake stricken town of Barce. They were the first British force on the scene and worked unceasingly for the first few critical hours of the disaster. Undoubtedly their contribution was a most important one and they thoroughly deserve all the praise given to them by the Libyan authorities and the Press.

In the sporting world and in view of our depleted numbers, the Battalion is more than holding its own. Hockey is perhaps our greatest hope. We are in the semi-final of the Army South Championships, as well as being finalists in the 3rd Division competition. In soccer we lie second in the Plymouth Wednesday League, and are semi-finalists in the 3rd Division and Plymouth League Cup competition. In all, no bad performance from a Battalion with temporarily, only one rifle company.

Headquarter Company

Firstly, we welcome Sgt. Sleeman to the Company. He has joined C/Sgt. Rogers in H.Q. Company Stores, it's rumoured there will be a "take-over bid" from the firm across the road shortly. We also welcome Bds. Webb who has come to join the rest of the élite on completion of his training at the Wessex Brigade Depot.

Writing of the Band reminds us that they too suffered the rigours of Denmark with us, or so they tell us!

The swimming part of the P.E. Test was held in the Company office during this period under the instruction of the O.C. who only got his ankles wet!

Most of the H.Q. went off to Denmark in early February where we made many friends with Danish soldiers, and again we have votes of confidence in our own M.T., having been more than scared on our Vaerloese to Vordingborg journey.

Congratulations to Sgt. Laing and Sgt. Thorn on their promotions to sergeant.

Int. Sec. "Brains Dept."

Since our last Journal notes the Intelligence Section has enjoyed an all too short Christmas leave.

During January Cpl. Longman attended an N.C.O.'s cadre in Training Company and got such a good result that they now wish to keep him on the permanent staff—well done!

On the sporting side, Pte. Shaddick is still putting up a staunch performance in goal for the Battalion hockey team, and Pte. Duffin and Sgt. Smeath still pound around the countryside on cross-country running. We are all wondering whether Shaddick will keep up his high standard of hockey when he gets married in March!

On going to press the Section is in Denmark and no doubt they will have a few tales to tell on their return.

Finally, we welcome Capt. Deans in the chair, vice Lt. Hewitt.

We are still trying to find out what type of animal it is that he brings into the office. Be it dog or sheep!

Information Office

It is most probable that everyone else will write something about the weather and the effect it has had on their work, so we must not be outdone. Our observation is quite straightforward—most of the Senior N.C.O.s in the Battalion have discovered that our office is the warmest, and a few timed their visits a bit too close to coffee-break for it to be coincidental.

As was mentioned in the last Journal, we have exchanged one pipe for another, and now have Capt. Rosenberg in the chair. He has, however, hardly had time to put his feet up before being whisked out on to the moors, with Sgt. Pengelly, as observer on combat clothing and equipment trials.

The Battalion recruiting operation "Blackbird" mounted in January, had a serious set-back mainly due to Arctic conditions, and the subsequent result was disappointing.

However, we are encouraged by the fact that our monthly recruiting figure has improved since the last quarter.

Preparation is already being made for the summer campaign, always assuming that doubtful season arrives of course. With the Battalion moving to Northern Ireland in July, the team "on the ground" will be smaller than last year but just as effective we hope.

Certain persons, who have been engaged on Youth Liaison in Dorset, have been showing great enthusiasm in disappearing from Plymouth into the wilds. One sometimes wonders what the motive may be. Encouraging reports have been filtering back here showing a good job is being done in that direction.

We are informed that an administration inspection is imminent. Well, we found some more coloured pins for the map, graphs are prepared, the ash-trays empty, and L/Cpl. "Toothless" Rowe has been energetically pushing that old friend (or foe?) the "bumper" about the floor.

"C" Company's fine work in the Barce earthquake, and "A" and H.Q. Company's training in Denmark should persuade any prospective recruits that serving with this Battalion will offer plenty of variety.

Signal Platoon

How quickly time passes these days, we honestly thought someone had mistaken the date when reminders were sent out that Journal notes were due. It seems only a couple of weeks ago that we were compiling our last contribution.

There have been no comings and goings during the last quarter. We did think that we had lost Pte. Ryan to the Coy. Office, and had nearly struck him off as he had spent such a long time there. What they did with him we don't know, but since his return he shuns the typewriter like the plague.

On the promotion front we offer sincere congratulations to Cpl. (now Sgt.) Thorner, a just reward for all the fine work he does in the platoon. He is soon to be employed as radio sergeant vice Sgt. Walters, who unfortunately for us, leaves for a

more sedate role on the recruiting staff at Exeter. We wish him luck and "Good Hunting".

S/Sgt. Groom's dual effort for National Productivity Year and Long-Term Recruiting failed in the latter, unless of course, females figure more prominently in front-line soldiering in the next 18 years or so. We congratulate "Dad" and Mrs. Groom on the arrival of Edwina Tamson, a neat little six-pounder.

The sun is bringing on the "Spring feeling" and with it comes a crop of forthcoming marriages. Pte. Lang is the first to take the plunge, to be followed in the near future by L/Cpl. Parker. There are rumours too of Ptes. Nicholls and Watton. We are still working on Sgt. Thorner and reckon that if we fail in England we can't possibly miss in N. Ireland.

Training-wise we have done very little individually but we have been engaged in all the Battalion activities such as Op. "Blackbird", Ex. "Hercules", and "Magic Carpet." The latter saw the Battalion in Denmark for a three-week period. Our visit proved most enjoyable but exhausting, for when we were not braving the extreme cold of a six-day NATO Exercise under Danish Command, we were braving the fantastic generosity of the Danes; parties follow parades in Denmark!

Due to the Battalion's numerous commitments during our short stay, much of the surrounding countryside, apart from that fought over on the exercise, was not seen by the majority, although the R.S.O.'s range-testing exercise did seek out some unmarked geographical features.

Our stay culminated in a conducted tour of Copenhagen where we were shown the National Museum, King's Palace (including the changing of the Guard Ceremony) and the Tuborg Factory, of the latter much can be said but suffice to say we went in singing the Regimental March and came out to the strains of "Nellie Dean".

The remaining hours of the visit no one can vouch for, or dare if he can, for everyone was left using his own initiative on a night that was yet young!

Our future plans include a cadre to replace our three-year men leaving us this year, and some specialised training for the old platoon both of which we are looking forward to very much.

Allowances must be made, of course, on the training programme, for the R.S.O.'s cricketing activities with which he has again threatened us, we are seriously thinking of moving the cadre room outdoors—in fact just behind the nets. How else can we get our voice instruction done?

Recce Platoon

How are the mighty fallen? Ten little nigger boys. First, Phillips to the M.T., the next two, Prowton and Cpl. Tucker, to Cyprus to rejoin 1 Gloucester. Now we are seven, who will be next?

County recruiting and Denmark have kept us extremely busy. L/Cpl. Harris took days of persuasion to get a Plymouth chap to sign on, only to find out that the recruit was still on probation.

Cpl. Pryor and L/Cpl. Powney are busy cleaning the M.M.G.s, perhaps for the last time. "There ain't a — gun in the infantry that'll touch this 'un" says L/Cpl. Powney nostalgically. "No, they'll — will find out which is the best 'un when it's too — late!" retorts Cpl. Pryor.

1st BATTALION



Photo: Western Morning News

In the Officers' Mess, Territorial Battalion Weekend

(L to R): Brig. A. E. C. Bredin, DSO., MC., Lt.-Col. J. P. Randle, MC., Maj-Gen. H. A. Borradaile, CB., DSO., Lt.-Col. J. G. Harrison, TD., Lt.-Col. J. B. Smith



★

EXERCISE
"MAGIC
CARPET"
DENMARK

Col. Klokhøj, C.O.
Falsterske Fodregiment talks to Sgt.
Riggs during the inspection of the
Battalion at Vordingborg Barracks

★



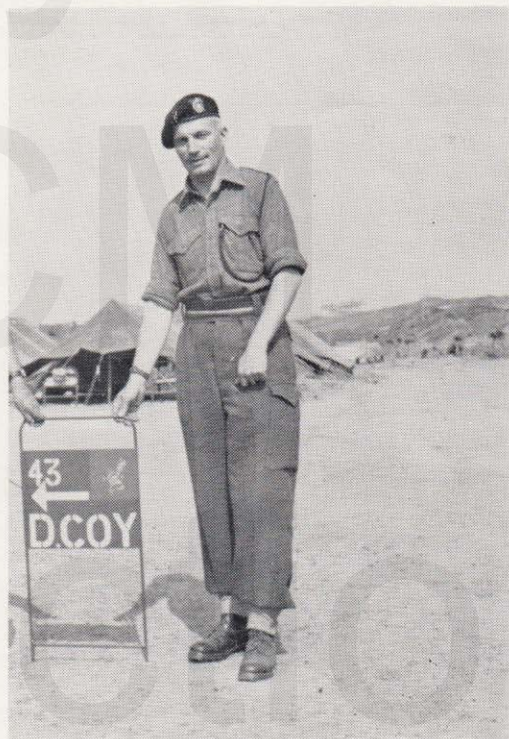
HMS Devonshire

Photo: Western Morning News

THE DORSET REGIMENT (TA)



CSM Baker



CSM Loader

We still see many old faces, Brommel from next door in the Company armoury brings in endless but useful racing and football tips, and Lambert, who rejoined us in Denmark as a radio operator.

Lock, after three months, is still an invalid and is still doing physiotherapy after his *Virago* accident. Dyer, well-built and with fair hair, was often mistaken in Denmark for one of their own race. However, he was never short of female attention!

Lt. Hill is still getting over the rude shock of having his map pinched by a horse on an "O" Group in the early hours of the morning. (Are we to assume that this officer was asleep at the time?—Editor.)

Quartermasters' Department

The past few months have kept us busy in kitting out everyone in No. 2 Dress, raincoats, etc., and providing the suitcase to carry everything in. One can now look back and say not only was the work worthwhile but it has improved the look of our modern Army.

Kitting out parties to ski in Scotland, train in Denmark, and lose themselves on Dartmoor, has kept us busy. Lt. Harris and his small staff kept everyone fed in Denmark and did not forget the backroom-boys on their return.

As a search party, the Q.M. staff excel themselves, ask Trg. Coy. We not only drive them out of barracks, we also go out and find them; well done, Cpl. Shipp!

Threats of administrative inspections do not deter us, everyone is having a very full day. Besides administering to the needs within barracks, we also find time to send parties to dig British Railways out of the snow and manage to stand-by for flood relief work as well, quite an achievement when buttons large and small are still countable, and moreover, come to the correct total.

L/Cpl. Cope and Pte. Costello spend their weekends knocking the stuffing out of some of the local boxers, at least that is their story! In their working hours they repair barrack damages without charge. "C" Coy. please note!

Just for fun we practised a mob scheme to give everyone on the staff the feel of that particular situation, strange to relate there were very few who said "We have done all this before", never a dull moment, is there?

Assault Pioneer Platoon

On January 13 we proceeded to the Military Engineering Experimental Establishment at Christchurch for trials on a prototype raft. As our numbers were well below strength we took Dmrs. Courtis, Turner, Wells, and Chambers with us. The trials proved to be very enlightening both for ourselves and the "Boffins". There were many faults found and many remedies suggested and accepted. The highlight came when the Engineer-in-Chief came to watch us do our stuff. We did a "slow build" of the raft resulting in a record time of 17 mins. 6 secs. Two of the crew ultimately ended up "in the drink". The first to go was Pte. Tresidder closely followed by Dmr. Courtis. Both were rescued unharmed, however, L/Cpl. Dunford, who was one of the operators of the outboard motors, had a look of incredulity on his face when he got too near to the 15-inch thick ice and sheared the complete motor from its mounting. We finally retrieved it from the bottom of the river

by electro-magnet. All too soon our stay came to an end and it was unanimously agreed that we would like to do trials on the next equipment to be perfected.

After a week back with the Battalion, we packed our kit, drew our parkas and left for Denmark. This, once again, was a disappointing exercise for us as we took on the unenviable but essential task of defence platoon. We had hoped for some field engineering tasks to be thrown in but, alas, we had no luck. The Danish food left a lot to be desired to our untrained palates although Sgt. Riggs enjoyed it like a native. His excuse was that he had eaten Danish food before in Itzehoe, near Hamburg. For our money he can have the lot, especially the raw fish (Pickled?). Our stay in Denmark included a day in Copenhagen. Many were the bars that resounded to English and Danish voices singing "It's a long way to Tipperary" that night.

Having arrived in England once more, we are now preparing for the annual administrative inspection. The paint brushes will soon be flying around and baffled C.Q.M.S.'s will be wondering where and when it will end.

In April we are planning to build a command post which Sgt. Riggs has designed. In our next notes we will disclose our findings.

In closing we would like to congratulate Pte.'s Hancock and Thebault on attaining their specialist appointment as Unit Assault Pioneers.

M.T. Notes

Since the last Journal, our Land Rover trials team has had the honour of representing the South-west at several trials and has now been officially christened as The Landrovers Owners' Club Trials Team S.W. (1 D. & D.) One of these events, known as "The Catstor Capers", took place in a mild snow-storm, but in spite of this, L/Cpl. Moore won a tankard presented by the Landrover Owners' representative.

Two teams drove 200 miles through a foggy night to take part in a trial at White Waltham. L/Cpl. Williams was placed eighth and collected a silver spoon for his efforts, which included pioneering a re-routed hazard.

The trials team also joined the North Cornwall Motor Club and competed in a trial at Lewdown. It turned out to be a mad scramble over wet leaves, tree roots and streams. We collected a broken door lock and Cfn. Millar returned with yet another tankard.

We would like to congratulate Ptes. Nichols and Douglas on the birth of a son, and L/Cpl. Moore on his marriage.

On the subject of Denmark it will suffice to say, that the M.T. was there as well and that 19 drivers know a little more about air-loading.

Corps of Drums

Early January saw the platoon detached and split into groups for operation "Blackbird", the largest recruiting drive since returning from Cyprus. The Drum-Major was seen "swanning" around local labour exchanges in a hope that someone would fall into his arms and earn him seven days' leave.

Dmr. Gilbert and his compatriot Dyer of the "Recce", lost contact with Battalion H.Q. due to a breakdown in the telephone lines; they were last

seen in a public house, propping up the counter waiting for a likely customer.

Whilst the recruiters were busy in and around North Devon, the remainder of the platoon were "messaging" about on the river at Christchurch, Hants, under the watchful eyes of "Sanders of the River" (Sgt. Riggs). The Dmrs. learnt a great deal in watermanship.

Most of all, Dmr. Courtis who, fully clothed, tried to skate, but unfortunately the ice gave way. He now has recovered fully and has completely thawed out.

The Band and Drums were engaged at Home Park for the F.A. Cup match against West Bromwich. Whilst at Home Park, Courtis was approached by a supporter and asked if he was a member of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. This was "one up" for Dmr. Courtis who had passed his first aid test only 24 hours previously; unfortunately he gave no assistance!

The Battalion finally arrived in Denmark after a hectic week in packing and getting ready for the move. We were greatly surprised to see our fighting comrades, namely The Band, also in Denmark.

Whilst the platoon were engaged in helping "A" Coy. to keep up to strength, we thought the Band might have turned out too and "defended Battalion H.Q. to the bitter end."

By all accounts the Drummers did well bar a few exceptions who couldn't stand the pace. One Section, 2 platoon "A" Coy., visited a certain village on a fighting-patrol and ran into the Danish Army. After a fierce struggle all were captured, except Allder, who decided to "take an evening stroll" into the village of Vig.

We all enjoyed the exercise, mostly due to the hospitality of our Danish comrades. Before closing, we would like to say how very much we enjoyed our stay in Denmark, especially our visit to the "Breweries".

The Band

February, and once again we have put behind us the pressure of work thrust upon us during the Christmas and New Year festive season. We now prepare for a busy engagement season ahead, which, without doubt will prove to be our most successful on record, with performances throughout the length and breadth of Britain. Our Band Secretary has been working under pressure during the past few months, and has written to over 300 Civic Authorities, introducing the Band to them. Further correspondence followed with a number of these, and our Secretary visited selected venues where personal negotiation appeared justified. Our engagement plot is still not quite complete, but several contracts have been signed already.

Since the 1962 season closed, we have disposed of a number of instruments which were in a bad state becoming obsolescent after many years of excellent service. These have now been replaced by fine new instruments, and we can claim the quality of our property to be second to none. To attain this standard has incurred a heavy strain upon our resources, and the financial advantages of full season of engagements will do much to offset this necessary expenditure.

Administrative changes have recently brought the Corps of Drums into closer liaison with the Band, and without doubt this will prove to be to the advantage of both.

With the departure of the Battalion to Northern Ireland, the Band will be "lodging" with our neighbours at the Citadel—29 Commando Regiment, R.A. This arrangement will be until mid-August, when the Band will again be joining the Battalion in Northern Ireland.

L/Cpl. Gordonhead has now left us, having decided to sample civilian life. We wish him every success and shall miss him as 1st French horn. He will also be missed in the field of sport, being notable as a basketball and hockey player, both for the Band and also for the Battalion.

"A" Company

Since our last entry in the Journal we have participated in numerous activities. The two most important being the Company's visit to Scotland and Denmark.

It was originally thought that the whole Company would be able to go to Scotland for winter warfare training, but unfortunately, due to lack of skis and equipment, a party of only 20 made the trip to the Cairngorms where they stayed in the Norwegian huts at Glenmore.

Every day was spent ski-ing from early morning until almost dark. The majority of the party actually managed to carry out some of the basic techniques of ski-ing by the end of the stay—very basic! Unfortunately the return from Scotland was hastened by the news that the entire Battalion would now be going to Denmark and not just "A" Company as originally planned. We returned to Plymouth for a few days and then off on exercise "Magic Carpet".

The exercise included spending four nights out in sub-zero conditions and it was quite fantastic to try and cook completely hard frozen eggs for breakfast. The temperature at night was -17 degrees C.! Perhaps one of the most amusing incidents that occurred on the exercise involved a certain N.C.O., who whilst jumping over a fence in the middle of a company attack completely lost contact with his trousers!

The three weeks prior to going to Scotland the majority of the company were out recruiting on exercise "Blackbird". The recruiters were spread over the two counties giving them a complete break from the normal run of soldiering.

On the return from Denmark we now find we have less than three weeks before the administrative inspection. It is rumoured that the C.Q.M.S. has employed three clerks from the orderly room to help him complete the numerous P1954's.

There is not much to report in the sporting field, only to congratulate Cpl. Bird on his numerous appearances for Devon F.A.

"B" Company

Our Company still continues to be spread over all four corners of Devon and Dorset employed on recruiting. In fact we have high hopes of being rewarded with some soldiers in the not-so-distant future and so have redoubled our efforts to bring them in.

Much of our time in barracks is spent in getting documents and kit up-to-date for the administrative inspection in March. Capt. Rosenberg and Lt. Butcher devote their time to the information office whilst Lt. Scrivener looks in from time to time in a track suit clutching hockey sticks. We note his car has changed shape yet again. C.S.M. Shears-

by does the main task of propping up the office and keeps things ticking over helped by Sgt. Chidgey, Cpls. Sambells, Hendrick, Sanders and L/Cpl. Gale often appear to look busy as well.

Our Journal notes have hardly varied for the past three editions but we hope to have some more exciting news ready for next time.

"C" Company

The Company has now been in Benghazi for two and a half months and is due to return to the "fold" in late April. Judging by all reports we have been well out of Britain this winter.

We have had our share of bad weather. The arrival of the main body of the Company was delayed by rough seas. The journey by tank landing ship from Malta to Benghazi took four days longer than anticipated, and it was not until December 2 that a very relieved Company set foot on terra firma once again. We can highly recommend sea-sickness pills, although it is not quite understood why one officer should be examining the ship's side in rough weather and pouring rain!

A nautical atmosphere followed us ashore, as it was not long before the subaltern officers were trying to reach their quarters by boat during a period of heavy flooding.

Exercises. In spite of some unfavourable weather we have been making our presence felt in Cyrenaica. Our first period of training took us to Derna, where the 1st Devons were stationed in 1951. A few of us were privileged to meet Miss Brittain, M.B.E., the official bee-keeper to King Idris. We were in Derna to zero and classify. A large amount of improvisation on range stores was necessary to achieve a Hythe standard.

Christmas was spent traditionally and we were able to welcome the Commanding Officer in a spell of fine weather. He saw something of us both socially and in the field. This spell of training was noted for some very active patrolling by 7 and Support Platoons against each other. A patrol from 7 Platoon covered 26 miles one night on foot and immobilized all Support Platoon's transport. We are still trying to find all the rotor arms!

Exercise "Tamar Road" in mid-January had a marked West Country flavour. A company of the Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry is stationed at Tobruk and we co-operated in a two-sided exercise in an area some 200 miles from Benghazi. The most remarkable feature of the exercise was the high rate of vehicle casualties, in spite of good work by Cpl. "Oxo" and Dinnage, and it was a very melancholy convoy of two water-trailers in a three-tonner towing a one-ton armoured vehicle which set off on the return journey.

We have also acted as enemy to 2 Green Jackets who have been in Libya for training. The first exercise took place along the axis of the Charruba-El Mecheli track. El Mecheli itself was covered with trenches from the last war and was the jumping-off point for the Western Desert Force's advance to Beda Fomm against the Italians. The track itself has not improved since those days and some useful lessons were learnt in desert driving and navigation. We also acted as bandits in the cliffs near Derna.

Adventure Training. The remainder of our time in Benghazi will consist mainly of adventure training expeditions to British Petroleum oils rigs, and to Giarabub to the south-east of Tobruk. We hand

over to a company of the Green Howards in April.

Sport. We have fitted sport in whenever possible and this has been quite frequent. On many occasions the Company has been represented by a platoon side with no disgrace. The soccer and hockey teams show more vigour and enthusiasm than skill, but everyone (on our side at least) enjoys himself. L/Cpl. Ackland, Ptes. England and Cribbett are the leading lights in the soccer side, whilst Treleaven, Brown 59, Clements and "Sticks" Colley swing a pretty stick at hockey. There is also a mysterious soccer side known as the "Ball Artists" but they have not been seen much outside the bar!

A few mad dogs have played rugger. After injuries in the first game it was only the thought of the flesh-pots of Tripoli that persuaded Capt. Jury, Lt. Jefferies and Sgt. Cann to play again. Needless to say the tour did not materialise.

We have also obtained vacancies on ski-ing courses in Cyprus. Ptes. Johns, Stuckey, Balston and Brown 59 will be leaving in March for training. In fact polo is the only sport we have not attempted.

Lt. Lillies is our big-game hunter with one fox, one gazelle and some lesser varieties to his credit—and still no licence.

We are queuing up for tickets for the next presentation of the amateur dramatic society. It is rumoured that the Company Commander is playing the part of the prawn in the "Amorous Prawn".

Coy. H.Q. Life in Company Headquarters has been hectic. The second-in-command spends his time sorting out all problems that the Company Commander finds too difficult such as the petrol account and vehicle documents. The C.S.M., always calm and unruffled, is an expert at finding baby-sitters. The C/Sgt. is a sort of Quartermaster, but still manages to survive.

Our signallers have had a varied and busy time. They have been operating successfully C 11 radio sets over distances of 200 miles. In addition they have been trained to use the C 12 radios and have helped to operate the telephone exchange. Pte. Olde, the Company Commander's driver-operator, has learnt how to pacify the Company Commander, especially when the batteries overturned in the trailer.

Lt. Jefferies had a narrow escape from being savaged by a monkey in the local zoo. It was only his (excessively) long hair that saved him.

Conclusion. This brief account of our activities during the last three months is perhaps an indication of our varied existence. Whilst North Africa in winter has its problems, we have done our best to overcome them. Certainly being an independent company is an experience, but nonetheless we are looking forward to our return to Plymouth in April.

The part the Company played after the Barce earthquake is described in a separate article.

Training Company

Since our last notes, Plassey Platoon have left us for "A" Company in a wave of publicity from the National newspapers and television as a result of the final exercise "First Flight II." The fact that out of the 32 N.C.O.s and men on the exercise only four managed to lose themselves, was glossed over in the National Press as was the fact that those four were in a heated, gas-lit house from the morning of the second day until they were

found by Sgt-Major "Comrade" Evans 25 hours later.

We welcome Salamanca Platoon to the Company, all 16 of them, and hope they enjoy their stay with us. We also welcome Pte. Kiff from "A" Company and Lt. Cann as W.T.O. and O.C. Continuation Training. Not that we have seen much of him since he has managed to work leave and two courses. He is now talking about three months shooting!

The stork has been hovering steadily over the Company and we congratulate Cpl. Stapleton, L/Cpl. Nevitt, Pte. Green, Capt. Shortis and Sgt. Hamlyn on their new arrivals. The C/Sgt. has already indented for, and is now awaiting, the free initial issue.

The cadre staff have been busy and have run a Sergeants' W.T. refresher cadre, a junior N.C.O.'s tactical cadre, and are about to start a junior N.C.O.'s drill and W.T. cadre. Apart from Lt. Dowling and Sgt. Turney, we have had no opportunity to swan to Denmark, but we have dug out snowbound trains and snowbound sheep instead.

L/Cpl. Hillman's film shows still retain their usual air of unpredictability, particularly since he cannibalised two projectors, a wireless set and a motor-cycle to make one projector which works, sometimes!

With the administrative inspection and Ireland looming ahead we are busy checking our kit, measuring up boxes and practising our blarney. Whatever else Training Company may be it is never dull, and we can be sure that the next few months will produce their usual crop of incidents.

Officers' Mess

After the Regimental cocktail party early in December the Mess quietened down for a short while and gathered its second wind for the Christmas celebrations, although the real activity came after Christmas rather than before. However, on December 19 a Regimental Guest Night was held to which the ladies of the Regiment were invited. Dinner was followed by roulette, the first occasion on which it has been played in the Mess for some time. The bank lost, let us hope it does not become a habit!

Over Christmas Day itself the Mess was deserted, the whole Battalion being on block leave. However, on January 8, we entertained the Warrant Officers and Sergeants to celebrate Wagon Hill Day. This party was followed by dinner to which the Warrant Officers were invited.

January 19 was marked by what must surely be an almost unique occasion, the officers of all three Battalions of the Regiment dined together in the Mess, in company with the Colonel of the Regiment and the Deputy Colonel. This was quite an evening! It was unfortunate that on this particular weekend the weather was at its coldest. Winters must have been milder in Victorian times when the Mess was built, since we had but one tap working in the whole building. We trust morale and feeling were restored by a curry lunch on the following day.

With the Mess barely habitable it was just as well that almost the whole Battalion migrated to Denmark for three weeks in February. There we were shown that it is possible to live a normal existence in spite of the cold.

We stayed in the Officers' Mess of the Falsterske Fodregiment at Vordingborg where we were made

most welcome. We entertained and were entertained non-stop. There was a short exercise in the middle of our stay, but this has no place in these notes. We should like to thank Col. Klokhoj and his officers most sincerely for their hospitality towards us. We were made to feel very much at home. If home was as hectic as our life there, few of us would last long!

Paul Mangin left us at the height of winter for the warmer climate of Libya, and by the time this edition of the Journal is published we will have said goodbye to John Smoker who is retiring shortly. We wish Betty and him the best of luck.

On the welcome side we have a formidable list headed by Derek Crabtree from the Duke of Edinburgh's. For the remainder our congratulations go to John and Penny Willes, John and Waldi Rosenburg, John and Angela Freer-Smith, Colin and Sylvia Shortis, and Tony and Elizabeth-Anne Laurie-Chiswell who between them have produced three daughters and three sons.

Sergeants' Mess

Since last going to press we have welcomed Sgts. Thorner and Laing on promotion, and Sgts. Bailey, Bradfield and Sleeman on their return from the T.A. Bns. With the only departure being Sgt. Morrison to the T.A., our numbers get larger and larger. If the trend continues the difficulty of fitting in all members on a dinner night will become insurmountable.

The period under review started off with a grand Christmas draw, which was considered to be the best within living memory, due mainly to a magnificent effort on the part of Jock Sutherland and his Entertainment Committee. Both Happy Knight and Ken Pengelly needed to make two trips to get all their prizes home. The prize of least durability was a bottle of brandy won by Jim Granger which, in his absence in Benghazi, lasted about two minutes. Among his other prizes was a double-bed sized quilt. This was not forwarded to him for fear of its misemployment at the Berenice.

The New Year opened with a bang, an informal social being held. Most of the members gathered despite the atrocious weather. Members and their ladies did not allow the fact that the following day was a working day to deter them from enjoying themselves.

The temporary loss of some soldiers on Dartmoor resulted in the turn out of all available Mess members for search parties. Several members, including Pat Holcombe and Den Coates must be congratulated on being able to parade correctly dressed in combat kit and boots, with so little previous practice.

A very successful dinner was held on January 19 when the T.A. Battalions visited us. We were extremely pleased to renew old acquaintanceships and make new friends. Subsequent enquiries prove that there was no foundation to the rumour that R.S.M. Nott, as a result of his conducting ability, would be usurping B/M. Benson's appointment.

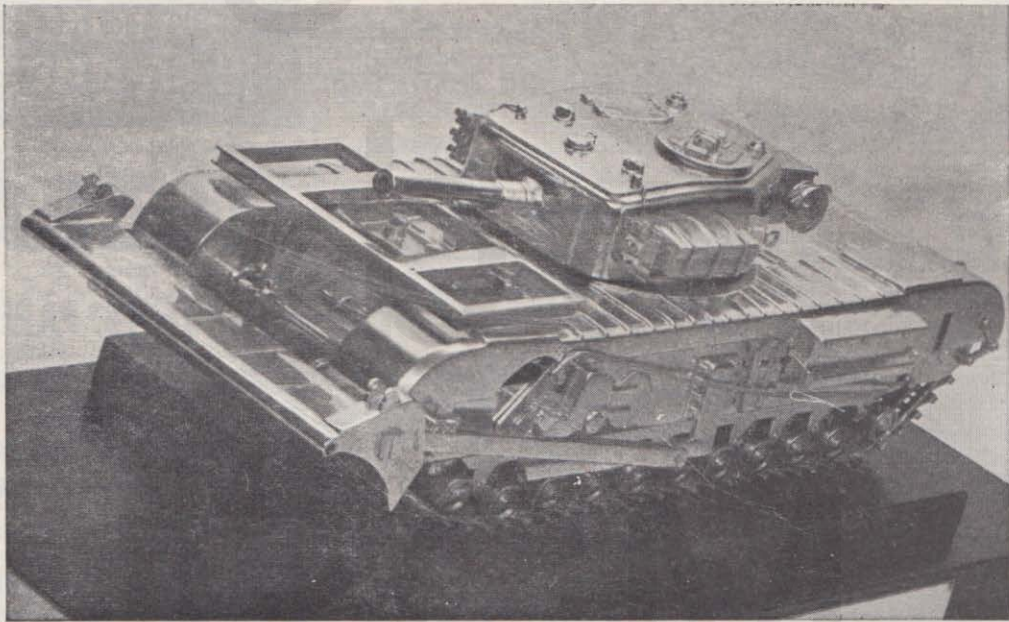
Speeches by the three R.S.M.s were met with acclaim (and asides) by all members. The fact that the three qualities displayed were length, wit and brevity respectively made each speech a gem in its own right and collectively extremely well balanced.

The cancellation of the triangular soccer tournament allowed some members the opportunity of more "liveners" than would have been otherwise



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possible. In the triangular .22 shooting match the Mess members who formed one of the Battalion teams excelled themselves in the tile shoot beating the other five teams hands down.

We were pleased to entertain W.O.I V. Howe for a period of three weeks during which he revised Regimental working with the Signals and M.T. platoons. It was unfortunate that a previous promise to do some boxing refereeing prevented him attending the T.A. dinner. However the presence of four W.O.Is in the one room might very well have induced some of the members further down the roll to emulate Guy Fawkes.

Exercise "Magic Carpet" in Denmark showed us that the Danish Army is certainly 20 years ahead of us in accommodation, kitchens, etc., and we trust these comments will lead to a hasty look at Vordingborg by the War Office. The cold weather did no one any harm, in fact the officers of the Battalion seemed positively to glow with health most of the time. During the actual exercise several historical changes were made to the Battalion history. It was unanimously agreed that we should drop the title 11th and 39th and 54th for all time, and that we should adopt in future the title of the 60/40 Regiment. "A" echelon would still like to know the spy who reported daily to Battalion H.Q. the remark of the O.C. "A" echelon, "We have a 60/40 chance of staying here tonight. Start cooking", and why Battalion H.Q. then waited until cooking had started before ordering "Move Now". Later in the exercise it was decided that "Non Compus Mentis" should be substituted for the Regimental motto, but reasons for this are not widely known and the idea was dropped.

It was reliably reported quite early in the exercise that one officer was so fond of the Danish food and schnapps that he had absconded complete with vehicle to the enemy, we now know this to be untrue because if he liked Danish food as much as that, why pay so much for a dinner in Copenhagen?

The sight of the R.S.M. in bed below the hind-quarters of a cow caused much ribald comment, but the cow, which crooned all night into the ear of Sgt. Turney, was taken to be asking him to act as midwife should the happy event have taken place during the night.

During a short interlude between both parts of the exercise a pleasant and hearty evening was held in the school at Vig and members of Battalion H.Q. were introduced to "My Lord Admiral Nelson" though at the end it was generally agreed that the "actor" had passed his P.E. tests for 1963/64.

After the exercise a sightseeing minor road truck tour took us back to barracks to a welcome heated room. At about 1700 hrs. it was rumoured that the Danish Sergeants had laid on a dance for us. At about 1740 hrs. this was confirmed. It was no mean feat that all members arrived on time, changed and dressed. After the dinner we entertained our hosts to drinks well into the night and this was reflected on their faces next morning.

On the last Saturday of our stay we were again entertained to dinner and stayed the pace rather well with the schnapps, but the latter part of an entertaining evening remains and perhaps should remain a dim memory for some.

Anyone wondering what tie the R.S.M. is wearing? It could be the Fodregiment presented in

Denmark or Inkerman Battery, 42 Field Regiment, R.A., of which he is an honorary member.

Corporals' Mess

Quote: "As a rough guide, 500 words are allocated", Unquote.

That's how your contributor was briefed to write this article. With so much going on in the Cpls.' Mess, the mind boggles at how to condense it all. So this little saga is best started just before Christmas leave. Thanks largely to the maximum efforts of Cpls. Thorner (more of him later) and Smith, the dance which was held in the J.R.C. was a rousing success. The "twisters" really were down on their knees at the end of the evening—whether caused by the band playing too fast, or the curry and rice (shades of Kowloon!) during the excellent buffet, is hard to say. However, only those who did not win a prize during the draw were heard to give a slight moan. Most of these coming from the bar where the chances of being served within ten minutes were estimated at about 50 to 1. Seriously though, we all had a grand night and we again extend our thanks to those who organised it.

The only other social activity in the Mess was on January 19, 1963, when we were privileged to play hosts to the Devon Regt. (T.A.) and Dorset Regt. (T.A.). Again the old faithfuls put their shoulders to the wheel and started "The Ball Rolling". As this was a Regimental weekend we had a rare "battle of the scroungers" with the Sgts.' Mess. On some points we did beat them to it and on some we did not. Although we did think that winning the argument by saying "This is on charge to the Sgts.' Mess" was a bit of a fast one. On the night of the dance, however, one again heard the visitors saying that they were enjoying the fracas. The buffet this time was laid on by the Regimental cooks and they really did a swell job. Everything was laid out in first-class order (thanks to L/Cpl. Parsons), and it took a few minutes before the Gannets really got used to the idea that it was there to eat. We were honoured by a visit from the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General H. A. Borradaile, C.B., D.S.O., and the Deputy-Colonel of the Regiment, Brig. A. E. C. Bredin, D.S.O., M.C., accompanied by the Commanding Officers of The Dorset Regiment, T.A., The Devonshire Regiment, T.A., and our own unit. At the moment of their arrival, the cabaret had just begun and the C.O. led his party straight up front to a good vantage point. For those who have not seen the "Twister Sisters" in action, we assure you that the frontal assault by the C.O.'s party was well worth while. To conclude, we hope the members of all the branches of the T.A. will pay us another visit in the not too distant future.

Sport. During November a games evening was held and all members participated in games of snooker, darts and table tennis. When the evening started, the table tennis balls and snooker balls went in the right direction, but by 2200 hrs. half of the members were having a little difficulty. We still cannot convince a certain corporal that it just was not wise to insist that a cue ball should be played with a table tennis bat! However, "Ernie", in the form of Cpl. "Hearthrob" Thorner (more of him later, the plot thickens) made out the winners to be snooker, Cpl. Daniels; table tennis, L/Cpl. Pearse; and darts, Cpl. Cook.

Owing to the frost, wind and gales (are you listening out there in Benghazi, "C" Coy.?) football took a back seat. Let's hope we can report a few tit-bits on this subject in the next issue.

Here and There. We have had quite a few additions to Mess strength recently and we bid a hearty welcome to the Mess to the following: Cpl. Spiers, from Warminster; Cpls. Cole and Stoner, from D.E.R.R.; Cpl. Johnston, from Wessex Bde. Depot; Cpl. Stoll, L/Cpls. Burn, Kaye and Gatward, all R.A.P.C.; L/Cpl. Bean and L/Cpl. Cope, on their recent promotion. Here's a new twist to "Here and There". Goodbye to Cpl. Vinson and hello to Cpl. Vinson, A.C.C. (Yes, the same guy), and we hope the Sgts.' Mess strength won't fail because of the food he serves. Congratulations and sad farewell to Cpls. Laing and Thorner on their promotion to sergeant. We know that the Sgts.' Mess will never get over the shock, but think how much weeping and wailing goes on after closing time in a certain catering establishment at 2130 hrs. now that "Hearthrob" has gone. On behalf of all members may we say "thank you Sgt. Thorner for your services to the club". As its former President we now wish you all that corporals usually wish sergeants!

Matches Played. Congratulations to L/Cpl. Bartlam on his recent marriage to Miss Valeria Lashbrook.

Births. Congratulations to the following:— L/Cpl. Harris (son), Cpl. Murdock (son), L/Cpl. Newitt (son), Cpl. Turner (son), Cpl. Stapleton (daughter), Cpl. Bienvenu (daughter), and to their wives for their invaluable help.

SPORT

Soccer

Despite the many training commitments, snow clearance and flood relief standby, the Battalion "A" team has been kept reasonably fit and intact to meet the Devon Wednesday League fixture list and 3 Div. Major Units Cup Competition.

In the premier Division of the Wednesday League our record although not comparable with last season, is still good and reads as follows:—

Played—16; won—9; drawn—2; lost—5; goals for—53; goals against—40; pts.—20.

After a bad start to the season, the team improved enormously and we have reached the semi-final of both the Premier League Knockout Cup and 3 Div. Cup.

In the Premier League Cup second round we defeated Railway Nomads by 7 goals to 5. The match was played in a howling gale and on a mud patch, ball control was extremely difficult but the stamina of the infantryman triumphed in the end. The draw for the semi-finals has not yet been made.

Our visitors in the first round of 3 Div. Cup were 1/6 Gurkhas from Tidworth who proved worthy opponents and were ably led by their skipper, Lt. Jan Gordon, the only Englishman in the side. On a very frosty ground the Gurkhas found that their normally fast and close play did not pay off and they were beaten 5-3. Gaunt, our centre-forward, scored all five goals, and these came from fast breakaways and fiercely angled shots from which the Gurkha goalkeeper had little or no chance.

The Battalion "B" team had to postpone all matches for a month when the Battalion was away on training in Denmark, but as they were well ad-

vanced with their league matches this should not effect the league too seriously. The Battalion "B" team is an excellent medium for trying out and training our new blood and has been quite valuable in building the "A" team, Lt. Bill Harris and Cpl. E. Roberts have been particularly helpful in this work.

Cpl. Bird, skipper and centre-half of the Battalion team, continues to play for the County F.A. and as centre-half had a big hand in the defeat of Somerset in the Southern Counties Championship. He has been selected to play in the next round against Cornwall.

Basketball

The current season's basketball has not been exactly brilliant, but with the loss of our team captain, Sgt. Alderman, and Pte. Harrison who are at present in Benghazi with "C" Company, we can congratulate ourselves on creditable performances against all and sundry. In fact I am sure our opponents in the final of 3 Div. Championship, 5 Regiment R.A., were at times hard pressed to keep us at bay, but better teamwork told, so we wish 5 Regiment the "best of luck" in the Command final.

May I take this opportunity to say to all 1 D. & D. readers who have any interest whatsoever in basketball, "New Blood is welcome". We are particularly keen to promote interest outside the "player point of view", i.e. referees, scorers, and time-keepers. Coaching and courses for officials are available and will be given on application through the "Battalion Basketball Officer", Capt. P. R. Sammons.

Cross-Country

Early October saw the start of fortnightly Battalion cross-country runs and from the results the team to represent the Battalion was selected. Once again they got down to the heat and sweat of the lower gym. under the watchful eye of Sgt. Smeath and the somewhat forceful stick of C.S.M.I. Longley!

Our first fixture was in a road relay at Exeter on November 3 and here we failed miserably, so once again back to the gym. and even harder training sessions.

The next fixture was against 43 Commando, R.M., which we won by 58 pts. to 91, the first two places being taken by Sgt. Smeath and L/Cpl. Gasser respectively. Our next fixture was against Wessex Brigade Depot on December 5, which we again won by 27 pts. to 58, first man home was Lt. Thomas with a very convincing win. The last fixture before Christmas was against the Royal Leicesters on December 12 at Watchet. Again we won by 58 pts. to 82 pts., first two places to L/Cpl. Gasser and Pte. Loveridge.

When we arrived back from Christmas leave we found ourselves frozen in at Plymouth and we could not keep any of our fixtures until January 30, when we ran against B.R.N.C., Dartmouth. This was a very close match with the Naval College finally beating us by 18 pts. First two places were taken by the Naval College with Sgt. Smeath third. This was our last fixture before the 3 Div. Championships at Bulford on February 5, so we had a week's hard training in preparation for it.

(Continued on page 63)



WESSEX BRIGADE DEPOT

News of Devon and Dorsets

Lt. John Andre has joined the Depot from the 1st Battalion as a Platoon Commander in Training Company. He has in fact two platoons to look after at the moment, ably assisted by Sgt. Wilton, D. & D., and Sgt. Hodge, D. & D.

Cpls. Pinn and Dart are still weight-lifting with success, and Cpl. Spiller is now attending a P.T. Course.

Sgt. Topham and L/Cpl. Greenaway represent the Police and are highly conspicuous around the Depot, whilst on the other hand, Cpl. Green accompanied by Pte. Yeo have been seen around the M.T. clutching sheafs of paper not unlike F.M.T. 3's, no doubt a relic of a hard winter's driving. If all the Devon and Dorset members of the Regimental Police and the M.T. were removed, the remaining few would look very thin on the ground.

Cpls. Chase and Harvey manage to look after the Q.M.'s many interests, whilst Pte. Hamilton, the Commanding Officer's batman, has been kept busy trying to keep Heathfield House from freezing, and L/Cpl. Pike has been doing likewise in the Sergeants' Mess. Pte. Crane, an ex-Junior Soldier, has been working as a Regimental Cook, and if he continues to do as well as he has done so far, he should soon find himself as a B.III Cook.

Those old warriors Sgt. Bennett and L/Cpl. Hooper are still going strong; in fact L/Cpl. Hooper has just signed on for yet another year, and rumour has it that the M.O. for a change came to visit him in the Sports Store in view of the great distance from there to the M.I. Room! (Does anyone know L/Cpl. Hooper's real age?—Editor.)

(Continued from page 62)

Eight teams took part in the championship which was run over a course of 6½ miles in atrocious conditions. Unfortunately it was not our day, what with the conditions and the added incentive of going to Denmark we only managed to finish fourth, and thus we were knocked out of the Army Competition at Div. Level. We did, however, manage to get one individual through to the Southern Competition, this was Sgt. Smeath, who finished third. He took part in the Southern Command event on February 13 and finished ninth out of the individuals.

Now the season is virtually over we are left to contemplate on how we would have got on in the Divisional Championship if we had Cpl. Gore and Pte. Carruthers, both in Benghazi, Cpl. Cook and Pte. Cloke, both on courses, and L/Cpl. Gasser, running. Then it would have been a different tale as they are five of our best runners. We have learned our lesson for next season and are eagerly awaiting training to start in Northern Ireland.

Hockey

Played—13, won—11, drawn—1, lost—1, goals for—63, against—15.

Congratulations to W.O.2 and Mrs. McNaught on the birth of a daughter (Sally Jane) on December 28, 1962.

Junior Soldiers' Company

In January the Junior Soldiers' Wing was re-named the Junior Soldiers' Company, and Major D. O. Appleton, D. & D., was appointed Company Commander. The first order issued was a very popular one, all Juniors being instructed to remain at home for an additional four days' Christmas leave. At that time we fully expected the cold spell to be over in a few days, which just shows how sub-zero temperatures can play havoc with the Company crystal ball.

So far this term our activities have been severely restricted on account of the weather. We survived, but it was heavy going keeping everything unfrozen. The job was not made easier one night when a public-spirited lad followed the stokers around the braziers with a bucket of water. He later stated that he extinguished the fires, not because of his concern about the fire risk, but because he felt the Company would be sent home on leave if everything froze up!

In spite of the weather, the cross-country team trained hard under Lt. S. Redfern, R.A.E.C., and they put up a creditable performance at the Army Boys' Championships at Aldershot, coming fifth out of the fourteen teams competing. There were one hundred and twelve runners and our first man home was Junior Bandsman Blake, D. & D., who came eleventh.

This impressive record speaks for itself. A most successful season is being enjoyed by the Battalion hockey team, only one match having been lost so far. Our training sessions and practices are temporarily suspended, however, due to snow and Denmark. So far we have reached the finals of the 3 Div. Cup having beaten H.Q. 3 Div., R.E., 4-1 and 5 Inns. D.G., 7-0. We now look forward to meeting our old rivals, 5 Regt., R.A., in the final. In the Army Cup we have reached the last eight, being one of the two Southern Comd. teams to qualify.

Our captain is still beset by nervous breakdowns in his attempts to get the seven officers on to the same pitch at the same time in the same colours. The other ranks thankfully do what they are told and rely on W.D. transport to get them there. Our two stalwarts from the band, Sgt. Pike and Sgt. Begam are not getting any younger but are still playing very ably, the former being our top scorer with over 30 goals to his credit. Pte. Shaddick has displayed much courage in goal and has improved tremendously since last September.

Our fourth other rank, Sgt. Wright, is a very solid performer, the size and usefulness of his hips only being exceeded by those in the back division belonging to Cpts. Hewitt and Ackford.



THE DEVONSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

(THE FIRST RIFLE VOLUNTEERS)

THE FIRST RIFLE VOLUNTEERS

A long-felt wish was fulfilled on January 19-20 when all three Battalions of the Regiment, 1 D. & D., Devons (T.A.) and Dorsets (T.A.) came together for a week-end.

We had made suggestions for such a gathering many months ago, in fact shortly after 1 D. & D. returned to this country from Cyprus, but due to their heavy commitments, 1 D. & D. were unable to do anything about it. Lt.-Col. Randle, however, was determined that the three Battalions should meet before he departed with 1 D. & D. to N. Ireland, so he offered us a date, and we, the T.A. Battalions, accepted. As hosts 1 D. & D. gave us a splendid week-end at Plymouth; they spared no effort, and apparently no money, to make us enjoy ourselves. It was unanimously agreed by all of us who attended that such occasions can bring nothing but benefit to the Regiment as a whole, and that every effort should be made to meet more often. We would like to express here our gratitude to Lt.-Col. Randle and all ranks of the 1st Battalion for making this such an enjoyable week-end.

Recruiting

1962 was not a good year for us. The total of those who joined was 64; "B" Company's total for the year was 3. We are not worried particularly by this low figure as long as those who do join are the type who pull their weight. "C" Company particularly, and "D" Company did well for themselves; "A" Company recruited enough to replace their losses, whilst H.Q. and "B" suffered a net loss over the year. During the latter part of 1962 considerable spade work was done by Companies, and good results are beginning to be seen in the current year. In the 2½ months since January 1 we have had 40 volunteers join the Battalion, but H.Q. and "B" Companies are still getting only a trickle. Our main efforts in this direction must be to interest men of good calibre and then once they have joined, to hold their interest.

Headquarters Company

Owing to the very bad weather we had in January we had to cancel the annual Company Children's Party. A disappointment to us all, but we managed with the help of C/Sgt. Midson to see that all the children received their presents.

All ranks of the Company would like to express their thanks to our departing Company Commander, Major D. S. Phillips, for all the splendid work he put into the Company whilst with us. Major Phillips has now transferred to the Royal Army Pay Corps, and we are very pleased to hear that he is staying with the Battalion as Unit Paymaster. We wish him good luck in his new appointment.

We, the members of the Company, welcome as our new Company Commander, Major G. C.

Middleton, and we hope his stay will be a happy one. Also we welcome our latest recruits, Ptes. Blacker, Macaelis, Cherrington and Powesland; we hope, too, that your stay will be a happy one. Congratulations to Capt. J. L. Whiteside on his promotion. We hope his stay in London will be successful. To Sgt. "Bimbo" Newcombe we say "well done" on his award of the Territorial Efficiency Medal for 12 years' efficient service. We thank Sgt. Fitzpatrick for the splendid work he has put in on transforming the canteen into a much brighter and attractive club.

The Battalion Shooting Officer will be pleased to hear that Sgt. Flood has taken up shooting again; he will, we are sure, be an asset to the China Cup team.

The Company ran their usual monthly dance on February 22, and we are pleased to say it was a success, thanks to the committee consisting of L/Cpl. Tolley, Ptes. Smale, Sutton, Wotton and, of course, our old faithfuls, Cpl. "Tubby" Jarlett and C/Sgt. "Bimbo" Midson.

Those members of the Company who were guests of the 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment at Plumer Barracks, Plymouth, would like, through the medium of the Regimental Journal, to express their thanks for a very enjoyable week-end. If any member of the Battalion is in the Exeter area on either a Tuesday or Friday evening, then please don't hesitate to call in and have a "jug" on us.

The Company now has three members of the T.A.E.R. L/Cpl. Boyle of the Regimental Police Section, Pte. Smale of the Quartermaster's Department, and Pte. Wotton of the Regimental Police.

"A" Company

December started with a bang in more ways than one, for the Support Platoon carried out a live-firing programme at Okehampton Battle Camp. Rumour has it that one member of the Mortar Section went A.W.O.L. from his civilian employment and spent the day hiding from a newspaper photographer in case incriminating evidence should be forthcoming. Conditions were not of the best, but Sgts. Kent and Trude (Mortar and Anti-Tank respectively) ensured that no ammunition was returned to stores.

The long planned and eagerly awaited Company Dinner and Dance was a victim of the bitter weather which struck Devon at the end of December. One hundred and fifty tickets had been sold for the function which was to be held at the Plymouth Guildhall on December 29, and the highlight was the appearance of the Regimental Dance Band. For those who live in Plymouth there is no need to recall the terrible weather that evening. One hundred and six valiants arrived, many from great distances, but unfortunately were forced to leave very early to ensure that they reached home before

they were buried in snow-drifts. Many were the frozen feet that night, for buses were non-existent, and all taxi services were withdrawn. I would like to thank again all those who braved the elements to prevent the evening from being a complete loss. A word of praise for Sgt. Knowles and the Dance Band, who after a nightmare trip, arrived by train from Exeter, played for a much-reduced gathering, and then battled their way back again; they must have muttered: "It is a far, far better thing . . ."

Congratulations to Lt. McDonald and his team who entered the Plymouth T.A. Pentathlon Long March/Map Reading and arrived fourth. This was a very fine effort considering the ground, which was covered and the fact that the majority of the team have recently joined the Company.

"B" Company

Like all companies, we have suffered with the weather which has caused slight interruptions to our training programme. Twice, the day's range on Rippon Tor has had to be cancelled. However, before Christmas, a useful week-end was spent by the officers and senior N.C.O.s on Battalion deployment at Exeter during which we said farewell to Major Wood, and welcomed Major Edward-Collins as our new Training Officer.

Officers and N.C.O.s also had a successful week on exercise "Cowslip" and February 9 and 10. A chilly night was spent on Woodbury Common in trenches and ditches, but it was an excellent experience for all those taking part.

We are sorry to have to say goodbye to Sgt. Sleeman, the P.S.I. at Paignton, and thank him for all he has done during his period with us. In his place we welcome Sgt. Morrison whom we wish, with his wife, a very pleasant stay.

In April, Cpl. Mitchell from 5 Platoon, is travelling to the Far East for two weeks on T.A.E.T. exercise, we hope he has a successful tour.

We congratulate Cpl. Clarke on obtaining a Grade "B" Certificate in "Light Rescue" on his recent Civil Defence Course.

One officer and 10 O.R.s had a most enjoyable time as the guests of the 1st Battalion at Plymouth recently, we thank them very much for being such excellent hosts.

We hear that the wives of L/Cpl. Wyatt and Pte. Rackley have had a daughter and son respectively, and congratulate all those concerned. No doubt a new recruit to the W.R.A.C. as well as to ourselves in the near future.

On June 6 and 7 the Company is having a recruiting drive in conjunction with the Forde Park School sports day. There will be a static display and demonstration of a fighting patrol. The Band also will be playing during the afternoon and, finally, there is to be a cricket match between the staff and the school.

We welcome four new recruits to the Company, Ptes. Harrison, Pearson and Rae, to 5 Platoon and Pte. Allison to 7 Platoon.

Everyone appears to have had a social Christmas period. The Dartmouth Platoon had a most successful party as did the members from Newton Abbot. The latter had their annual platoon dinner which was followed later in the evening by a dance. The trophies for "Indoor Sports" were presented by the Company Commander and the Regimental Dance Band played some excellent music.

"C" Company

Early in December the Company annual dinner was heavily supported at the Wrey Arms, Barnstaple. We had pleasure in entertaining the Hon. Colonel of the Battalion, Col. J. N. Oliver and Mrs. Oliver, the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Harrison, Major Oerton, and the R.S.M. and Mrs. Nott. During the dinner, and later on in the evening we were accompanied by the Regimental Dance Band, and a very enjoyable evening was had by all. The day after the dinner, Cpl. Mingins and his mortar crew braved the hangovers and headaches successfully to fire their missiles on target at Okehampton.

The children's party was well attended with Sgt. Woods disguised as Father Christmas being aptly drawn in by sledge from the cold snow outside which set the correct atmosphere. The identity of the reindeer has not yet been accurately established.

2/Lt. Phillips spent a week at Hythe in January, under what he claims sub-arctic conditions. In the Company we have been showered with facts and figures and visual aids on the merits of the Hythe delux electric range which he is convinced will someday replace the temperamental Filleigh Range.

Six N.C.O.s attended the Battalion Section Commander's Course at Exeter. They are reported to have said that it was an excellent week-end, somewhat restricted by weather conditions, but on the whole was very worthwhile.

A large cross-section of the Company was entertained for a week-end by the Devon and Dorsets during the freeze-up at Plymouth. The newly-acquired champ reported in the last edition was suffering a monumental hang-over, taking over six hours to arrive at Company H.Q. We all wish to thank the D. & D. for their excellent hospitality.

We welcome into the Company, Ptes. Berry Shortridge, Miller, and Woodbridge, and we would all like to congratulate the Company Commander on his promotion to field rank.

"D" Company

A full scale recruiting week-end at Tiverton at the close of the year brought in several new members. Exmouth, too, has taken on a new lease of life.

We have, unfortunately, had to shelve plans for the fourth Company trip to Holland for the Nijmegen Marches. This has caused great disappointment among the troops because in spite of the blisters, an excellent team spirit was engendered. No doubt too, the many East Devon villagers will miss the early morning tramp of boots which, after three years, they have come to expect each Sunday from February until July.

We extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Pomeroy who has joined at Sidmouth.

Band

It is with regret that we have said goodbye to two of our old members, Cpl. Tuck and BdsM. Smith, who retired on reaching the age limit. At the annual Christmas get-together the Band expressed appreciation of their long and faithful service when the Bandmaster presented Cpl. Tuck with a barometer and BdsM. Smith with a silver snuff box. Cpl. Tuck was a member of the old 5th Battalion Band and has been a tower of

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strength; we pay tribute to his willingness to help whenever required.

Congratulations to Bds. and Mrs. Woodman on an addition to the family. We are glad to welcome "Chick" Hart who many will remember as a musician of outstanding ability. He fills the gap left by the late L/Cpl. Harris.

There are still a few vacancies in the Band for certain instrumentalists; applicants should apply to the Bandmaster through the nearest Company Office. The Dance Band has had a successful season under the direction of Sgt. Knowles, and are open for further engagements.

Officers' Mess

At a Regimental Guest Night on December 9, the Mess dined out Bill Wood, the erstwhile Training Officer, whom we assume is now carrying out similar duties with the Ministry of Defence. Brig. David Tyacke, the very popular Brigade Commander and "Wanger" Wingfield, his Brigade-Major, were also present. The former has now taken up an appointment at the War Office and the latter departed with truly transatlantic hustle to Washington D.C.

Most happily, three new officers have joined the Battalion. Two have been posted to Bob Stamp in "B" Company; C. P. Collinson, who previously served with the 1/10 Gurkha Rifles, and P. G. Gledhill, who is reputed to be a great Dartmoor walker; we can only hope "B" Company will not be run off its feet. The third newly-joined subaltern, H. D. Pomeroy, has been posted to "D" Company at Sidmouth.

Sam Phillips, now transferred to R.A.P.C., and also doing sterling work as Mess Secretary, had no qualms about working in the notoriously cold Mess office during the recent spell of arctic weather. He made straight for the two Mess oil heaters, only to find he had been forstalled by the Adm. Officer, who was quite determined that the Barrack Road W.C. arrangements should be maintained at all costs.

A note for your diary—Officers' Summer Ball, held every other year, is to be held this year at Oldway Mansion, Paignton, on July 12.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess

We have been rather restricted in our activities recently by the weather, you also may have noticed the snow and have participated in the ancient British sport of pipe-watching, and keeping warm.

On December 1 we held our annual Mess dinner and dance in the Drill Hall, Barrack Road, this being transformed as nearly as possible to compare favourably with any outside hall. We had as our guests, the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Harrison, Major and Mrs. Wood, Lt. Myall, and wives of members. After a three-course turkey dinner with adequate wine to loosen the tonsils, the Royal Toast was proposed by Sgt. Hutchings. The R.S.M., on behalf of the members, then presented an inscribed silver hip flask to Major Wood as a farewell gift; in thanking the members Major Wood observed the flask was empty! It was pointed out that as his posting was to the War Office (into the Lion's Den) it was in his own interest that it was so. We all wish Major and Mrs. Wood all the very best in the future.

(Continued on page 70)



THE DORSET REGIMENT (T.A.)

This has been the quiet season for the T.A. and our activities have been more than usually curtailed by the severity of the weather in January. Notwithstanding the weather, the Battalion's cross-country runners, under Capt. Aherne, trained to good purpose and repeated their success of the last two years by winning the Southern Command Championship. L/Cpl. Brian Dunn, who has had a very successful season with the Weymouth Saint Paul's Harriers, was an easy individual winner. Our team now runs in the T.A. national championship on March 30th at Bulford.

On the military side we have carried on preparing for a civil defence camp by doing individual rescue and first-aid training. All detachments have also been busy classifying, and the Wimborne detachment getting their feet hard for Nijmegen.

In conjunction with the Nijmegen marches in July, we intend to do a pilgrimage to the cemeteries at Oosterbeek and Nijmegen where are buried those members of 4 and 5 Dorset who died in the vain attempt to relieve the 1st Airborne Division at Arnhem. Any former member of the Regiment or any relatives who would like to join in this visit are asked to write to the Commanding Officer at The Barracks, Dorchester.

We are losing two old and loyal members of the Battalion this Spring, and in place of normal Company Notes we include pen sketches of C.S.M.s Baker and Loader.

COMPANY SERGEANT-MAJOR BAKER

C.S.M. Frank Baker has now decided to withdraw from further military activity, which has extended over 19 years, 13 years of which have been in The Dorset Regiment (T.A.).

He joined the King's Regiment in Liverpool as a Private in 1940, and it was as a full Cpl. that he volunteered for the Commandos two years later. He served with No. 5 Commando until the end of the War. During this time he rose to the rank of Sgt. and saw service in Burma, India and China, having already been to France with the King's Regiment during the early part of the War. When with the Commandos he served under Capt. H. A. A. Bray, M.C., who was a Troop Leader of No. 5 Commando and later commanded The Dorset Regiment (T.A.).

After a gap of four years, Pte. Baker (as he then was) joined the Regiment in April 1950, and in September of the same year he was promoted to Sgt. After only three months he became A/C.S.M. and for nine years, from 1954 to the date of his retirement, he was C.S.M. of "B" Company.

During his service with the T.A. he attended the Coronation Parade and was awarded the Coronation Medal; he also received the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate and has recently received his T.A. Efficiency Medal.

He has been a tower of strength to "B" Company ever since he joined it, and he has watched the Company grow from less than 20 in 1950 to its

present strength of over 50, and due to his last energetic fling the Company have had a new recruit every week since Christmas.

We are all very sorry to see him go, but he feels that the time has now come to spend more of his leisure with his family, and as he himself has said, he would never have dreamt of leaving had he thought the Company was not being left in good hands.

Although this is true he will nevertheless be greatly missed, not only for his knowledge of military matters but also for his genial personality, which has made "B" Company one of the happiest and most spirited Companies in the Battalion.

We wish him all the best in his retirement and congratulate him on the award of his Efficiency Medal, which can surely not have been more worthily earned.

COMPANY SERGEANT MAJOR LOADER

C.S.M. "Joe" Loader was called up at Dorchester in 1940, and after courses in England, joined the 1/6th Bn. The Queens Royal Regiment at Old Park Barracks, Dover. The Battalion as part of 44 Division moved to the Western Desert in 1942 prior to the battle of Alamein.

After a spell in hospital he rejoined his unit which had joined 7 Armoured Division at Tripoli, and fought with them to Bizerta. He landed on the Salerno Beach-head and saw service in the campaign which took 1/6th Queens to San Andrea and to the Montragone Feature.

C.S.M. Loader returned to England in January 1944 and landed on D plus 2 in Normandy. He was wounded on D plus 6 and returned to England for another spell in hospital. He later rejoined his unit in Holland and was with them in Germany on V.E. day.

He was demobilized at Pulborough with his "group", joined the Territorial Army in March 1948, and became Signal Sgt. of The Dorset Regiment (T.A.). He has always been a keen and enthusiastic shot and a prominent member of the Battalion shooting team at the Divisional Rifle Meetings and at Bisley. Last year he became "D" Coy. champion shot, Battalion champion shot and Dorset County champion shot in one season.

As C/Sgt. and C.S.M. of "D" Coy. he continued to lead with quiet efficiency and he is known throughout the Battalion for his unfailing good humour and military bearing. "Joe" Loader will be missed; and on his retirement takes with him the best wishes of his many friends in The Dorset Regiment.

Southern Command T.A. Cross-Country Championship

Team Result: First, Dorset; second, Oxf. Bucks.; third, 4/5th R. Hamps.

Individual Result: First, L/Cpl. Dunn, Dorset; second, Rfn. Harvey, Oxf. Bucks.; third, Cpl. Dunn, Dorset.



THE CADET FORCES



The Combined Cadet Force

ALLHALLOWS' SCHOOL C.C.F.

This report of our activities is somewhat belated, as one of the threads I failed to pick up as C.O. was that Journal Notes were my responsibility.

Last term saw the start of some 24-hour Arduous Training Exercises, and R.S.M. Hickson and the Corps lorry provided a valuable base for these operations. The operations involved sleeping out in bivouac tents, cooking, and a 20-mile walk across a variety of country demanding some initiative and practical map-reading.

The R.E. Troop has been largely engaged on road-making and bridging to clear a road down to our beach after recent landslides. We are luckier than some in having suitable country for exercises on our doorstep, and several inter-Company battles have taken place.

The results of the examinations at the end of term were excellent—26 passes in the Basic Test, 65 in the Army Proficiency, 12 in the Signal Classification Exam, and 5 A.I. Signal Instructors.

Our operations this term have been curtailed by the weather, but we have been able to fit in one exercise to relieve the monotony of indoor training.

The Corps of Drums has been hard at work training for the Annual Inspection Parade and Army Proficiency Certificate.

CANFORD SCHOOL C.C.F.

Life in general, and Corps training in particular, has been much disrupted by the weather during the earlier part of term, so it was with great relief that we were able to take advantage of a slight improvement to embark on our Whole Day Exercise.

For many of us it is a relief that the day of the Big Battle on Field Day is now over. It is doubtful whether the traditional activities of pelting the opposition school with hard-boiled eggs or inducing unseemly behaviour on the part of an umpire's horse by a well-aimed pencil fired from a rifle were of much training value to cadets. Now we offer a more varied menu.

This term we were the only school to send a R.A. section on the ranges at Larkhill, and an exceptionally busy and interesting time was had by all. The R.E.s had a chance of watching and handling heavy equipment at Titchfield, and the Signal Section organised their own exercise locally. Local training was also carried out by the cadets due to take the Basic Test at the end of term, together with the Army Proficiency platoons. This included a fire order competition in the miniature range, and a chance to catch up on a good deal of training previously missed owing to bad weather. The cadre platoon carried out a map-reading exercise in a part of the New Forest that turned out to be far too featureless for several members, who were reduced to sending out S.O.S. signals from telephone

boxes at widely scattered places, many of them far from their intended route. With the co-operation of the Bournemouth Civil Defence we were able to provide for the Training platoon an interesting day's house-clearing, mess-tin cooking and rescue work in a ruined building. The two high spots of the day were cliff-climbing at Worth Matravers for the Commandos and a visit to Bovington by the 60 most junior boys in the Corps, where they were able to visit the Tank Museum, R.E.M.E. workshops, D. and M. School, and ride in tanks and vehicles on the ranges.

Now we are working hard for our Basic, Proficiency and Specialist tests, where we hope results will be up to standard.

HARDYE'S SCHOOL C.C.F.

(We should like to thank the Headmaster for these Notes—Editor)

Since the report on last year's annual camp, which appeared in the August issue, the contingent has experienced several changes, the most important of these being the change of Contingent Commander. Major Barrass, D.F.C., left us at the end of Camp to take his new appointment at Nottingham and he has been greatly missed at the school by all who knew him and worked with him. We are glad to hear from him that he and his wife have now settled down in their new district and that he is enjoying his work very much. Most sincerely do we wish them every happiness in the future.

We also said good-bye to Lt. Bristow, who left us to continue his studies in London after a short stay of only one year with the contingent. As a National Service man he was commissioned in the Royal Artillery and his experience and enthusiasm in this field proved invaluable to the contingent, in the R.A. section, of which he took charge. Our very best wishes go with him and his wife.

Every single member of the contingent is delighted with the O.C., Major David Lacey, who is not only extremely popular, but whose enthusiasm and drive is maintaining, and indeed increasing, the previous spirit of keenness which was so evident under the previous Commander.

We were most fortunate in securing two new Officers to fill the places of those who left. Lt. Lash joined us from Oratory School where he had been serving with the school contingent. As he is an ex-Gunner he was able to take over the leadership of the R.A. section which is therefore able to continue under a thoroughly qualified leader. We were also joined by Richard Heal, who had spent his National Service with the Marines; we were delighted when he offered his services to the contingent. He was recently commissioned and is now able to take a fully active part in the Corps.

As for the remaining officers, F/Lt. Paul still remains with the R.A.F. section and Lt. Brickell and Sub-Lt. Lanfear continue to look after the



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rapidly expanding Royal Naval section. We still continue to enjoy the services of Mr. A. Knight as Civil Administrator. Under all the circumstances therefore we may perhaps say that providence has continued to shine upon us.

It would be wrong not to comment also upon the extremely keen and efficient band of N.C.O.s with which we are blessed this year. In a contingent as large as ours, and with but few Officers to supervise training and discipline, a great deal of the burden rests on the shoulders of the senior cadets. It is in no small way due to their keenness and efficiency that the smooth running of the contingent has been maintained. In this connection one name should be mentioned, and is that of Under Officer Warnock, whose leadership and imagination have proved quite outstanding.

We held our last Field Day on October 30 last year. The R.N. section split into two parties and visited Yeovilton and Portland. The R.A.F. section divided similarly and sent parties to Hullavington and Exeter R.A.F. Stations. The Army section was divided up as follows: The Basic section performed fieldcraft exercises at Chamberlaynes Heath, were shown films and visited the Regimental Museum. The M.T. section was entertained by 6th Training Battalion, R.A.S.C., at Houndstone Camp, Yeovil. Signals and R.A. sections visited the School of Gunnery at East Lulworth, and the remainder of the Army section spent the day on the open range at Sydling.

During the last term we also sent 36 selected cadets to spend the whole day with the Royal Marines at Lymington, Devon. They were most fortunate to enjoy the experience not only of seeing but also of taking part in the type of training which every member in the R.M. has to undergo. Perhaps it is wrong to use the word "enjoy", except perhaps in retrospect, for watching the faces of most of the cadets whilst negotiating the Tarzan Course did not seem to indicate enjoyment. It was nevertheless a most invaluable experience and served to instil into the lads a healthy respect for members of the R.M.

The response for volunteers to take part in Arduous Training this year was most overwhelming, but unfortunately many had to be disappointed since we are only permitted to take 19 cadets. We are returning to our old haunts on Exmoor, where our very first camp of this type was spent two years ago. That was an unfortunate experience and we are offering a silent prayer for much better weather than we had on that occasion.

We offer our sincere congratulations to R.S.M. Johnson and Sgt. Tugwell who passed their Regular Commissions Board quite recently and are hoping that we shall have further success in this field next term. We are also very proud of an Old Boy, Roger Lean-Vercoe, who has been appointed Senior Under Officer at Sandhurst.

Since January of this year we have introduced into C.C.F. Training, on a purely voluntary basis, a course of study in Nuclear, Biological and Chemical warfare. The response has been most praiseworthy, particularly as most of the training takes place after duty hours on Corps afternoons. Under Officer Warnock in conjunction with the local Civil Defence Corps has arranged a programme which deals with all aspects of this type of warfare. With the invaluable assistance of Sgt. Davies (T.A.) we have also been able to introduce more spectacular aspects such as practical rescue.

SHERBORNE SCHOOL C.C.F.

Towards the end of the Michaelmas Term the Governors decided to anticipate the smaller and more voluntary C.C.F., which they felt would be the likely outcome of the present negotiations between the Services and the Headmasters.

Since January, therefore, the Corps has not contained the whole school, less new boys, as had been the custom for more than fifty years. Under the new system, boys will not join the C.C.F. until they have been in the school for three terms, will take the Army Proficiency Test after serving for a year, and when they have completed three years' service will be given the option of retiring, unless they are Service Candidates.

It is interesting that of forty senior boys who were offered a "Golden Bowler" in January, twenty-three elected to stay on in the Corps. It is possible, however, that the wretched weather of the early part of this term, which prevented anything in the nature of field work, may have blunted the enthusiasm of some, and it will be interesting to see how many elect to come out when the lists are made up for next term.

Otherwise, there is little to report. The House Drill Competition was held for the first time in a Drill Hall but provided a close contest of a reasonably high standard. The Field Day is being held on March 15, the highlight being "A" Company's visit to the Army Air Corps at Middle Wallop, and on April 1 twenty-four cadets are going to the Brecon Beacons and the Black Mountains for a week's arduous training. Unless the weather relents it should certainly be arduous.

Devon Army Cadet Force

Snow, accompanied by freezing wind, has been the dominating factor in most people's lives for twelve chilly and costly weeks. In addition to other more important things, it has necessarily caused postponement of many of our normal winter activities. Furthermore, on two occasions we have made detailed arrangements to play Hampshire in the Finals of the Southern Command Football Tournament on Dorset grounds, and have had to cancel them at short notice.

Nevertheless, we have been able to conduct some Certificate "A" Examinations, to hold our inter-unit cross-country run competition (won by the 1st Exeter Battalion) and to achieve further successes in sport. We won the Southern Command Boxing Championship and came third in the National Finals, in which Cadet C. Bunnett gained the highest individual award—the Crouch Trophy.

The reasons why apparently few cadets join the Territorial Army have been under constant discussion. It is clear that boys who are keen on soldiering join the Regular Army while still young. Those who are not so keen seem to lose their early enthusiasm when they become interested in pay packets, motor-cycles and girls. It is not until somewhat later in life that a young man begins to realise his duties to his country, and if he then joins the Territorial Army, it is not recorded whether or not he ever was a cadet.

Poor recruiting statistics, however, do not deter the Territorial Army in the county from giving us

(Continued on page 70)

(1st R.V.—continued from page 66)

The Commanding Officer then made a short address thanking the ladies for being so long-suffering when their husbands are away, particularly at week-ends. The tables were cleared and with the Regimental Dance Band in attendance, a good evening was had by all, and all too soon it was time for the long journey home. On the Saturday evening an inter-Company games evening was held, darts, skittles, and tippit, again a very enjoyable get-together. The winners of the games evening by the way was "B" Coy., no, "A", correction, "C", I tell a lie, "D", or was it H.Q.—who worries anyway!

Christmas and New Year found members enjoying the festivities with their companies and families in various parts of Devon, then on January 19-20, we had an invitation to a social week-end with the Regular Battalion in Plymouth, along with our neighbours, the Dorsets T.A. This was a really first-class "do". An excellent dinner with more than average liquor, and a most convivial get-together afterwards, culminating in community singing conducted by no less than the Bandmaster (without baton and music). The inter-battalion .22 shoot, however, found us unplaced amongst the prize-winners, but what could you expect after being knobbed so effectively!

Our sincere thanks to the 1st Battalion for their excellent hospitality. It is a pity more of these get-togethers could not have been organised during your brief stay in Plymouth. February found the Battalion on a week-end exercise "Cow-Slip" in preparation for the Brigade Exercise "Bull Run" (get its witty connection?) There were a few members not prepared to rough it for "some of their happy smiling faces were missing" (Come on you "Week-end Welchers", "good example" and all that!).

It may have been the prospect of a cold night on Woodbury Common put them off, h-h-how

wr-wrong c-c-can you b-be! As usual we were well supported and victualled by "Roy's Mobile Café" and Lt. (Q.M.2) John Myall qualified for his Crossed Ladles, 3rd Class".

Finally we say farewell to Sgt. Sleeman and thank him for his good services, and welcome in his place Sgt. Morrison, and hope his stay will be a happy one. We congratulate Sgt. and Mrs. Gilbert on their new arrival, a son (who said P.S.I.s don't get time off?), and belated congratulations to Sgt. and Mrs. Kent on their baby daughter.

Personality No. 12

C/SGT. TOULCHER

C/Sgt. Toulcher of Newton Abbot, started his service life at Plymouth in the Royal Navy in 1942. On completion of his training there he was assigned to H.M.S. *Howe*, which was sent out to the Far East, being the first ship to form the new British Pacific Fleet. They were part of the escort for the American landing in Okinawa, after which the ship went to South Africa for a refit. During this stay the war ended and C/Sgt. Toulcher then returned to the U.K. for demobilization.

In 1948 the 4th Battalion, "A" Company, started reforming in the area and he was their first recruit. C/Sgt. Toulcher was a member of the contingent which went to London for the T.A. Review in 1948 and again for the Jubilee Parade in 1958. He is a keen, conscientious T.A. member and has been in the Battalion shooting team, going to Bisley for the last seven years. He was a member of the winning China Cup and Cambridgeshire Cup teams.

We thank him for his valuable service in the past and hope he will continue to serve with the Battalion for many years to come.

(Cadet Forces—continued from page 69)

all possible assistance. Recently some of our senior cadets attended a T.A. Course on R.E. Plant, and at the end were handling heavy tractors and a ten-ton crane with confidence. Their Instructor reported that: "They also loaded the Fowler Tractor on to the twenty-ton Plant Transporter ready to move off early the next morning for snow-clearing on Dartmoor. They loaded it in just under one hour—no longer than the T.A. normally takes to load this machine." A few selected cadets went on T.A. tractors clearing snow from the road to Princetown. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and have since been praying fervently every day for further heavy falls!

Dorset Army Cadet Force

Now that our huts are emerging from their snow drifts, we hope to resume normal parades and training which have necessarily been curtailed in this severe winter. Many of our Detachment Commanders who live some distance away from their huts were unable to reach them.

Despite this weather, we reopened the Dorchester Detachment, which is now situated in the old Gun

Park of T.A. Centre, Poundbury Road, and is under the command of Lt. N. Colborne, who has been transferred from the Poole Detachment, assisted by S.M.I. E. House. On the first parade night, January 21, six boys were enrolled. We wish them luck and hope the Detachment will flourish in the future.

Congratulations are due to our Parkstone and Wimborne Detachments on getting through to the second round of the *News of the World* Rifle Challenge Cup. Parkstone's score of 752 was second to Chard School, who scored 756, and Wimborne came fourth in the Command with 699.

It has been shown in the preliminary rounds of the Colonel of the Regiment's Cup .22 Rifle Competition that the standard of shooting in all Detachments has much improved. In fact L/Cpl. Kennils of the Lyme Regis "A" Team actually scored a "possible"—a notable performance.

Dorset were represented by two cadets from Shaftesbury and Wimborne Detachments in the Southern Command Boxing Championships.

Capt. Buckley, County Duke of Edinburgh's Award Officer and Capt. Buffrey, our Padre, successfully attended courses at the Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park, Surrey, where the Secretary of the T. & A.F. Association, Lt.-Col. R. Hamblin, also recently attended a conference.

(Continued on page 74)

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THE DEVONSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

Here is a wonderful record. In 1914 the 1/4th, 1/5th and 1/6th Battalions were all in camp when war broke out. Each of the Battalions went overseas—India, Mesopotamia and France. On returning to Devon they started their reunions and have celebrated at Exeter, Plymouth and Barnstaple for the last 44 years with regularity, and still have 100 to 130 members attending. We congratulate those who work so hard organising these reunions. The 12th (Airborne) Battalion show a similar camaraderie with their regular reunions in Exeter and London, and with their newsheet "Swede-Basher".

Inevitably some of our older ones fade away and it is unfortunately my duty to record their passing in these notes.

Capt. F. B. Imbert-Terry, M.C., who was a former High Sheriff of Devon served with the 8th Battalion in the 1914-18 War and until recently lived at Blue Hayes, near Exeter Airport. He died aged 75 whilst out in the Bahamas on a cruise.

Mr. N. A. Head, who served with the 3rd and 4th Battalions during the 1914-18 War, died in January, aged 63. He lived in Torquay where he worked as Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the Torquay Co-operative Society. We offer our sympathy to his widow.

Another "Old Timer", A. H. Dunsford of Honiton, died at the age of 77 in Honiton. He was with the 1/4th Battalion in the first war as C.Q.M.S. in India and Mesopotamia. An active member of the O.C.A. he was founder member of the Honiton British Legion.

A Plymothian who joined the 2nd (P.O.W.) Devon Volunteers in 1888, Mr. Arnold Leigh died in January at the age of 93. He was a Sergeant-Major during the First War with the 5th Battalion and continued to take a great interest in all their doings. He marched with the Old Comrades until the age of 90; his wife, son and daughter may well be proud of him, and we offer them our sympathy in the loss of a real old 'un.

Mr. Curtis's son, himself a Devon, writes to tell us of the death of his father, one of twins in the Regiment, aged 86. He would like to take his father's place at the Exeter annual reunion. Whilst we feel the loss of the father, we welcome the son.

Billy Whitfield "mucking-in" pal of Tommy Alsford passed over at Christmas 1962. He was last on parade at the Cenotaph after the London Branch dinner in 1962.

One more old soldier, Mr. "Bill" Piper of Heavittree, who served with the 1/4th Devons, died recently at the age of 75. He was a member of the O.C.A. and leaves a widow, sister, and sons and daughters to whom we offer our sympathy.

Mr. Charles Knight, of 9 Whitham Park, Tavistock, who served with the 1/5th Battalion, died in Plymouth in March. He was formerly on the

Tavistock Post Office staff and at one time was captain of Tavistock Sir Francis Drake Bowling Club. We offer our sympathy to his widow and daughter.

Mr. George Poat of Park Road, Plymstock, died recently at the age of 70. He lost a leg serving with The Devonshire Regiment in the 1914-18 War. During the 1939-45 War he was in the Home Guard. He served in Devonport Dockyard for 42 years and was awarded the Imperial Service Medal.

BRISTOL BRANCH

The attendance at our meetings gets better and better, I am happy to say. Skittles, always a popular pastime in the winter months, was well supported, and our standard of play greatly improved—thanks to all players and to the coaching so aptly given by our captain, Jack Avent. Our big thrill was the drawn match between the Royal Engineers and the Devons, some of the scores of our team were: W. Wilcox 37; G. Cuff 36; R. Williams (Sec.) 35; H. Thorne and J. Avent 33 each.

Our A.G.M., held at Headquarters on November 24, 1962, was a very lively affair—much keenness was shown and we had a good attendance. Officers of the Branch elected were: President, Col. R. G. Strachan; Vice-Presidents, Lt.-Col. J. Sitters, M.B.E., Canon Percival Gay M.B.E.; Chairman, Major H. G. Thorne; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Jack Avent; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. Hemming; Auditor, Mr. J. Hanford; Committee, Capt. W. Blaker, Mr. R. Williams, Mr. J. Tierney, Mr. W. Martin and two co-opted members.

The election of Officers for the year completed, our Christmas draw arrangements were made. The annual dinner was fixed for Saturday, May 4, 1963, and we are hoping for a record attendance. Future meetings were discussed and the annual skittle outing arrangements made, much to the delight of all skittlers.

Exeter's loss was Bristol's again when Lt.-Col. John Sitters, M.B.E., manager of Barclay's Bank at Exeter, became local director of the Bank for the Bristol district. He was well known in Exeter and was a member of the Victoria Park Tennis Club, Countess Wear Golf Club, and the Exeter and County Club. He was Chairman of the local branch of the British Empire Cancer Campaign and took part in work for Dr. Barnardo's Homes. He was also Vice-Chairman of the Exeter Publicity Committee and a member of Exeter Chamber of Commerce. Col. Sitters was born in Plymouth and served in a number of Devon Branches of Barclay's Bank. He served as a Lt.-Colonel in the Regiment during the last war, was Deputy Provost-Marshal on Lord Alexander's staff in Italy and awarded the M.B.E. The Branch members were very pleased to hear this news and the Chairman contacted the

Colonel giving him details of the functions of the Bristol Branch. He said he was keen to become a member and was duly elected Vice-President at the A.G.M. Col. Sitters received a deputation in his office of Major Thorne, Bill Hemming and Jack Avent to talk over the activities of the Branch and gave the Secretary a donation to the funds. We wish him every success in his new appointment.

May I take this opportunity to thank all members for their fine support—see you all at the Grant Hotel for the dinner on Saturday, May 4, 1963.

ROJAM.

EXETER BRANCH

We are pleased to give a "Pat on the back" to the Editor for compiling such an excellent Journal from the numerous articles received. The reproduction of the photographs are excellent too.

Our social evening, held during December 1962, was a great success, some had to sit on the floor—must have been the Christmas spirit! Unfortunately, the January social had to be cancelled owing to the very severe weather which we all experienced. The February social was quite a success, although it was noticed that many of the regulars had not come out of hibernation. Our social committee, once again all volunteers, work hard to put on these evenings, so do deserve every encouragement and this can be shown by putting in an appearance. We do thank Bert Mitson and "Drummy" Crabb for being "Mine Host" at these social evenings. Do remember that the socials are held at the T.A. Centre, Barrack Road, Exeter, the Headquarters of our T.A. Battalion. We thank Jack Benbow for taking over the job as Social Secretary from John Davey. We were sorry that our Secretary had a spell in hospital but after an operation he is now able to enjoy his beer, well done, Sam Blake.

Paddy Collins is well in the limelight at our socials, our raffle cannot go wrong as long as he has charge of the tickets, who can resist his "five for a bob."

Jim Garnham broke his leg on Boxing Day playing hockey (he was not one over the eight!). He has started work again though it would now appear that he has finished active sport. He has had a good innings, 35 years not out, please note you 1st Battalion sportsmen!

Wally Golding, the stalwart of the London Branch, we notice, is busy arranging a draw, we have the books, we do help to make our London Branch a rich one.

We shall be organising a week-end to London on September 28-29, 1963, in order for the males to attend the reunion of the London Branch, the females to attend the sights of Piccadilly. More about this later.

We like reading the news of other Branches and would appreciate the mention of a few names in their articles. I purposely avoid any names from our Branch this time.

T.B.Q.M.

LONDON BRANCH

A quiet season this. After the heavy autumn programme the Branch relaxed (perhaps a little too much?). Possibly the splendid musters during September were too much for our members but, according to Walter, the turn out at the Field of Remembrance in November was very poor. We cannot allow this simple but important little ceremony to go relatively unobserved, and we hope

that our members in the precincts of Westminster Abbey next November will show a sharp increase.

The weather has, of course, been evil but the lamp was kept burning through the worst of it. We really came alive for the "Games" night with the Wiltshire Regiment in February.

This is a most popular "annual" and the party could boast over 60 "Swedes" and "Moonrakers" (precisely the same number of each!) on an evening when the temperature at 9 p.m. was exactly 23 degrees F.! The darts match, played for the "Rose of Torridge" trophy, was won this year by the Devons in a most spectacular and dramatic way. The member who "finished" wishes to remain anonymous but one day I will tell you all about it—if you have a spare couple of hours!

TORRINGTON BRANCH

Old Comrades of the Torrington Branch gathered in Barnstaple on March 9 for their annual reunion dinner. The Mayor of Torrington, Ald. F. R. Hodge, was present and said that the spirit of comradeship which had always existed between men of the 1/6th Battalion was something to be proud of. Major T. G. Oerton stated that although membership was growing less he considered the annual dinner should continue to be held as long as possible. Other speakers were Major D. P. G. Gray; the Mayor of South Molton, Ald. S. J. Kingdom; and Mr. C. Yeo and Mr. T. M. Swain. The Barnstaple British Legion band played a selection of marches throughout the evening. Before a special service in Barnstaple Parish Church, a wreath was placed on the War Memorial in the Guildhall.

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THE DORSET REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

HEADQUARTERS

Col. White had drawn up the first draft of the revision of the Association rules before being taken to hospital. Had he not done so the revision would undoubtedly have been indefinitely delayed, as it is, in his absence the drafts have gone out and will be discussed at the A.G.M. on March 23.

To prove the flexibility of the rules and human fallibility, the A.G.M. took place on the fourth Saturday in March, after a resolution passed less than a year ago that in future it will be on the third Saturday in March, except when that day is Easter Saturday. As the Headquarter notes in the next issue will have both the A.G.M. and the reunion to report, those in this issue are being kept short to allow free rein to the Branches.

BATH BRANCH

Having now discarded our fur coats, huskies, and snow shoes, and put the snowploughs away, we are getting down to a more normal life.

The result of our Cesarewitch draw was a great success which enabled the Branch to make a Christmas gift to our very old warriors. This gift was made in cash, as we thought they could then purchase what they needed most. Letters to the Branch in connections with this gift make very interesting reading.

We congratulate our Vice-President on attending the A.G.M. in such appalling weather conditions—by his presence we were able to form a quorum and conduct the business of the year.

The Branch has received its usual invitations from fellow comrades in the locality.

This year the Branch has decided to have a variation in its activities, instead of a Branch dinner, they are having a Dunkirk reunion, to commemorate the withdrawal to Dunkirk in which many of our members took part. This event will take place on May 18, 1963, at Smith's Assembly Rooms, Bath, and members of our Branch are looking forward to meeting many old pals of Rumeigies days.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH

We start our notes by congratulating the working body of our Branch on such a fine turnout during the year. Our membership crept up to 24, an increase of three.

We regret to report the death of a very fine soldier, Tommy Weir. He fought gallantly at the second battle of Kohima and we lose a great member and a great friend. We hope that it will be a consolation to his widowed mother that the Regiment remembers him and will miss him. He was cremated on January 22, and four members of the Branch attended.

The death at sea of Brig. John Hewick was a great shock to all of us.

Paddy Keegan goes to hospital for treatment shortly, as he knew what Kohima was like this should be a cake-walk for him. Another invalid in Yardley Green Hospital is Billy King. He was a P.O.W. for four years as a guest of the "Third Reich". We wish him a speedy recovery.

The Branch were sorry to hear of the illness of Col. White and hope that he will soon be completely recovered.

Finally, I would like to thank all members for the excellent work put in during the year, and end with Brig. John Hewick's parting words on all parades:—

"Dorsets I'm proud of you—Hold your bloomin' heads up!"

BLANDFORD BRANCH

A most enjoyable dinner was held by members of the Branch at the Greyhound Inn on Friday, March 1. They had as their guests several members of the local branch of the Royal Naval Association together with representatives from the 37th Regiment, R.A., at Piddlehinton Camp.

The Loyal Toast was proposed by Maj.-Gen. J. Gifford, and Major Bolingbroke proposed toasts to the Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent, and to The Dorset Regiment Association. During a pause in the President's speech a member, being rather carried away with the essentially Dorset atmosphere, raised his glass and gave his own toast, "I am a Dorset man of the Blandford Regiment" which remark caused much merriment amongst those present. The Guests was proposed by Mr. M. de L. Wilson and Dr. Ian Wilson replied.

Our genial President, Major J. R. H. Bolingbroke, presided with his usual zest over a company numbering about 50, and we thank Mr. H. Rebbeck for the excellent arrangements made for entertaining the company. Community singing rounded off the proceedings.

HALSTEAD BRANCH

There is little from us to report in this issue but in case silence is taken as a sign of weakness, we hasten to assure readers that we have survived the rigours of the winter, and are now making plans for activities associated with a more temperate climate.

Meetings have continued monthly and attendance has been very good considering the conditions.

We trust that all Branches are keeping well in this awful weather and are looking forward to the reunion in the summer. Here's good wishes to all Branches.

JERSEY BRANCH

The annual general meeting of the Jersey Branch of the Dorset Regiment Association was held at the Dorset Tavern, Dorset Street, on Tuesday, January 29. In opening the meeting, Jurat F. R. Billot, Branch President, stated that he was very pleased to be able to welcome so many members.

The honorary secretary, having read the convening notice, presented his annual report which stated that it had been a very busy year, intermixed with general and social activities. The usual monthly meetings, weekly social and special meetings were all very well attended. Close touch had been kept with the Dorset and Devon and Dorset Regt. Headquarters. Officers of both headquarters had been most helpful and this was greatly appreciated by this outpost Branch of the Association. Early in the year several new members joined the Branch and it was pleasing to note that in their number were some Devonshire and Dorset Regiment recruits who joined during the recent recruiting campaign manned by Lt. J. Wilsey and Sgt. McGoldrick. This was very encouraging for both the Regiment and Association alike. Jurat F. R. Billot was once again elected as our President, with Mr. H. J. Seager as Hon. Treasurer and Secretary.

President for 27 years

At the annual reunion dinner held at the Maison Victor Hugo Hotel in April an illuminated address was presented to Jurat F. R. Billot as a mark of esteem and thanks for his 27 years as President of the Jersey Branch.

June was another important month for the President, and Vice-President, E. A. Audrain, who represented the Branch at Bayeux on the occasion of the town of Dorchester's road naming ceremony. We were further honoured by our President being asked to hoist the Union Jack on this great day.

The summer brought the usual number of visitors who were entertained by members. "Tich" Hounslow (London Branch) paid us his annual visit and attended our August meeting. All regimental visitors are invited to call at our local headquarters where they will be made welcome.

In September members held their summer outing and tea, wives and children being entertained by

the Branch. As usual, the Branch was represented at the Cenotaph and the Festival of Remembrance. Once again at Christmastime the Branch was able to help more needy comrades and widows. Children were remembered in a practical manner. In closing his report the hon. secretary stated that he would like to stress the great work that the social section was doing for the Branch.

PORTSMOUTH BRANCH

We have very little news as we only have a few old faithfuls who attend our monthly meetings, which are held in the British Legion Hall, Sixth Avenue, Cosham. We would like to see a few more Old Comrades attend.

We are sorry to announce the death of our President, Brig. J. S. Hewick, who died recently on his way to Australia to see the Test Matches out there. Many of you will have seen the happy picture published in the August Journal of his meeting with Col. H. A. Case in Kenya. We extend our sympathy to Mrs. Hewick in her sad loss.

As Secretary of the Portsmouth Branch, I would like to express on behalf of my wife and myself our thanks to the Birmingham and London Branches for the grand time they gave us at the reunion dinners.

SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH

Our Branch notes this quarter are somewhat brief but we would like to send our good wishes to Sid Thompson of Nottingham, who has been in hospital for a month. We understand he is now home again, and all his old comrades look forward to hearing that he is making progress back to his former good health.

News of another old comrade was given me recently—Dolly Dayman of Australia. Unfortunately he has had to retire from farming on medical advice. We would all like to wish him a happy and peaceful retirement.

It is with regret that we report the death of Charlie Dodge, who has been in St. Paul's Hospital, Winchester, for some considerable time. He died on March 4 at the grand old age of 87 years.

(Dorset A.C.F.—continued from page 70)

It is with regret that we say good-bye to Brigadier Kent, our affiliated Formation Commander, who has done so much to help us, and we welcome his successor, Brigadier Mills.

The Annual Camp recce took place at the beginning of March. Four Officers, including the Deputy County Commandant, drove to Newquay—this year's camp is to be at Penhale—and trek routes were worked out. Also a visit was paid to R.N.A.S. Culdrose, who have promised to help with demonstrations during the camp period.

Col. Sir Richard Glyn, M.P., presented the new cap badges to cadets from the four Detachments who are now affiliated to the 250 (Q.O.D. and W.S.Y.) Regiment, R.A. The presentation was held at The Barracks, Dorchester. Much hard work was put in by Detachment Commanders and boys to make the parade such a success, and many compliments were received.

Early March saw the commencement of Post Certificate "A" training for our senior cadets in the form of three week-ends arranged by O.C., Dorset Regiment (T.A.). This was to implement the "Special to Arms" training policy of the War Office to train cadets specifically in the role of their affiliated unit. All concerned are much looking forward to these week-ends with the T.A. Battalion, and we are sure they will derive much benefit and enjoyment from them.

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