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# THE BORDERERS' CHRONICLE



## The JOURNAL of THE KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS

*Allied Regiment of The Canadian Army: 1st Battalion, The Royal New Brunswick Regiment, The Armouries, St. John, New Brunswick, Canada.*

*Allied Battalions of Australian Infantry: 25th Battalion (The Darling Downs Regiment) Training Depot, Toowoomba, Australia. The 34th Infantry Battalion, Illawarra Regiment, Harbour Street, Wollongong, N.S.W., Australia.*

*Allied Regiment of Malaya: 5th Battalion, The Malay Regiment, Mentakab, Pahang, Malaya.*

Vol. 31. No. 1.

REGISTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.

31st May, 1958.

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## EDITORIAL

The publication of this issue of the *Chronicle* has been held up slightly in order to include a short description of the Regimental Fete held in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the Territorial Army, at Blake-lands, Floors Castle, Kelso, on May 10th. It was wonderfully organised by Colonel Jack Hankey.

You will remember, in the last two numbers, articles by Alastair Thorburn on the liaison with our two Australian affiliated Regiments which he has been able to establish by being on the United Kingdom Services Liaison Staff in Melbourne. In April, Major Campbell Robertson, of the 25th Infantry Regiment (The Darling Downs), paid a visit to the Regimental Depot at Berwick. Not only did we, in the Officers' Mess, have the pleasure of hearing first-hand news of this unit, but Major Robertson made time to give a most interesting talk on life in Australia to all our recruits. See photo on page 28.

The Regiment presented in April, a Regimental Plaque to The Viscount Nuffield in recognition of all that his Forces Trust has done for the Regiment during the service of the 1st Battalion overseas in Korea and Malaya in the way of cigarettes and other comforts.

The following is his reply to O.C. Depot:

"I am writing to convey to you my warmest thanks for your letter of 1st May, and for the extremely generous thought which has prompted your sending me the Regimental Plaque which I received today, as a token of the gratitude of all ranks of The King's Own Scottish Borderers for the help given to them during the years by my Forces Trust.

"Will you please convey to everyone my appreciation and pleasure, and assure them that I shall treasure this unusual gift.

Yours sincerely,

NUFFIELD."

Finally, we would like to say how much we are looking forward to the return of the 1st Battalion from Malaya.

They will be pleased to hear that six of their soldiers from their winning Rugger team of 1956 played in the K.O.S.B. Seven at Kelso and won the competition against stout opposition, watched by nearly ten thousand visitors to the K.O.S.B. Kelso Fete.

## MARRIAGES

FOULIS—WEST. Capt. J. A. Foulis, M.C., married at Berwick-upon-Tweed, on 11th January, 1958, to Ann Margaret West.

HAIR—WRIGHT. The wedding of Miss Gillian Wright, daughter of Major S. T. C. Wright, the General Secretary of the K.O.S.B. Association, to Lieut. E. N. Hair, R.N., took place in Berwick at the Parish Church on December 21st, 1957. It is of interest that the bride was born in Poona while the 2nd Battalion were serving there. Photo on page 30.

## BIRTHS

OATTS—To Capt. R. H. B. and Mrs. Oatts, a son, Jeremy Roderick Henry, born at Nairn, 6th January, 1958.

MANN—To Major and Mrs. Mann a son, Charles James, born at Dumfries, 3rd April, 1958.

## Extracts from the London Gazette

### REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

Major (Hon. Lieut.-Colonel) R. D. Sellon (41392) having exceeded the age limit ceases to belong to the Reserve of Officers, 7th September, 1957.

Class III.—Lieut. A. R. P. Fairlie (424973) from T.A. National Service List, to be Lieutenant, 21st August, 1957, retaining his present seniority.

### ARMY EMERGENCY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

2nd/Lieut. R. J. Auld (448436) to be Lieutenant, 9th February, 1958.

National Service List.—2nd/Lieut. K. N. D. Ruxton (445629) to be Lieutenant, 26th August, 1957.

### REGULAR ARMY.

National Service List :—

The undermentioned Cadets to be 2nd/Lieuts., 22d February, 1958 :—

23409005 Hugh George Lyon Playfair (455556).

23378961 Charles William Pritchard (455557).

23409046 Charles Gilbert Wood (455566).

The following Officers have qualified and are recommended for the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration (T.D.) :—

Major G. L. Moodie (337728).

Capt. (Hon. Major) T. L. Birley (44762) retired.

Capt. G. W. T. Brook (350816) to be Major 3rd June, 1956. (Substituted for the notfn. in Gazette (Supplement) dated 28th May, 1957).

National Service List.—23380465 Cadet Alexander Frederick Wilkie (455357) to be 2nd/Lieutenant, 25th January, 1958.

Lieut. W. H. Davidson (418241) to be Captain, 3rd August, 1957.

The undermentioned to be Supernumerary to Establishment on the date shown :—

Colonel (Temp. Brigadier) A. P. W. Hope, C.B.E. (49876), late Infantry, 21st January, 1958.

National Service List.—23387293 Cadet Ronald Arthur Russell (454840) to be 2nd/Lieutenant, 7th December, 1957.

Memoranda.—Lieut.-Colonel W. M. B. Dunn, T.D. (96672), (Emp. List 1) (late K.O.S.B.) retires on retired pay, 4th February, 1958. (Reserve Liability).

National Service List.—R.M. (v) 203113 Cadet David Malcolm Telling (455176) to be 2nd/Lieutenant, 21st December, 1957.

Lieut. A. W. Rundell (420912) to be Captain, 8th February, 1958.

The undermentioned Brigadier (Temp. Major-General) to be Major-General on the date shown :—

J. F. M. MacDonald, D.S.O., O.B.E. (38523) late Infantry, 16th December, 1957.

2nd/Lieut. F. A. L. Alstead (445777) to be Lieutenant, 16th December, 1957.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to make the following appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) (New Year's List) :—

Lieut.-Colonel P. St. C. Harrison, D.S.O.

Lieut.-Colonel J. Macdonald.

Major D. J. Henson, M.B.E., M.C. (67131) to be Lieut.-Colonel, 15th November, 1957.

Capt. (Q.M.) C. W. Scotney (375232) to be Major (Q.M.), 13th January, 1958.

National Service List.—2nd/Lieut. M. J. Reynolds (446885) to be Lieutenant, 28th November, 1957.

Officer Cadet John Michael Hamilton (453482) from Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, to be 2nd/Lieutenant, 2nd August, 1957.

The undermentioned Brigadier (Temp. Major-General) to be Major-General on the date shown :—

W. F. R. Turner, D.S.O. (39501), late Infantry, 12th August, 1957.

Lieut. Robin David Elliot Legg (435224) from Short Service Commission, to be 2nd/Lieutenant 18th September, 1957, with seniority, 11th November, 1955.

2nd/Lieut. R. D. E. Legg (435224) to be Lieutenant, 18th September, 1957, with seniority, 11th November, 1955.

National Service List :—

23353334 Cadet John Michael McDiarmid (453171) to be 2nd/Lieutenant, 29th June, 1957.

23340513 Cadet Ian Hopes Morris (453175) to be 2nd/Lieutenant, 29th June, 1957.

Short Service Commission.—23242037 Cadet Paul Lanfear Harold Bristol (452821) to be 2nd/Lieutenant, 1st June, 1957.

2nd Lieut. I. A. Christie (443414) to be Lieutenant, 29th July, 1957.

To be Additional Member of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire :—

Capt. (Q.M.) James Anderson Johnson (415499).

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Military Cross to Lieut. Ian Alexander Christie (443414) in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Malaya.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of a Mention in Despatches to 23270024 L/Corpl. (acting) I. R. Fraser in recognition of gallant and distinguished conduct in operations in Malaya.

#### TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

Lieut.-Colonel A. J. Jardine Paterson, T.D. (88758), from Active List to be Lieut.-Colonel, 7th March, 1958, retaining his present seniority.

#### TERRITORIAL ARMY.

Major C. G. Grieve, T.D. (66200), to be Lieut.-Colonel, 7th March, 1958.

Capt. (Acting Major) T. R. Fairgrieve (384077) to

be Major, 3rd May, 1958, with seniority, 8th March, 1955.

22449988 Sergt. George Harvie (456316) to be 2nd/Lieutenant, 1st April, 1958.

2nd/Lieut. W. Thyne (449415) to be Lieutenant, 30th March, 1958.

Lieut. David Hamilton Crake (360588) (Reserve of Officers, K.O.S.B.), to be Captain, 11th November, 1957.

2nd/Lieut. W. Thyne (449415) from Regular Army National Service List, to be 2nd/Lieut., 18th December, 1957, with seniority, 4th August, 1956.

2nd/Lieut. D. B. Swinfen (447564) to be Lieutenant, 29th December, 1957.



Capt. Foulis Wedding. Outside Berwick Parish Church. The Bride, Bridegroom and the Piper, Corpl. Cochrane.

# 1st BATTALION

## EDITORIAL

On 2nd March, 1958, the Battalion was back complete in Selarang Barracks on Singapore Island. It had been filtering down from Malaya throughout February, but did not cease operations in the Federation until 20th February. There are unfortunately no more kills to write about nor any outstanding operational incidents to recount. A brief description of the operations the Battalion carried out during its last three months up-country, however, might interest readers at home, and it might give some insight into the hours of gruelling work the young Regulars and National Servicemen put in in the jungle with little apparent result to the eyes of the outside world.

## OPERATIONS

The aim for the period 1st December, 1957, to 1st March, 1958, was to chase the C.T.'s so hard that it would be impossible for them to remain static and make food dumps, or plan food lifts, and through continual pressure from the Battalion they might be forced into making mistakes which would result in a capture, a kill, or even a surrender. The aim sounded simple. The difficulties in achieving it were the insufficient troops and the lack of information about the C.T.'s

who were operating in an area of several hundred square miles of rubber and jungle.

In order to overcome the shortage of troops the Commanding Officer had under his command for various operations in January/February one Company of 1st Cheshires, who came from Segamat, approximately 60 miles north of our Battalion area, and one Company from the 1/7 Gurkha Rifles from Kluang, approximately 30 miles to our east. A combined operations room was set up at Yong Peng, and a Signals Control Centre was created which rivalled Alexandra Palace.

With more men, but still little information to work on (except the Intelligence Officer's brain waves), the Commanding Officer decided upon the following type of operation. First, he selected the most likely area in which the C.T.'s were working. These areas were saturated with troops for 14-20 days and the outside of the areas were cordoned by ambush troops. This usually meant that the Rifle Companies patrolled an area all day till before sunset when they would march to another fresh area, and get what sleep they could before patrolling their new area on the next day. H.Q. Company would move out at night from Batunphat to act as ambush parties in the cordon area.



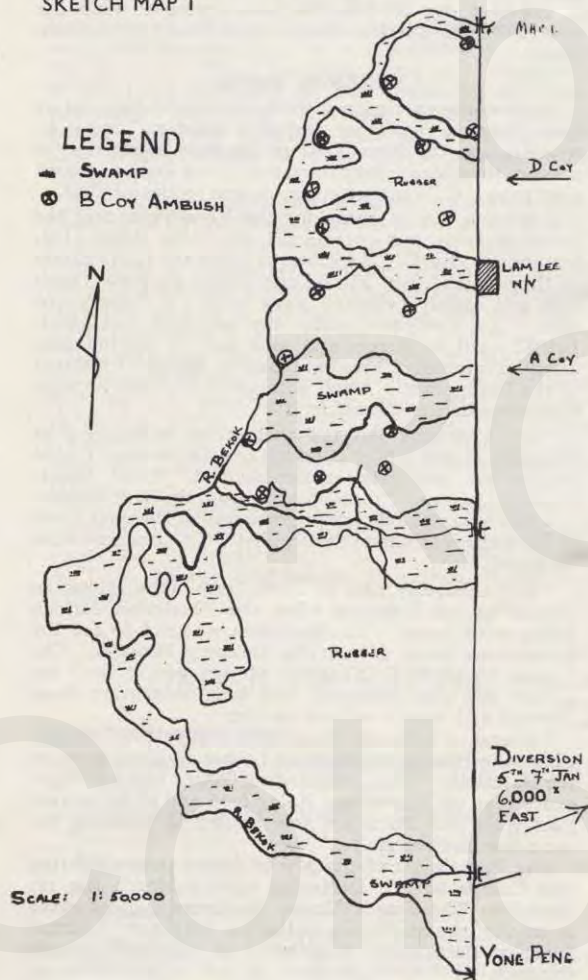
A new draft at Batu Pahat being lectured in jungle warfare by 2nd/Lieut. Aitken.

From 6th January to 14th February the Battalion carried out three of these operations. The C.T.'s certainly felt the effects of this pressure. Most information came in from the rubber tappers who became more co-operative than ever before once they saw that the military were getting on top.

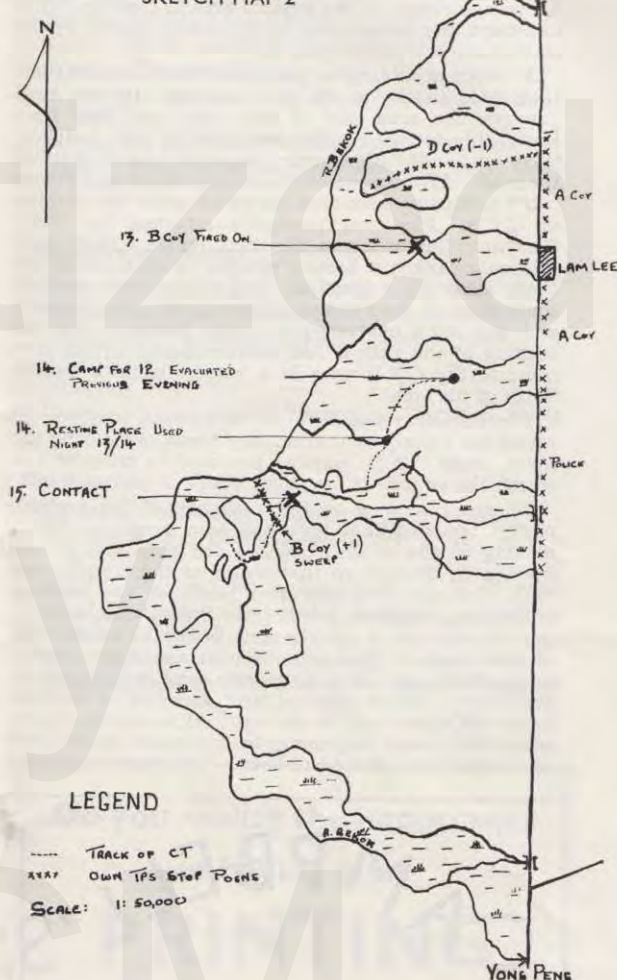
Finally, Special Branch told the Battalion that we had forced many of the C.T.'s out of the area.

One of these operations resulted in two contacts by "B" Company. This operation was based on historical information compiled as a result of the heavy patrolling during 1957. It was only by plotting carefully old camps and tracks reported by Patrol Commanders that any kind of movement picture of the C.T.'s could be built up; and a fair picture had in fact been built up of a C.T. Cell which operated in an expanse of rubber and swamp around a Chinese new village called Lamlee. The main north-south road through the area is bounded on the west and north by a deep river and very wet swamp, and on the east and south by more swamp and secondary jungle. The Lamlee Cell of the M.C.P. which operated in this area was a small one of approximately seven C.T.'s which included a high ranking official by the name of Kek Yong. The Cell lived in

SKETCH MAP 1



SKETCH MAP 2



the swamps and rarely moved more than 5,000 yards from the village of Lamlee. The previous effort to catch this Cell had been unsuccessful for reasons beyond our control, but at last we were given a free hand in the area and the following plan was made.

"B" Company was to occupy multiple ambush positions of six men each in the swamp to the west of the main road, while the remainder of the Battalion was to carry out an intensive search of the area east of the road. "B" Company was to ensure that no one either saw or heard them moving into their ambush positions, and it was hoped that the other Companies would force the C.T.'s across the road into the ambushers. To make quite certain that "B" Company had every chance of deploying unseen, the remainder of the Battalion were to be deployed on a three-day deception operation in another area about 6,000 yards from Lamlee so that there would be a good chance of the Lamlee Cell being in the Lamlee new village area at the right time (see sketch map 1). As soon as the east of the road had been thoroughly searched, "A" Company was to occupy ambush positions on the east of the road and "D" Company was to cross over, and together with "B" Company, were to carry out

a thorough search of the western area in case the C.T.'s had crept into some corner of the swamp unseen by the ambushers (see sketch map 2).

All went according to plan, and the Companies left their base camps on the 5th January. By the 12th January the area east of the main road had been thoroughly searched and at first light on 13th January, "B" and "D" Companies began to search west of the road. Within seconds of entering one of the swamps "B" Company were fired on by an unknown number of C.T.'s. Fire was promptly returned by "B" Company, but owing to the thick jungle foliage, each side only caught a fleeting glimpse of each other and there were no casualties. The C.T.'s were tracked south through the swamps all day on the 13th January, and the track continued on 14th January. By the evening of the 14th it had become fairly certain that some of the C.T.'s were in a narrow neck of swamp south of the area.

The Battalion was deployed in ambush positions all round the swamp to prevent any break out during the night, while "B" Company prepared to move in and search the swamp at first light.

At about 9 p.m. on the 14th one of the ambush parties reported that they had seen suspicious lights moving in the swamp towards the road and it was decided to thicken up that sector of the cordon with H.Q. Company. Within two hours of the warning order going out from Tac H.Q. to Batu Pahat, approximately 200 men in vehicles were lining the weak sector of the cordon. The remainder of the night proved unsuccessful and H.Q. Company were withdrawn at first light. Thirty minutes later, however, a burst of firing was heard from the swamp. All round the swamp ambushers were beginning to speculate as to how successful this contact had been. The questions in our

minds were soon answered by "B" Company Commander who sent the following message to Tac H.Q. over the wireless within thirty minutes of the firing being heard.

"Contact, Contact, Contact. At 07.00 hrs. opened fire on three armed and uniformed C.T.'s. No casualties. Recovered three packs. I think we hit one but have not yet been able to carry out a search. Will report further developments as soon as possible."

The search, unfortunately, produced no body, and for the remainder of the day the Battalion re-deployed to cut off the most likely escape routes with no success.

In February, "B" Company took part in an amphibious operation involving crossing the River Simpang Kiri. This resulted in "B" Company H.Q. almost being drowned when their boat capsized. Such are operations in Malaya against the C.T.—months of searches culminating in two or three minutes of intense excitement (after covering probably approximately 11,000 yards of difficult country every two days).

They were a disappointing three months of intense work. These operations which are like human grouse drives in difficult country with few game, long walks, long waits and in an unpredictable climate, have left their mark on the Yong Peng area, and our successors in the area, 1st R. Lincolns, are hoping to reap the reward due to the Battalion's work over the last two years.

#### GENERAL NOTES

A Company carried out their month's re-training at Batu Pahat in December, and after assisting Main H.Q. to celebrate the New Year in an even more riotous manner than usual, they moved to Yong Peng and took over from "C" Company who moved to Batu Pahat.

Everyone was in camp for the New Year, and the Battalion was non-operational for three days. Unfortunately, the C.T.'s seemed to know the Scots habits as they walked into Yong Peng village on New Year's Eve and calmly collected some food. A detachment from "A" Company, under the Adjutant and Lieut. Bristol went to Manila and took part in the inauguration ceremonies of President Garcia, the new President of the Philippines. A full account of the visit appears elsewhere in the *Chronicle*.

"C" Company covered themselves with glory at Flagstaff House whilst carrying out Ceremonial Guard Duties for the Commander-in-Chief. Their efforts resulted in a congratulatory letter from the Commander-in-Chief who was officially nominated as the next Chief of the Imperial General Staff whilst "C" Company were on guard.

"D" Company had to move from Ayer Hitam to Cha'ah on 1st February when the Rhodesian African Rifles went home. The Battalion was sad to see the Rhodesians leave 26 Gurkha Infantry Brigade. The "Jock" and the "Nugget" always got on well together and the Battalion will long remember their cheerful and happy outlook on life.

The end of February meant frequent farewell parties which the generous planters and other civilians gave for the Battalion. The Commanding Officer had to endure every type of Chinese and Malay food and all of us were glad when the Battalion was settled in Selarang for some rest and retraining.

The Battalion had quickly to forget jungle fighting and change to I.S. Duties as on 8th March the 1st Battalion The South Wales Borderers handed over to us the responsibilities of the 1st Singapore Internal Security Battalion. As a result of excellent demonstrations by "C" Company of riot drills and every

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conceivable way of dealing with an I.S. situation, the whole Battalion successfully carried out a Singapore Base District Internal Security Exercise in Singapore City on 7th March. It had indeed been a quick change from jungle hats to steel helmets.

The Commanding Officer's main aim for the first few days was for Officers and N.C.O.'s to get to know the streets of Singapore. This, of course, gave plenty of scope for other pastimes in Singapore during working hours.

The Battalion has had one major social function since arriving in Selarang. On 19th March a "Retreat" and Cocktail Party was held, which was attended by H.E. The Governor and Lady Goode, General Sir Francis and Lady Festing, The Earl of Bandon, C-in-C. Air Force, Major General R. G. Collingwood, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C. Singapore Base District, and 600 service people and civilians, 350 of whom attended the Officers' cocktail party.

On 1st April, Major General R. G. Collingwood, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., left Singapore Base District, and our new G.O.C. is General C. L. Richardson, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. He has already visited the Battalion twice and no doubt we will see a great deal more of him on I.S. duties.

There has been no great sporting event during the last three months except the FARELF Rugger Cup which the Battalion just lost in an exciting final against the R.A.S.C. The Champion Company Competition is now being competed for and Companies are busily practicing swimming, shooting, hockey, football, boxing and even Highland dancing. Companies are also in the middle of their C.O.'s Administrative Inspection.

The Battalion takes great pleasure in congratulating Capt. (Q.M.) J. A. Johnson on his award of an M.B.E., and Lieut. I. A. Christie on his award of an M.C.

Major H. S. Gillies, M.C., left the Battalion in February after a tour of five years. All ranks of the Battalion wish him success in his new job and welcome Major G. M. Dinwiddie, T.D.

The following Officers have left the Battalion since the issue of the last *Chronicle*:—Major H. S. Gillies, M.C., to U.K. pending posting, Lieut. M. J. Reynolds to attend R.C.B., 2nd/Lieut. J. Aitken on release, Lieut. T. B. A. Butson on cessation of attachment from N.Z. Army, 2nd/Lieut. C. E. B. Stewart on release.

The following Officers have joined the Battalion:—Major G. M. Dinwiddie, T.D., Major W. E. B. Atkinson, Major A. J. Rennie, Capt. A. M. Cameron, Lieut. A. J. C. Howat, 2nd/Lieuts. Hamilton, Wood, and Pritchard.

## ORDER OF BATTLE

### Battalion Headquarters

*Commanding Officer.*—Lieut.-Colonel J. D. Henson, M.B.E., M.C.

*Second-in-Command.*—Major G. M. Dinwiddie, T.D.  
*Training Officer.*—Major F. H. Coutts, M.B.E.

*Adjutant.*—Lieut. A. D. Myrtle.

*P.R.I.*—Major T. Little, M.C.

*Intelligence Officer.*—Lieut. R. W. Riddle.

*Quartermaster.*—Capt. (Q.M.) J. A. Johnson, M.B.E.

*Medical Officer.*—Lieut. A. B. Mulholland, R.A.M.C.

*Padre.*—The Rev. A. D. Scrimgeour, B.D., R.A.Ch.D.

*Paymaster.*—Major J. Cairns, R.A.P.C.

*Cadre Officer.*—Capt. J. W. Lindquist.

*Weapon Training Officer.*—Capt. W. H. Davidson.

*Weapon Training Sergt.-Major.*—W.O. II. A. J. Wells.

*Regimental Sergt.-Major.*—R.S.M. R. Maddison.

*Orderly Room Quartermaster Sergt.*—C/Sergt. G. E. Smyth.

### Headquarters 1 Group

*Company Commander.*—Major T. Little, M.C.

*Regimental Signals Officer.*—Lieut. F. A. L. Alstead.

*Mechanical Transport Officer.*—Lieut. (Q.M.) G. J. Grant, B.E.M.

*Company Sergt.-Major.*—C.S.M. J. Murdoch, D.C.M.

*Company Quartermaster Sergeant.*—C/Sergt. R. Greig.

### Headquarters 2 Group

*Company Commander.*—Major J. B. A. Smyth.

*Mortar Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. I. A. Christie, M.C.

*M.M.G. Platoon Commander.*—Capt. A. W. Rundell.

*M.M.G. Platoon Commander Designate.*—Lieut. N. McL. V. Bristol.

*Company Sergt.-Major.*—C.S.M. J. P. Docherty.

*Company Quartermaster Sergeant.*—C/Sergt. W. Dover.

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**"A" Company**

*Company Commander.*—Major Sir W. E. Jardine, Bt., T.D.

*Second-in-Command.*—Capt. G. P. Murdoch.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. A. J. W. Berry.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. G. M. Thomson.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. C. G. Wood.

*Company Sergt.-Major.*—C.S.M. J. P. White.

*Company Quartermaster Sergeant.*—C/Sergt. P. B. Gow.

**"B" Company**

*Company Commander.*—Major A. J. Rennie.

*Second-in-Command.*—Capt. A. M. Cameron.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. R. D. E. Legg.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. J. M. McDiarmid.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. I. H. Morris.

*Company Sergt.-Major.*—C.S.M. R. Funston.

*Company Quartermaster Sergt.*—C/Sergt. B. Taylor, M.M.

**"C" Company**

*Company Commander.*—Major C. G. Stonor, M.C.

*Second-in-Command.*—Capt. R. G. R. Hill.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. D. A. Campbell.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. P. L. H. Bristol.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. R. A. Russell.

*Company Sergt.-Major.*—C.S.M. W. Carmichael.

*Company Quartermaster Sergt.*—C/Sergt. A. Laidlaw, D.C.M.

**"D" Company**

*Company Commander.*—Major W. E. B. Atkinson.

*Second-in-Command.*—Capt. R. H. B. Oatts.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. D. M. Telling.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. C. W. Pritchard.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. J. M. Hamilton.

*Company Sergt.-Major.*—C.S.M. T. B. Kirkhope, M.M.

*Company Quartermaster Sergt.*—C/Sergt. K. Fraser.

**MILITARY BAND**

We left Batu Pahat on the 4th January, 1958, a month sooner than we expected. This was due to being warned for Duty Band in Singapore for the month of January instead of February.

There were no regrets at leaving Batu Pahat. It was not an ideal situation for a Military Band.

On arrival at Selarang Garrison we were soon overwhelmed with Band duties. Our No. 3 Dress had never been in such great demand and at one period we wore it ten times in sixteen days. We congratulate our dhoby on his magnificent efforts to keep our white tunics clean, starched and well pressed.

It is quite impossible to enumerate all the Guards of Honour, Annual Administration Inspections, Officers' Messes, etc., where we have performed, but the two major duties were on 18th January—Dinner Party at the C-in-C's residence, Flagstaff House;

and on 19th January—Guard of Honour with the Singapore Infantry Regiment for the Right Honourable Harold McMillan, M.P., The Prime Minister. The Commanding Officer received a most appreciative letter from the Commander-in-Chief after their performance on the 18th January.

On the 25th, 29th January and 1st February we played at the Bukit Timah Race Course. The Bandmaster reckons he's not going to play there again because he loses more than he earns, but we are sure he will join us for the March/April Meeting starting on the 29th March. However, playing at the races was a pleasant change from marching on concrete barrack squares.

Our next duty of note was a reception and dinner at Government House. We were honoured when we were told we had been specially selected for this function. The Band played under floodlights and the reflection from the accoutrements and instruments formed a colourful background for the reception. When the evening was completed H.E. The Governor personally thanked the Band for their performance. The Commanding Officer received the following letter :—

Government House,  
Singapore.

"Thank you very much for permitting your Regimental Band to play at Government House last evening at the Reception and Dinner Party held in honour of the Right Honourable Harold McMillan, M.P., and Lady Dorothy McMillan.

The turnout and military bearing of the Band, and their excellent musical performance were much appreciated by all of us and contributed greatly to the success of the evening.

I would be grateful if you would convey my appreciation to Bandmaster Stockham and the members of the band."

Yours sincerely,  
W. GOODE (Governor).

We congratulate Corpl. M. Verner on passing the trade test Bandsman AI, Bdsman. Vizard, S and Upton—Bandsman A II, and Bdsman. A. Campbell and D. Irvine, A III.

The strength of the Band, by instruments, is now :—

*Flute.*—Bdsman. D. Irvine.

*Solo Bb Clarinet.*—Bdsman. J. Sinclair, H. Bain and L/Corpl. T. Waterhouse.

*Eb. Clarinet.*—Bdsman. J. Hill.

*1st Bb Clarinet.*—L/Corpl. T. Shorney.

*2nd Bb Clarinet.*—Bdsman. L. Gray and A. Thomson.

*3rd Bb Clarinet.*—Bdsman. L. Piggott, T. McMillan and D. Penny.

*Eb Alto Saxophone.*—Corpl. A. Irvine.

*Bb Tenor Saxophone.*—Bdsman. J. Holland.

*Eb Baritone Saxophone.*—Bdsman. A. Campbell.

*Horn.*—Sergt. R. G. Bell, Corpl. M. Verner and Bdsman. A. Stroud.

*1st Bb Cornet.*—Sergt. R. E. Carre, Bdsman. S. Vizard, W. McRobert, and R. Lunn.

*2nd Bb Cornet.*—Bdsman. C. Hewitt, A. Cuthbertson and J. Donald.

*1st Trombone.*—Sergt. J. Morgan and Bdsman. J. Maher.

2nd Trombone.—Bdsm. S. Whyte.

Bass Trombone.—L/Corpl. W. Cessford.

Euphonium.—Bdsm. H. Cornthwaite.

BBb Bass.—Corpl. J. Tweedie.

Eb Bass.—Bdsm. B. Upton, T. Potter and P. Scott.

Percussion.—Corpl. L. Divine.

We have said farewell to Major H. S. Gillies, M.C., as Band President. No one understood our problems so much. It is due to his unsparing efforts we are still a first class Military Band. We wish him every success in his new appointment and welcome in his place Major G. M. Dinwiddie, T.D.

## PIPES AND DRUMS

Since our last notes we have, as usual, been trying hard to build the Pipes and Drums up to strength. Pipers are being produced by a sort of sausage making process, and everyone has been pounding the square for many hours per day and losing, in the process, gallons of sweat and the last remaining traces of Blighty (or jungle) pallor.

One of the most interesting jobs we have had was the visit by part of the Band to Manila in the Philippines. A full description of the visit is contained elsewhere but we really enjoyed our very hurried visit. It is quite a point on which to ponder that in the two and a half years we have been in Malaya, Pipers have visited Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Hong Kong, Borneo, Burma, and have covered Malaya fairly thoroughly to play at various functions.

The Pipe-Major and three Pipers, L/Corpl. Wilson, Pte. Glendinning and Boy Bell visited Rangoon in February for the opening ceremony of the British War Memorial. We travelled there and back by *H.M.S. Newcastle*, and although there was the usual overcrowding that seems part of the Senior Service, we really enjoyed ourselves. Someone on board had the bright idea of attaching one or two soldiers to each department of sailors. Thereafter for the next few days everyone got very wet from the deck washing parties who waded around waist deep in freezing water.

It was only when the commander on tour of inspection saw :—

- a. A very unintelligent looking soldier probing the innards of a torpedo and
- b. A very small soldier drop a very large shell which he was carrying up a ladder that it was decided that, "We should give these happy chaps a holiday." Unfortunately the sea was very calm and therefore the sea sick pills, anti-mess-on-the-stairs-bags, thermometer, and corked bottle of brandy considered essential by the Pipe-Major for any sea voyage, were not required. The ration of one (yes only one) bottle of beer per day almost proved fatal to many of the ancient types who appeared from G.H.Q.

The ceremony took place at the War Cemetery, which is about ten miles up the Prome road from the old Mission Buildings at Mingadadon. It was a beautiful memorial set amidst well kept grounds. Several graves of members of the King's Own Scottish Borderers are set in a very prominent position. We were able to take some photographs but owing to lack of time and the exorbitant price of film in Rangoon, we were unable to take as many photographs as we would have liked. We returned from Rangoon on 14th February, and from then until 19th March we spent every day and all day practicing for the "Retreat." The full dress rehearsal was rained off and it was clear that the

Commanding Officer and the Adjutant were despairing of the quality of the Pipe Band, as on the proper Dress Rehearsal the Bass Drummer was still recovering from the Adjutant's Parade of the same morning—the result was disastrous. However, all went well on the great day. It was a glorious evening and a critical audience of Officers and civilian dignitaries seemed suitably impressed.

Finally, we send our congratulations to one of our most energetic ex-Pipe Band Presidents, Lieut.-Colonel J. Macdonald, on his award of an O.B.E.

## SERGEANTS' MESS

We are now out of the "Green Hell" and once again are enjoying life on the "Island in the Sun."

Life has been rather more hectic than usual since our last notes, this being due to the New Year festivities, followed by the packing up at Batu Pahat the move to Singapore, and finally, getting settled in.

We handed over the Mess at Batu Pahat to the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment who are certainly no strangers to us, having served beside the 1st Battalion during the War, and in the Middle East.

Major General R. N. Anderson, G.O.C. 17th Gurkha Division, visited the Mess on 29th November, and on the following evening we held our St. Andrew's Night social, which was quite a success.

The Christmas Draw took place on 21st December, but the Christmas period was spent quietly as practically the whole Battalion was in the jungle at that time. However, we more than made up for this at New Year, when we indulged in a three day bout of eating, drinking and general merrymaking.

Calamity occurred at the Burn's Dinner on 25th January, when it was discovered that no-one knew the address, but nevertheless, things went with a swing, and Sergt. Scott produced a splendid haggis.

The inter-Company postings amongst the Mess members have been many and varied, but we hope that all those involved are happily settled into their new employments.

We have had a considerable number of arrivals and departures over the period.

These are as follows :—

*Departures* :—Sergt. Skinner, A.C.C., on posting ; Sergt. Barclay, R.E.M.E., on U.K. course ; Sergt. Croft, Int. Corps, release ; Sergt. Lister, R.A.V.C., release ; S/Sergt. Robinson-Williams, R.A.P.C., on posting.

*Arrivals* :—Sergt. Gow, rejoined Battalion from Farell Training Centre ; Sergt. Ferguson, R.E.M.E., posted in ; Sergt. McAllister, from U.K.

To all those who have left us, the best of luck in the future, and to those who have joined, we extend a warm welcome to the Mess.

Our congratulations are offered to all of the following on their recent promotions :—W.O. II. Sayer, W.O. II. White, C/Sergt. Gow, C/Sergt. Taylor, S/Sergt. Sumner, R.E.M.E., Sergt. Duckett, and Sergt. Johnstone.

The two last named we welcome and hope that they will enjoy life in the Mess.

Congratulations also to Pipe-Major Bradford, and Sergts. Hogg and Robson, whose wives have all presented them with daughters.

We regret that W.O. II. Sayer and Sergt. Devenney have had to be whisked away for a spell in hospital, and hope they will soon be on their feet again.

## RUGGER

The Battalion Rugger side began the season with only one member of last year's winning side remaining, and the prospect did not look encouraging. In addition to the fact that operations made it difficult to have a trial, the low strength of the Battalion as a whole made it extremely difficult for Company Commanders to allow any players away for any form of training. However, a trial was held early in the season and the team began to take shape, it being agreed by all concerned that wherever possible the players would be sent to Main H.Q. three or four days before a match to train.

After two enjoyable games against Kluang Garrison and the S.W.B. which we won and lost respectively, the team travelled up to Kuala Lumpur to play the 17th Division R.E. in the first round of the 17th Division Shield. The team by this time was beginning to show great promise. The forwards were light but fast, and being on the whole smaller than their opponents were able to pack lower and tighter with the result that the backs were well fed with the ball throughout the game. Like the good Border pack they were, difficult to stop in the forward rush, on many occasions they delighted the spectators with some fine spirited tear aways. The threequarters this year were a great improvement on last year's, and throughout the season gave a very polished display, being ably supported by a full back who was rock-like in defence and fast and dangerous in attack. No names have been mentioned and it would be invidious to do so as the accent during the season has been on the team and not on the individual, and there is no doubt that by sticking to this principle during the past two years the Battalion side has done extremely well.

The opening rounds of the 17th Division Shield, played at Kuala Lumpur and Gemas against the 17th Division Sappers and 48th Field Regiment R.A., were won 22-0, and 17-0, respectively. Both these games were won fairly easily and provided much needed match practice for the side, but it was with trepidation that we found ourselves on the train for Kuala Lumpur on 25th January, 1958, to play the much vaunted and massive (we were told) 3rd R.A.R. in the final. This game, played at the old Malaya Command Stadium in almost ideal conditions, was most exciting.

### *The Final of the 17th Division Shield*

The first half was a grim struggle, with most of the game going to the Australians who threw the ball about in an enterprising manner. The score at half time was three all. The second half opened with a bang and the Australians, after a clever movement which started on our twenty-five, scored under the posts to make the score 8-3. The Borderers quickly up the field after the kick-off landed a penalty goal, kicked by the full back. From this point the game took a different trend and the Australians began to tire under the continual pressure of the Border pack, who produced quick heels, which resulted in the backs scoring three more tries to make the final score 17-8. This game completed the Malayan Zone Competition of the Farelf Cup and the Battalion met the 24th Field Engineer Regiment from Hong Kong at Batu Pahat on 29th January, 1958, in the semi-final of the Farelf Cup. This game was won 3-0 in very wet weather.

The final of the Farelf Cup was played on the Tanglin Ground, Singapore, on 3rd February, 1958. There were no changes in the side, and although we were nursing a number of bruised knees and thighs, the team ran on to the field in high spirits. From the

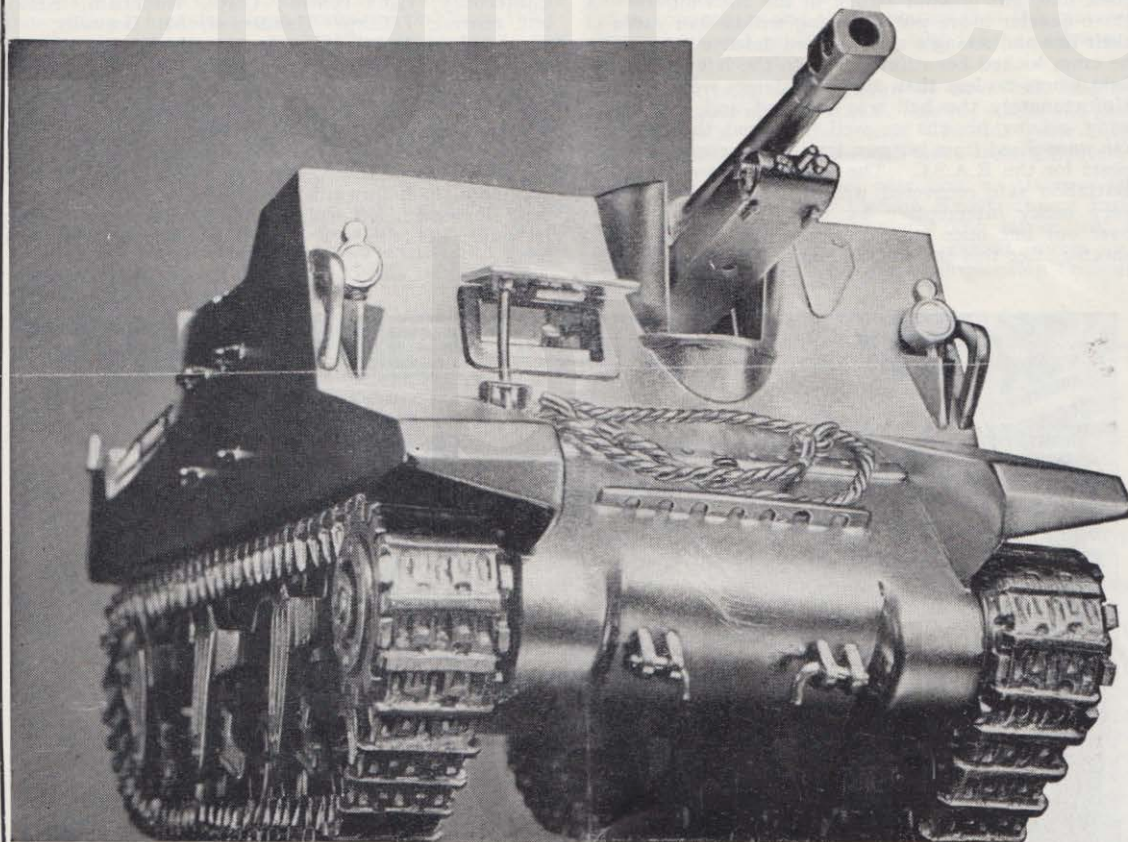


The Sergeants' Mess present their challenge to the Officers' Mess, New Year, 1957.  
L. to R—Sergt. Singleton (R.A.P.C.), Sergt. Flynn, M.M., C/Sergt. Mathews, Sergt. Barr, Sergt. Howie, R.S.M. Maddison, Drum-Major McNally.

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start we had little difficulty in holding the heavier R.A.S.C. pack and our backs were well fed with the ball and always looked dangerous. A quick gather from a loose scrum sent the ball down the line in the 20th minute into the hands of the full back who broke through the opposing three-quarter line and passed the ball to Berry who after beating another two men touched down under the posts. The score at half time remained at 5-0 to the K.O.S.B. The second half opened well and the result of the game looked a foregone conclusion. Several times we were almost over their line, but disaster struck in the 20th minute. A three-quarter move put our wing within five yards of their line and seeing a close packed defence before him, he cross kicked beautifully over to the left half of the field where no less than three Borderers were waiting. Unfortunately the ball was fumbled and their right wing, seizing his chance well, gathered the ball and ran unopposed from his own try line to score under the posts for the R.A.S.C. The score was now 5-5. The Battalion side recovered well from this blow, but a very lucky interception by the R.A.S.C. put them over our line once more to make the score 8-5, and shortly after this the whistle blew and we had lost the

Farelf Cup. It had been a good clean hard game and was much enjoyed by both sides, but I think it would be only fair to say that the Battalion side had played a total of six games during the season, whereas the R.A.S.C. had played no less than thirty.

The following men played for the Regimental Rugby team during the season 1957-1958:—

Lieut. Mulholland, R.A.M.C., Aberdeen, full back; L/Corpl. Smith, R.E.M.E., Abergavenny, right wing; Pte. Sharp, Hawick, right wing; 2nd/Lieut. Berry, Canterbury, right centre; Corpl. Buckham, Kelso, left centre; L/Corpl. Henderson, St. Boswells, left wing; Lieut. Riddle, Formby, stand off; Pte. Pitillo, Kelso, scrum half; L/Corpl. McFie, Edinburgh, right prop; L/Corpl. Purves, Galashiels, hooker; Corpl. Stillie, Selkirk, left prop; Pte. Crawford, Melrose, left prop; Lieut. Alstead, Glasgow, second row; L/Corpl. Cumming, Earlston, second row; Lieut. Reynolds, Dumbarton, wing forward; Pte. Hume, Jedburgh, lock forward; 2nd/Lieut. Stewart, Kelso, lock forward; L/Corpl. Eckford, Edinburgh, wing forward; Pte. Stewart, Stranraer (reserve), played in final.



Winners Far East Land Forces Football (Caldbeck Cup) Competition, 1957.

Winners Malaya Command Inter-Major Unit Competition, 1957.

Back Row.—Corpl. W. Smith, Pte. R. McNab, Corpl. D. Wells, Pte. A. Chapman, Pte. W. Clelland, Pte. C. Rudd, C.S.M. I. Freeman, A.P.T.C.  
Seated.—Pte. W. Bryce, Lieut.-Colonel D. W. McConnel, O.B.E., Commanding Officer, Pte. A. McCourt (captain), Capt. P. B. deT. Rooke (Football Officer), Corpl. E. Massie.  
In Front.—Pte. R. Graham, Pte. R. Blackwood.

## FOOTBALL

During our last few months in Batu Pahat we entered a team from Main H.Q. in the local league and knock-out competition. We finished third in the league and won the knockout. At the presentation of trophies for both competitions we thought it very amusing that the referee, linesmen and groundsmen each got presented with two civilian sports shirts instead of medals and cups.

The successful selection of teams was mainly due to the hard work of Corpl. Sinton who spent many hours "scouting" for talent from drafts arriving from U.K.

The Battalion side, with three exceptions, has completely turned over since winning the Farelf and Malaya championships last year.

The football season has now opened in Malaya but, unfortunately, we have already been eliminated from the Farelf Army Cup. In the first round we beat the 1st Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, who relieved us at Batu Pahat, 1-0.

This game was played with the field under two inches of water, but, nevertheless, declared playable by the officials. In the second round we went down 2-0 to 48th Field Regiment R.A., both goals being scored in the first ten minutes.

The "Gunnery" fielded four Scottish Juniors in their forward line and the positional play on both sides was a delight to watch. This "Ding Dong" battle lasted the full 80 minutes, and their goalkeeper had many anxious moments but defied our forwards with some magnificent saves. The defence stood up to the onslaught with great determination, and Graham, at centre half, was like the "Rock of Gibraltar," ably supported by half-backs Bell and Rudd. Corpl. Cranston, after an absence of three years, was recalled for the left-back position and showed some of his masterly skill. At the conclusion it was the opinion of the opposition and the spectators that the game will be remembered as one of the best fought games seen for many a long day.

Since arriving in Singapore we have only had one friendly game against R.A.F. Seletar, where the game resulted in a draw three each. In this game Corpl. Wells broke his leg and we wish him a speedy recovery.

With the I.S. Exercises over now we are now concentrating on the Inter-Platoon Knockout and Inter-Company League Competition. The latter will be keenly contested as the position gained counts on a points basis in the Company Championship Competition.

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# 4th (BORDER) BATTALION

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## EDITORIAL

THIS year is shaping in a somewhat different manner than usual for the 4th Battalion. During February and March it has been necessary to run concentrated Cadres on 3 in. Mortar, Anti-Tank Gun, M.M.G., Voice Procedure, Radiac Instruments and Light Rescue as this is the only time they can be fitted in before camp starts in July. The weekends of April and May are taken up with practices for the Regimental Fete at Floors Castle on 10th May. The Battalion is performing the Opening Parade and March Past in conjunction with W.R.A.C. (T.A.) and the A.C.F.; giving an Arms and Equipment Display; running an Officers' Refreshment Tent and giving a Massed Retreat at the end with the Pipes and Drums and Military Band of the 4th and 5th Battalions, in addition to being responsible for bringing in all personnel for the Fete and all produce and gifts for the stalls. Major T. R. Fairgrieve will command the Opening Parade with Capt. R. A. Brooks, M.C., and Capt. W. Bruce as Company Officers. Lieut. G. E. Scott Watson and Lieut. W. Thyne are carrying the Colours.

The weekends of June are fully committed with Annual Range Classification and practices for the T.A. Jubilee Parade in Edinburgh on 5th July at which H.M. The Queen is taking the salute. The following are representing the Battalion on the Jubilee Parade—Lieut. Colonel D. O. Hogg, M.C., T.D., J.P., Major T. R. Fairgrieve, Capt. R. A. Brooks, M.C., Lieut. G. E. Scott Watson and Lieut. W. Thyne (who are carrying the Colours), and 35 men plus the majority of the Military Band and 14 of the Pipes and Drums. Drum-Major J. Lyall, M.B.E., has had the honour of being chosen as the Senior Drum-Major of 52 Lowland

Division for the Parade and is responsible for the organisation of the Division Massed Pipe Bands.

The week after the T.A. Jubilee Parade, the Battalion goes to Annual Camp. This year we are camping at Fylingdales from 12th-26th July. Low Bridge North Camp, Fylingdales, is 10 miles north of Scarborough and 10 miles south of Whitby—also Butlin's Holiday Camp is nearby so there should be plenty of entertainment for everybody. We are glad to say that we are camping with our own Brigade (155 (L) Infantry Brigade). There is scope for firing all support weapons and field firing so we plan to do plenty of live firing—which, of course, is one of the main reasons for going to camp. We have arranged for private buses to convey the men into town and back each evening as civilian bus services are inadequate. A Brigade Massed Retreat has been arranged in Scarborough and we are at the moment negotiating for other outside engagements for both our Pipes and Drums and the Military Band.

On 15th-16th February an Officers' Week-end was held and the whole of Sunday was devoted to a Civil Defence Exercise at Civil Defence H.Q. in Galashiels. This was attended by Officers and W.O.s and proved most interesting and instructive. The Officers and W.O.s were divided into four syndicates each representing 4th K.O.S.B. The C.D. authorities then flooded us out with messages of atom bombs, refugees, looting, transit camp requirements, food shortages, large number of casualties, etc., and each syndicate had to decide what action to take and when to send aid. The Training Major summing up at the end pointed out that the old drills of Advance Party and Main Body applied equally well in atomic warfare, but it was just a question of how soon the Advance Party could approach the town requiring aid because

of menace of radiation—and we were interested to note that it was the Second-in-Command himself (O.C. Advance Party) who brought our attention to the fact that we were originally quite happy to send him straight into a radioactive zone provided he would get our billets ready before he was taken off to hospital!

On 26th-27th February the Battalion had its Annual Administrative Inspection which was carried out by the G.O.C. 52 Lowland Division, Major-General R. Delacombe, C.B.E., D.S.O., and a large array of staff officers. The Training Major, being single-handed, had his work cut out handling four Staff Officers as well as the G.O.C. for two complete days! However, the Inspection went off very well, and the Battalion received the highest grade possible in the Inspection Report and the G.O.C. congratulated the Battalion on its high standard of administration and its spotlessly clean Drill Halls (the latter accomplished by T.A. volunteers who elected to wash all the walls down themselves).

On the first day of the Inspection the plan was for the G.O.C., A.A. and Q.M.G. and G.S.O. 1 to arrive at 10.30 hrs. (the junior staff officers having already completed their preliminary details) and then for them to meet the C.O. and Second-in-Command at the Ednam House Hotel, Kelso, for lunch. However, this didn't go according to plan! The G.O.C. was in London the night before and the overnight train was held up by the snow so that the G.O.C. didn't arrive at Kelso until 1.25—by which time all concerned had been taking refreshment at Ednam House Hotel for nearly 1½ hours! The C.O. then gave us all a most enjoyable lunch and the Training Major can remember his watch showing 15.00 hrs. when the next round of drambuie was being ordered! Perhaps this was the way we got such an excellent report? Having toured

round a number of drill halls in the latter part of the afternoon, the G.O.C. and his party attended the drill night at Battalion H.Q., Galashiels. The G.O.C. first of all talked to representatives from all Companies who had travelled into Galashiels for the occasion, then inspected the Pipes and Drums, and next watched "C" Company being instructed in First Aid. After this the Inspecting Party adjourned to the Officers' Mess where they met the majority of the T.A. Officers. The second day was spent in touring the remainder of the Drill Halls (including Newcastleton) and finally Battalion H.Q. As a result of the Inspection Report, a letter of congratulation was received from the Brigade Commander, Brigadier D. H. Tadman, D.S.O., O.B.E.

On 22nd March the customary Officers' refreshment tent was run at the Kelso Point-to-Point Meeting—it was a very cold day and a record number of friends visited the bar!

We have been trying a new idea to attract recruits to the T.A. About once a month various Companies hold a Miniature Range night at which Free Beer is offered for good shooting. A certain amount of publicity is given to it and also T.A. members are asked to bring civilian friends along who are between 17½-35 years old. They have five shots a time and if they do well they win a bottle of beer!—which, incidentally, is drunk at the end of the evening when all the rifles and ammunition have been safely stored away! This is becoming increasingly popular and already enquiries have started as to how to join the 4th Battalion and, although the scheme is still in its infancy, a few recruits have already been obtained this way. A large number of 4th Battalion posters have been distributed around the Borders and with the Depot Recruiting Posters, the 1st Battalion Recruiting Posters, and the Regimental Fete Posters,



Civil Defence Exercise—Galashiels, 16th February, 1958.

Standing L. to R.—Capt. G. Poole (R.M.O.), W.O. II. Murdoch, 2nd/Lieut. Henderson, Major J. Hardcastle (O.C. "A" Company), Major T. Hobrow (O.C. "D" Company), Major T. Dundas (O.C. "B" Company), R.Q.M.S. Telford, W.O. II. Turnbull, W.O. II. Rankin, W.O. II. Cockburn, W.O. II. Amos, Mr. Robertson (C.D. Officer), 2nd/Lieut. W. Thyne, W.O. II. McKenna.

Seated L. to R.—Major D. J. Lear (Try. Major/Adj.), Lieut.-Colonel D. O. Hogg (C.O.), Lieut. Scott Watson (M.T.O.), Major A. M. Sturock (2i.c.), Capt. R. A. Brooks, Capt. W. Bruce.

we must be about the most "postered" unit in the U.K.! Recruiting over the last six months has shown a steady increase with five Officers and 30 men joining as volunteers.

#### *The Duke of Buccleuch's Pipe Banner.*

Our Honorary Colonel, The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry has most generously agreed to donating to the 4th Battalion a Pipe Banner for the Pipe-Major. This Banner is at present in the process of being embroidered by the School of Needlework at the Art College, Edinburgh. On the one side is the Coat of Arms of His Grace The Duke of Buccleuch and on the other side is the Regimental Badge. It is hoped that the Banner will be ready for use at Annual Camp this year.

#### *Permanent Staff.*

The Permanent Staff at present with the Battalion are as follows:—

*Training Major/Adjutant.*—Major D. J. Lear.

*Q.M.*—Major A. S. Stewart.

*Q.M. Designate.*—W.O. I. B. Downes.

*R.S.M.*—W.O. I. J. Legget.

*W.O. IIs.*—T. Cockburn, D. Rankin, W. Murdoch, S. Britten, T. Moffat, W. McKenna.

*Ptes.*—J. Ruickbie, T. Law, M. Scott, J. Mill.

Since the last issue, Capt. J. B. Henderson (Adjt.) has left the Battalion and the appointment of Training Major and Adjutant is a combined one—all to do with the Army cuts.

The Training Major's office has taken on a new look and now has light duck-egg blue walls, a picture presented by the late Lord Napier, a gold-framed photograph of the Military Band in 1887, and a set of practice Colours made of Buccleuch Tartan fixed in the Colour Stand which was presented in 1954 by Lieut.-Colonel D. O. Hogg when he was a Company Commander. The entrance to Battalion H.Q. has been re-painted and a number of old prints now hang in the hall and the recreation room.

## ORDER OF BATTLE

#### **Battalion H.Q.**

*Commanding Officer.*—Lieut.-Colonel D. O. Hogg, M.C., T.D., J.P.

*Second-in-Command.*—Major A. M. Sturrock M.B.E. T.D.

*Training Major/Adjutant.*—Major D. J. Lear.

*A/Adjutant I.O.*—Lieut. L. D. Williamson.

*M.O.*—Capt. A. G. B. Poole R.A.M.C.

*Padre.*—Capt. G. B. Hewitt M.A.

*R.S.M.*—W.O. I. J. Legget.

*O.R.S.*—W.O. II. T. Jack.

#### **H.Q. Company**

*Company Commander.*—Capt. R. A. Brooks, M.C.

*Admin. Platoon.*—Major A. S. Stewart (Q.M.).

*M.T.O.*—Lieut. G. E. Scott Watson.

*Signal Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. C. R. Sanderson.

*R.Q.M.S.*—W.O. II. P. Telford, M.M.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. G. D. Wylie.

*C.Q.M.S.*—Sergt. T. Roseburgh.

*Drum-Major.*—W.O. II. J. Lyall, M.B.E.

*Pipe-Major.*—W.O. II. W. Riddell.

#### **"A" Company**

*Company Commander.*—Major E. J. B. Hardcastle.

*Second-in-Command.*—Lieut. P. J. I. McCracken.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. G. D. Robb.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. R. S. H. Watherston.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. N. H. Macpherson.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. J. McTeer.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. R. Anderson.

#### **"B" Company**

*Company Commander.*—Major W. T. Dundas, T.D.

*Second-in-Command.*—Capt. D. H. Crake.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. G. F. Wingate-Pearse.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. A. Wort.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. J. A. Wolfe-Murray.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. W. Turnbull.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. G. Sutherland.

#### **"C" Company**

*Company Commander.*—Major T. R. Fairgrieve.

*Second-in-Command.*—Capt. J. J. Ballantyne.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. R. S. Strang-Steel.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. W. Thyne.

*Platoon Commander.*—2nd/Lieut. M. A. G. Henderson

*Reserve.*—2nd/Lieut. J. D. S. Hay.

*C.S.M.*—C/Sergt. J. Tranter.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. A. Cockburn.

#### **"D" Company**

*Company Commander.*—Major A. S. C. Hobrow, M.C.

*Second-in-Command.*—Capt. I. W. M. Michalowski.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. J. H. Ransford.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. R. M. Wickenden.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. W. W. Mather.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. J. Purves.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. F. Strand.

#### **"Sp Company**

*Company Commander.*—Capt. W. Bruce.

*Mortar Platoon Commander.*—Sergt. P. Hermiston.

*M.M.G. Platoon Commander.*—Sergt. S. Common, M.M.

*Anti-Tank Platoon Commander.*—Sergt. A. Murray.

*Assault Pioneer Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. R. C. Connel.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. W. Amos.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. J. Scott.

## OFFICERS' MESS

The Officers have now had two Regimental Guest Nights in the new Officers' Mess. The first one was on 23rd November and was by way of a "House Warming" Guest Night as well as a farewell to Capt. J. B. Henderson. Our Guests were Brigadier D. H. Tadman (Brigade Commander), Lieut.-Colonel P. St. C. Harrison, Lieut.-Colonel J. R. Scott-Noble, Major R. C. Robertson Macleod.

The catering was done by Mr. Featherston from St. Boswells as the kitchen utensils were still to be purchased.

The second Guest Night was on Saturday, 16th February, and was held during an Officers' Training Week-end. Our Guests on that occasion were Brigadier J. C. Cunningham, Lieut.-Colonel J. B. A. Hankey, Mr. J. A. Willison (departing Chief Constable), Mr. Ray Watherston, Mr. Peter Crassweller and Dr. C. F. Hogg.

Both guest nights went off extremely well and no major hitches occurred as a result of our first use of the new Mess.

## PIPES AND DRUMS

The Pipes and Drums as usual have put in a great amount of practice this winter and now hope that the efforts put forward by all will result in giving the general public a taste of real good Piping and Drumming.

We welcome to our ranks Drummer Johnstone, ex-Marine, a very competent Tenor Drummer, also Drummer Rae, who, I am sure, can make the grade. On the piping side we have a young lad from Coldstream

area, Piper Aird. Our great loss, of course, is Corpl. Peter Hogg, a most competent Piper and a real good mixer. We wish him all success in his decision to join the Pipes and Drums of the Canadian Black Watch.

We are at present on intensive rehearsals for the Massed Bands performances at the Regimental Fete at Kelso on 10th May, and the Castle Esplanade on 31st May. We are performing the ceremony of Beating Retreat and, for both occasions, we have combined with our good friends the Pipes and Drums and Military Band of the 5th Battalion.

From there, we then start rehearsals for 52 Division Pipes and Drums, where we supply a good representation from our band.

Future engagements cover a visit to Princes Street Gardens on Sunday, 8th June, then an individual performance of "Retreat" on the Castle Esplanade on 14th June.

## MILITARY BAND

The Military Band continues to make progress both in numbers and musical ability and now boasts a playing strength of over 30 members. In order to



Dining Room of 4th K.O.S.B. Officers' Mess.

conform to the regular Army pitch (low pitch), it was necessary to send the instruments back to the makers, in order to have them converted from "high" to "low" pitch. Our instruments were bought in 1908 and in those days the question never arose as to what pitch they need be. This meant that the band was without instruments for some five weeks, but, undeterred, many instruments were borrowed from local bands and rehearsals—of a kind—were kept going. The instruments are now back and the band is in full swing once more. One happy result of the change-over is that the Band's five saxophones can now be incorporated into the instrumentation.

On recent Sundays, the band amalgamated with the 5th Battalion Band playing at Dumfries and Langholm as a prelude to their combined effort at Floors Castle (10th May) and Edinburgh Castle (31st May) while two visits to Lanark are "laid on" for Massed Bands rehearsals for the Jubilee Review.

During the recess, the library was brought up-to-date and additional new music bought so that its repertoire is now both varied and extensive. Naturally music of the lighter character is what is called for nowadays and it is upon this that the Band is concentrating.

On Wednesday, 23rd April, the Band will play at a Concert in Hawick Town Hall where, on the same night, they will play for a Fashion Parade. The Bandmaster will be compère in describing the dresses, etc! Mention must also be made of the Dance Section, now fully established, having played at several dances and already well booked for summer functions. Led by Sergt. J. Wilson, the members are enthusiastic and rehearse separately from the Military Band through the week.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Social activities were started off in 1958 by holding a "Burns Night" at Galashiels. Approximately seventy members and guests attended, and spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Our guests at this function were Lieut.-Colonel D. O. Hogg, M.C., T.D., Major and Mrs. D. J. Lear and Major (Q.M.) and Mrs. A. S. Stewart.

The Chairman was R.S.M. J. Legget, who proposed the toast to Her Majesty The Queen; D/M. Lyall proposed the "Immortal Memory"; Mr. Lamb proposed the toast to "The Lassies," which was replied to by Mrs. Legget.



Ante Room, 4th K.O.S.B. Officers' Mess.

The Annual Mess Ball was held at Galashiels early in April. Snow-storms prevented quite a few of our guests, who had to travel some distance, from attending. However, despite the weather conditions, there was quite a good attendance, and a good time was had by all.

A number of our Mess members will be taking part in the Regimental Fete which is being held at Kelso in May, and also in the T.A. Jubilee Parade which is being held at Edinburgh in July.

From there, we look forward to all being together again at Annual Camp, which is near Scarborough this year, during the latter part of July.

We welcome two new members to our Mess, Sergt. Seaton (Melrose) and Sergt. Wilson (Selkirk).

Congratulations to P.S.I.s McKenna (on an addition to his family) and Britten, who now carries the title "Mein Papa."

Congratulations also to our Drum-Major, "Jock" Lyall, who has been selected to lead the combined 52 (L) Division Bands on the T.A. Jubilee Parade.

*Shattering remarks.*—At the Annual Mess Ball, a T.A. Sergeant's wife was asked if her husband was "Time Serving." Quite indignantly she replied "My husband isn't serving time in the jail, he works in the garage down the road."

## MOTOR CYCLING

Once again the 4th K.O.S.B. Motor Cycle Team have won the Lowland District Motor Cycle Trials—this is the fourth year running! Great credit must go to their skill and good training especially when, in fact, they are not made "Motor Cycle Gladiators" but have to take their share of other T.A. training with the rest. There was one change in the procedure at prizegiving this year and that was that the Lowland District Cup was given to the wrong team and, before the error could be corrected, they had departed for the Highlands! However, the cup is being returned to us by post for yet another year. The team is trained by Lieut. N. H. Macpherson with Sergt. Patterson as his technical adviser (or should we say, magic mechanic, as he has the job of making the motor cycles go again after each bad spill). The team itself are C/Sergt. Scott, Sergt. Goodfellow and Cfn. Rutherford. C/Sergt. Scott and Sergt. Goodfellow have both at one time won the "Best Individual Trophy" at the Trials. Contrary to normal belief, the Motor Cycle Trials are not just judged on riding ability but on vehicle maintenance as well as map reading. During the team's training they have re-discovered many of the old "drove" roads and tracks through the Border moors. In 1956 the team won the Highland District Visiting Team's Competition, but this year the event has been cancelled because of bad weather. For the past four years the 4th Battalion team has represented Lowland District in the Army Championships at Aldershot and they hope that they will again be selected this year.

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**GO**



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## 5th (DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY) BATTALION

### EDITORIAL

The Battalion has started the year energetically, with training of some sort taking place every week-end. The evasion exercise mentioned in our last notes was a great success, all patrols reaching their objectives undetected, in appalling weather. One "D" Company member, having completed a 16 mile point in under five hours, felt he hadn't had enough exercise, changed into walking out dress and not only attended the local dance, but walked a girl four miles home, and then (we trust) walked the same distance back to the Drill Hall.

The Association has decided to pay 75 per cent. of the cost of sending a team to Holland next year, to take part in the annual International four days marches. In view of the patrol exercise results, we look forward to seeing a large number of volunteers from "D" Company, but they had better punch up on their Dutch if they're going to many dances.

The Association has again been good to us in meeting the cost of the redecoration and furnishing of the new Officers' and Sergeants' Mess extensions. The recent additions have much improved the existing Mess accommodation at Nunfield, and it is hoped and expected that full use will be made of both Messes.

So far this year, apart from normal training, a high proportion of the Battalion has attended the Civil Defence Centre in Glasgow, and a party from "A" Company has spent an instructive weekend at the Watermanship and Bridging Camp at Drip, near Stirling, for which we are much indebted to 586 (Forth) Fd. Sqn. R.E. (T.A.). We are about to rescue, aided by the rest of 156 (L) Infantry Brigade, a large number of the citizens of Glasgow from the hazards of nuclear radiation. It will prove most useful and interesting to us and we hope not too much of a strain for the Civil Defence Corps of Glasgow.

In June (28th June to 12th July) we go to Camp at Garelochhead, in the middle of which time the Jubilee Parade takes place in Edinburgh.

As will be seen from the Order of Battle, Lieut.-Colonel C. G. Grieve, T.D., has assumed command of the Battalion on the retirement of Lieut.-Colonel A. J. Jardine-Paterson, T.D. Colonel Jardine-Paterson was dined out by the Officers at a joint Officers' and Sergeants' weekend on 1st March, and was entertained by the Warrant Officers and Sergeants, who drew his car down the drive of Nunfield the following day in a final ceremony. We are sorry indeed to see him go, but we hope that he will be visiting us often in the future. We wish Colonel Grieve every success in his tour of command and a double strength Battalion before he leaves in his turn.

Recruiting is in everyone's thoughts just now, and there is no doubt that now that we are Volunteers again men are coming in in increasing numbers. If the present flow of recruits continues, we can face the future with confidence. We welcome the following new Borderers who have joined since our last notes:—

Ptes. Beattie, Moffat; Hinchliff, Kirkcudbright; Kerr, Dumfries; Malone, Whithorn; Murray, Moffat; Peebles, Kelloholm; Ralston, Sanquhar; Rankin, Kelloholm; Rogerson, Moffat; Slimmon, Dumfries; Hasson, Dumfries; Gough, Kirkconnel; Jamieson,

Newton Stewart; Lang, Sanquhar; Morrison, Sanquhar; Neil, Whithorn; Pettigrew, Kirkconnel; Ralston, Sanquhar; Rennie, Moffat; Todd, Moffat; Walker, Dumfries.

Owing to our situation it is almost impossible for us to take part in District competitions and we have little to report in the sporting field. What Messrs. Weatherby & Sons refer to as the "Training establishment at Nunfield House" has no comfort to offer. Saddles have slipped, fences been taken by the roots when leading the field, we have even fallen off, but victory has eluded us. However, there's still Hexham.

Both bands have been practising hard during the winter months and both are well up to strength. The season now about to start promises to be a full one, as apart from normal engagements, there is to be a programme of Retreats throughout the Battalion Area in celebration of the Jubilee. We hope that the hard work put in by the Bandmaster, Mr. Gowan, Drum-Major McIntosh, Pipe-Major Brown and both bands will result in a most successful season.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Since our last notes we have moved back into our Mess which has been improved greatly. The bar is now about twice the size, and we have acquired a lounge which we share with the Officers' Mess, with thick carpet on the floor, sliding doors, and easy chairs. The members were more than pleased with it when we had a Mess social as our opening night.

The social took place on Saturday, 1st March, and as it happened, it co-incided with the change-over of Commanding Officers, we therefore took this opportunity of saying farewell and thank you to Lieut.-Colonel A. J. Jardine-Paterson, T.D. The junior member present (Sergt. McKie) presented him with a tankard as a small farewell gift before he left the Mess. The evening was a great success, although we had one or two fly remarks about burning the carpet.

The day after the social, the Commanding Officer was given a pleasant surprise when as he left Nunfield House the Mess Members converged on his car and led by the Pipe-Major and Sergt. Patterson piping, he was pulled out of the gate amid wild shouts, and cheers.

We would like to congratulate our new C.O., Lieut.-Colonel C. G. Grieve, T.D., on his promotion, and assure him of our fullest co-operation.

It was a great loss to the Pipe Band and to the Battalion when Sergt. Patterson emigrated to Australia, but we wish him all the best. We congratulate Sergts. Barclay, R. Bell, Combe, and Smith on their promotion and welcome them to the fold; may their stay be a long and happy one.

### ORDER OF BATTLE

#### Battalion H.Q.

Commanding Officer.—Lieut.-Colonel C. G. Grieve T.D.

Second-in-Command.—Major G. M. Thomson, T.D.

Adjutant/Training Officer.—Major A. J. Mann, M.C.

Intelligence Officer.—Lieut. D. H. Gaskell.

*Padre.*—

*M.O.*—Capt. A. C. Fraser, R.A.M.C.

*R.S.M.*—W.O. I. A. Ritchie.\*

*O.R.Q.M.S.*—W.O. II. A. Lawson.\*

#### H.Q. Company

*Officer Commanding.*—Major G. M. Thomson, T.D.

*Signal Officer.*—Lieut. J. E. D. Abbott.

*Admin. Officer.*—Capt. A. Duncan.

*Q.M.*—Major (Q.M.) C. W. Scotney.\*

*R.Q.M.S.*—W.O. II. L. Donald.\*

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. J. Donnohue.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. D. Bell.

#### "Sp" Company

*Officer Commanding.*—Major A. J. Mann, M.C.\*

*Mortar Platoon Commander.*—Capt. I. B. Drape.

*Second-in-Command Mortar Platoon.*—Lieut. T. C. McCreath.

*Anti-Tank Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. A. W. Hay.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. W. Grieve.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. H. Owen.

#### "A" Company

*Officer Commanding.*—Capt. W. F. B. Friell.

*Second-in-Command.*—Lieut. D. R. Dickinson.

*Platoon Commanders.*—Lieut. D. N. Mitchell.  
Lieut. P. G. G. Gardiner.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. J. Thompson.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. E. Patterson.

#### "B" Company

*Officer Commanding.*—Major G. L. Moodie.

*Second-in-Command.*—Lieut. H. J. F. McLean.

*Platoon Commander.*—Lieut. P. H. Woodmansey.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. R. McLarty.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. F. Priestley.

#### "C" Company

*Officer Commanding.*—Major T. W. Bell, T.D.

*Second-in-Command.*—Lieut. J. F. W. McConnel.

*Platoon Commanders.*—Lieut. I. S. Bain,  
Lieut. D. B. Swinfen.

*C.S.M.*—W.O. II. D. Telfer, M.M.

*C.Q.M.S.*—C/Sergt. L. McClure.

#### "D" Company

*Officer Commanding.*—Major E. A. Leaver.

*Second-in-Command.*—Lieut. R. J. M. Harris.

*Platoon Commanders.*—Lieut. J. W. Clark-Maxwell,  
Lieut. T. A. G. Kelly,  
Lieut. C. N. Clark-Maxwell.

*C.S.M.*—

*C.Q.M.S.*—

\*Permanent Staff.



At the Depot Gates. L to R. R.S.M. Anderson, ex-R.Q.M.S. Galloway, Major Barham and Mr. Hartley.

## THE DEPOT

IT has been said that "Home is where Mother is," but yet no mother will be found in the Depot at Berwick. Nevertheless, for countless numbers of Borderers it is here that their service began, it was to the Depot that they were posted on returning from an overseas tour, and it is here that their period of service with the Colours ends. The Depot has been their military home and firm base. It is not until one is posted to this "Home from Home" that it is realized how large an organisation the Regiment really is, being concerned with the interests of not only the three Battalions and the many branches of the Association but also of the little groups of Borderers who find themselves posted away on various extra regimental employments. These Borderers are serving across the world from anywhere between Aldershot to Australia, and many and varied are the requests and letters that are received from them.

In order to give an idea of what has been happening since we went to press in November, here are some facts and figures for the period 1st November, 1957, to 1st May, 1958.

Number of Officers who have passed through or been on Depot strength, 22.

National Service Intake numbers, 132.

Number of Regulars enlisted or re-enlisted, 42.

Number of Boys enlisted, 6.

Number of Regulars released, 59.

Number of National Servicemen released, 96.

Number of Other Ranks passed through the Depot on various postings, 25.

Total number of all ranks dealt with by the Depot during this period, 382.

### Passing Out Parades.

The Inspecting Officer at the 14th February, 1958, parade was Lieut.-Colonel D. W. McConnel, O.B.E. Prize winners were Best All Round Recruit—Pte.

Wright, Hawick, Best Shot—Pte. Grant, Edinburgh. Best Section—No. 4 (Corpl. Murdoch), Football Cup—No. 4 Section (Corpl. Murdoch).

The Passing Out Parade, held on 18th April, 1958, was taken by Colonel J. L. Maxwell, D.S.O., O.B.E., Brigade Colonel Lowland Brigade. Three Platoons took part in this parade, one being composed in the most part of potential N.C.O.s. Prize winners were as follows:—Best All Round Recruit—Pte. Dougall, Ayr, Burma Platoon, Best Shot—Pte. Wallace, Moffat, Normandy Platoon, Squad Cup—Burma Platoon (Sergt. Thompson). Football Cup—Burma Platoon, Boxing Cup—Burma Platoon. Special Squad—Best Recruit—Pte. McDonald, Newton Stewart.

### Sport.

During the period a Sports Tournament was run for a Shield presented to the Depot by our Pay N.C.O., Sergt. Weir, R.A.P.C. Teams composed of Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants, Corporals, and Privates, competed at hockey, football, cricket, badminton and tug of war, the tournament being eventually won by the Corporals.

### Postings

The following W.O.s and N.C.O.s have been posted from the Depot during this period:—

Sergt. G. Mitchell to H.Q. Glasgow Garrison. Corpl. C. Rimmer to 1st K.O.S.B. Corpl. E. Henderson to Depot R.S. Corpl. T. Darcy to H.Q. Highland District. Corpl. J. Tweedie to Army Apprentices School, Harrogate. Corpl. H. Veck to Tactical Wing, School of Infantry. Corpl. J. Park to 1st K.O.S.B. Sergt. N. McCallister to 1st K.O.S.B. Corpl. G. Milligan to Depot Cameronians. Sergt. A. Cottle to H.Q. East Africa Command.

As we draft our notes for this issue of the *Chronicle* the Kelso Fete is very much in our minds, and the organisers are every day seen looking heavenwards and mumbling incantations to themselves!



Passing Out Parade, Depot, 18th April, 1958. Colonel J. L. Maxwell, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lowland Brigade Colonel inspecting. Parade by Capt. J. O. Scott, Major Robertson-Macleod and Capt. G. G. Allt, following.

## Recruits enlisted 1st November, 1957—30th April, 1958

| Name               | Date of enlistment. | Home Town.                          |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Elvin, J.          | 12th Nov., 57       | Dumfries                            |
| Forbes, A. F. T.   | 19th Nov., 57       | Edinburgh                           |
| Munro, W. B.       | 22nd Nov., 57       | Edinburgh                           |
| Murdoch, J. A.     | 2nd Dec., 57        | Falkirk                             |
| McDonald, M.       | 3rd Dec., 57        | Edinburgh                           |
| Hutchison, B.      | 5th Dec., 57        | Penicuik                            |
| Lind, J. H.        | 19th Dec., 57       | Dumfries                            |
| Kane, E. N.        | 24th Dec., 57       | Edinburgh                           |
| Thompson, K. T.    | 6th Jan., 58        | Edinburgh                           |
| Taylor, D.         | 7th Jan., 58        | Greenock                            |
| Welsh, T.          | 9th Jan., 58        | Edinburgh                           |
| Scott, W. H.       | 14th Jan., 58       | Selkirk                             |
| Lightbody, J. McC. | 21st Jan., 58       | Stranraer                           |
| Cochrane, W. F.    | 30th Jan., 58       | Edinburgh                           |
| Kilpatrick, J. F.  | 3rd Feb., 58        | Edinburgh                           |
| Rogerson, J. McK.  | 4th Feb., 58        | Ecclefechan                         |
| Kilpatrick, C. B.  | 11th Feb., 58       | Edinburgh                           |
| Renton, C. R. D.   | 18th Feb., 58       | Greenlaw                            |
| Mulcahy, T. D.     | 24th Feb., 58       | Armadales                           |
| Sproule, V.        | 24th Feb., 58       | Leith                               |
| Willcox, W. A.     | 24th Feb., 58       | Alnwick                             |
| Henderson, J. C.   | 25th Feb., 58       | Dumfries                            |
| Archibald, H.      | 28th Feb., 58       | Edinburgh                           |
| Hay, V.            | 3rd Mar., 58        | Dunbar                              |
| Welsh, T. H.       | 3rd Mar., 58        | Edinburgh                           |
| Little, N.         | 4th Mar., 58        | Dumfries                            |
| Wallace, C. McN.   | 7th Mar., 58        | Edinburgh                           |
| Davidson, W.       | 12th Mar., 58       | Coldstream                          |
| McLeod, M.         | 24th Mar., 58       | Edinburgh                           |
| Shaw, A. C.        | 24th Mar., 58       | Leith                               |
| Stanners, M. A. B. | 24th Mar., 58       | Galashiels                          |
| Spence, G. S. G.   | 24th Mar., 58       | Choppington                         |
| Cowan, W. I.       | 31st Mar., 58       | Kelso                               |
| Dickson, D. H.     | 31st Mar., 58       | Edinburgh                           |
| Short, V.          | 31st Mar., 58       | Duns                                |
| Mavin, D.          | 8th April, 58       | Galashiels                          |
| Cuthbert, G.       | 9th April, 58       | Jedburgh                            |
| Spence, H. C.      | 9th April, 58       | Glasgow                             |
| Morrison, A. G.    | 9th April, 58       | Glasgow                             |
| Kelly, S. I.       | 9th April, 58       | St. Helens                          |
| Alsop, T. A.       | 14th April, 58      | Amble                               |
| McMillan, H.       | 14th April, 58      | Stranraer                           |
| Carlile, D. J.     | 16th April, 58      | Glasgow                             |
| McMenemy, E. J.    | 18th April, 58      | Glasgow                             |
| Mitchell, J. McL.  | 25th April, 58      | Glasgow                             |
| Mooney, T.         | 25th April, 58      | Edinburgh                           |
| Innes-Ker, M.      | 30th April, 58      | Woodville North,<br>South Australia |

## Discharges and Transfers to R.A.R.

| Name                  | Date of release.        |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Pte. Gilmour, C. McC. | ... 8th November, 1957  |
| J/Dmr. Casey, D.      | ... 22nd November, 1957 |
| Corpl. Brunton, W.    | ... 9th December, 1957  |
| Corpl. Drysdale, J.   | ... 9th December, 1957  |
| Pte. Duncanson, A.    | ... 9th December, 1957  |
| Pte. Wells, T.        | ... 9th December, 1957  |
| Pte. Elvin, J.        | ... 10th December, 1957 |
| Pte. Agnew, A.        | ... 14th December, 1957 |
| Pte. Duddy, B.        | ... 14th December, 1957 |
| Pte. Forbes, A.       | ... 14th December, 1957 |
| Pte. Munro, W.        | ... 14th December, 1957 |

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Corpl. Muirhead, M.    | ... 14th December, 1957 |
| Pte. Gray, J.          | ... 15th December, 1957 |
| Pte. Hicks, J.         | ... 20th December, 1957 |
| Corpl. Haley, T.       | ... 24th December, 1957 |
| Pte. Little, R.        | ... 6th January, 1958   |
| L/Corpl. Gellately, D. | ... 10th January, 1958  |
| Pte. Parker, W.        | ... 13th January, 1958  |
| L/Corpl. Arnott, P.    | ... 20th January, 1958  |
| Pte. Murphy, J.        | ... 20th January, 1958  |
| Pte. Glass, R.         | ... 24th January, 1958  |
| L/Corpl. Little, W.    | ... 24th January, 1958  |
| C/Sergt. Axford, G.    | ... 27th January, 1958  |
| Pte. Main, J.          | ... 5th February, 1958  |
| Pte. Brady, W.         | ... 13th February, 1958 |
| Pte. Breckenridge, D.  | ... 14th February, 1958 |
| Corpl. Fraser, C.      | ... 14th February, 1958 |
| Pte. Robertson, W.     | ... 14th February, 1958 |
| Pte. Saddington, R.    | ... 14th February, 1958 |
| Pte. Meikle, D.        | ... 14th February, 1958 |
| Corpl. Cannon, A.      | ... 15th February, 1958 |
| Corpl. McClymont, W.   | ... 15th February, 1958 |
| Pte. McDonald, M.      | ... 24th February, 1958 |
| Pte. Masterton, R.     | ... 24th February, 1958 |
| L/Corpl. Hawkins, A.   | ... 1st March, 1958     |
| Pte. Winton, J.        | ... 28th February, 1958 |
| Pte. Paterson, T.      | ... 10th March, 1958    |
| L/Corpl. Graham, J.    | ... 15th March, 1958    |
| Pte. Benson, J.        | ... 15th March, 1958    |
| Pte. Hendry, K.        | ... 15th March, 1958    |
| L/Corpl. Johnstone, T. | ... 21st March, 1958    |
| Corpl. Black, R.       | ... 25th March, 1958    |
| L/Corpl. Cameron, J.   | ... 25th March, 1958    |
| L/Corpl. Robinson, W.  | ... 23rd March, 1958    |
| Pte. Higgins, E.       | ... 27th March, 1958    |
| Corpl. Mack, J.        | ... 30th March, 1958    |
| Pte. Rogerson, J.      | ... 7th April, 1958     |
| Pte. Carmichael, J.    | ... 6th April, 1958     |
| Pte. McGow, J.         | ... 12th April, 1958    |
| Pte. Ramsay, T.        | ... 12th April, 1958    |
| Pte. Roy, R.           | ... 13th April, 1958    |
| Corpl. Johnstone, T.   | ... 17th April, 1958    |
| Pte. Newlands, G.      | ... 18th April, 1958    |

## ORDER OF BATTLE

### Depot H.Q.

Commanding Officer.—Major R. C. Robertson-Macleod, D.S.O., M.C., T.D.

Adjutant.—Capt. G. G. Allt

Quartermaster.—Capt. (Q.M.) H. McDill

R.S.M.—A/W.O. I. W. Anderson.

O.R.Q.M.S.—W.O. II. R. C. Vine, B.E.M.

C.Q.M.S.—C/Sergt. A. Walker

C/Sergt. T. Moorhouse

Education Sergeant.—Sergt. N. Gray, R.A.E.C.

Pay Sergeant.—Sergt. R. Weir, R.A.P.C.

Cook Sergeant.—Sergt. D. Gallichan, A.C.C.

### Training Company

Training Officer.—Capt. J. O. Scott

Training Subalterns.—Lieut. M. J. Reynolds  
2nd/Lieut. A. F. Wilkie

C.S.M. Training Company.—A/W.O. II. Price

Training Sergeants.—Sergt. Fraser

Sergt. Thomson

Sergt. Johnston

Sergt. Talbot



The Borderers Intake 5805, taken at the Depot after Parade, 18th April, 1958.

### W.O.s.' & SERGEANTS' MESS

Since publication of the previous notes, quite a few major events have happened at the Regimental Depot, the main one, of course, being the Annual Administrative Inspection, which was held in December, and was taken by the Lowland District Commander. We received a good result after a good deal of hard work.

The festive season was carried out as usual in the true spirit of the Borderers, and a good time was had by all.

The Depot is not called the Home of the Regiment for nothing, and there is always a constant flow of postings in and out. We said farewell to R.S.M. B. Downes who has left to join the 4th (Border) Battalion K.O.S.B. to understudy Quartermaster. We wish him well in his new capacity. We also said farewell to C/Sergt. (Saxy) Axford who has left to join the "Happy Wanderers" in civilian life. Postings into the Depot were as follows:—C/Sergt. Price, Sergt. White, Sergt. Gallichan (A.C.C.), Sergt. Smith. Postings out—Sergt. Cottle to East Africa, Sergt. McAllister to 1st K.O.S.B., Sergt. McPherson (A.C.C.) to 50th Company R.A.S.C. To all we wish the very best.

After all the paper ballyhoo, the redundancy scheme, when it did materialise turned out to be a disappointment for many. So it looks as if certain individuals will have to wait a while yet for the Bowler Hat (Screw on Type).

We had a farewell visit from the G.O.C.-in-C., Scottish Command, Lieut.-General Sir Horatius Murray, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., who is leaving the Command for N.A.T.O. The Depot supplied a Quarter Guard which was very well drilled and turned out, thanks to the efforts of Sergt. Fraser.

The main topic of the Depot just now is the return of the 1st Battalion from Malaya in October, 1958.

In conclusion we send our regards to all members serving elsewhere, and offer our best wishes for the future.

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every  
day



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## THE ILLAWARRA REGIMENT

In our last issue, Major Thorburn described his visit to the Illawarra Regiment when they were at their Annual Camp at Singleton. We are now able to show a couple of pictures taken at this Camp.

On May 25th, the Regiment was presented with

their new Colours and this Ceremony was also described. Unfortunately, we are only able to produce one picture of this parade, but it is interesting to see these photos of our affiliated Regiment both in camp and at their Regimental Headquarters.



The Old Colour Party, during the Parade. Lieuts. P. Welsh and T. Bradford.



Lieut.-Colonel J. F. Lavan, M.C., who commands the Battalion and his signaller.



L. to R. Corpl. Bruce Wilson, Lieut. F. Thompson, both of Port Kembla, and Pte. Dorin of Warrawong.

## LIAISON IN AUSTRALIA

IN an article in the last *Borderers' Chronicle* I described my visit to one of our allied Regiments of Australian Infantry, the 25th Battalion (The Darling Downs Regiment). I would now like to tell you about my visit to them in their headquarters at Toowoomba. This beautiful city lies about 80 miles west of Brisbane on the edge of the rich agricultural area of the Darling Downs. As I approached the city I saw some outlying houses right on the edge of a steep jungle clad escarpment, where the Battalion does its jungle training. As the road reached the top of the escarpment a splendid view stretched away into the haze-blue distance that was the Pacific Ocean.

I was met by Colonel Bob Dodd and Major Mal Just who took me to my room in the new and gay Lennon's Hotel. There I was given my orders in correct sequence by Colonel Bob. "Any questions" he wanted to know when I'd finished scribbling frantically. "When do I sleep"? I asked.

First of all, I was taken to Battalion H.Q. which was situated in a Drill Hall off the main street into the centre of the city. I might have been walking into the Drill Hall at Hawick. The Q.M., Capt. Dick Shepherd, has problems similar to those of the Q.M.s of the 4th and 5th Battalions. He has men in the deep bush who wear their uniform all the year round for shearing sheep and cutting sugar cane, and who then emerge to appear at annual camp in the remains of it. I'm sure similar things happen from Berwick to Wigtown.

At luncheon the first day I met the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, Colonel Charles Fortescue, D.S.O., who during the Gallipoli campaign, as C.O. of the 25th, was one of the youngest men ever to command an Australian infantry battalion in battle.

In the afternoon I was taken by car round Toowoomba and its environs. After this I went to Colonel Bob's house, where I had the pleasure of meeting his wife and some of the friends I had made in camp in April. In the evening I was treated to an excellent dinner at Lennons, where I met again Major Cam Robertson. From there Colonel Fortescue collected me and I was taken off to give a talk to the United Service Institute about the experiences of the Regiment in Malaya. Over much good cold beer later, I met a majority of the Officers present serving in the Battalion, and many of those who had served in the 25th in days gone by.

The following day started early and eventually. Colonel Bob charged into my room about 8 a.m., armed with a couple of squash racquets. Protestingly, I was dragged down to the Lennon's squash court where a battle royal between the 25th (Australian) and 25th (Scottish) took place to the amazement of some of the hotel staff who gathered to see what all the shindy was about. I was allowed a pleasant restful morning motoring down into the plains. After an excellent lunch with Cam Robertson and his wife in their lovely house on the escarpment's edge, another "test match" took place—this time between Cam and myself on a picturesque golf course, where the attractive 19th hole was played at the beginning as well as the end of the round.

A perfect end to my very enjoyable stay with the 25th was provided by Colonel Fortescue that evening.



L. to R.—R.S.M. W. Anderson, R.S.M. Depot; Pte. Allsop, latest regular recruit, and Major Campbell Robertson, 25th Darling Downs Regiment.

A large gathering of Officers of the Battalion and their friends assembled in the Colonel's garden, where cold beer and delicious hot pies appeared with great regularity. The highlight of the evening was the arrival of the Regimental Band. The Regimental March "Sussex by the Sea" was played and sung by one and all with immense gusto. But the great moment for me was when the Band struck up with "Blue Bonnets," which they played beautifully. They followed this by playing the other Scottish Regimental marches which were on the musical scores sent out by Major Robertson-Macleod. There would, I feel, have been some raised eyebrows in Canberra had any M.P.s witnessed a distinguished Assistant Secretary for Trade playing sonorously a large curly instrument whilst leading the band in a jazzy number. Major Reg Swartz is a man of many parts.

I enclose an article and a photograph which appeared in the newspaper at Toowoomba. They might be of interest in the Regimental Museum.

A. M. THORBURN.

## 5th Battalion ROYAL MALAY REGIMENT

**F**ROM January to March we managed to kill five Communist terrorists; a fairly reasonable score in these days when the C.T.s are becoming much fewer, and increasingly difficult to find. The Battalion is rather dispersed throughout the State of Negri Sembilan, which keeps the C.O. chasing around by car, Auster, and helicopter, but at least there is no lack of interest.

After eleven months of quite intensive operations in three different States, we are all looking forward to two months back at our main camp in Mentakab, Pahang, when we start retraining at the end of April.

Retaining is sometimes regarded as rest and recuperation, but in fact, what with Annual Range Classification, Specialist training, Annual Administrative Inspection and so on, the cry of "Let's get back to the jungle for a rest" is not uncommon. However, at least we shall be with our families, of whom we see all too little.

Being so far apart nowadays we do not see much of our Allied Battalion which is a great pity. The two Commanding Officers met recently at an M.S. Lecture on Officers' Career Prospects (as if we didn't know). The only other K.O.S.B. Officer we have seen is Peter Rooke, who as A.D.C. to the Director of Operations,

keeps popping into the most unlikely places by helicopter.

Our Pipes and Drums are progressing very nicely, and when the sad day comes to say "Goodbye" to 1st K.O.S.B., we hope that the audience aboard the troopship will be not too critical of our efforts on the quayside.

As news is so scanty this time, we thought it might be appropriate if we included a list of British Officers now serving with the Battalion. There are not many left, and most of these are due for R.H.E. between May and September this year, when their appointments will be filled by Malay Officers. They are as follows:—

*Commanding Officer.*—Lieut.-Colonel J. B. Gillies, A. & SH.

*O.C. "D" Company.*—Major F. W. Chester, R.N.F.

*O.C. H.Q. Company.*—Major S. G. Dunn, D.W.R.

*O.C. "C" Company.*—Major L. J. F. Taylor, S. Lan. R.

*O.C. "B" Company.*—Major D. E. Blum, R.W.K.

*O.C. "A" Company.*—Major W. J. J. Barclay, M.M., S. Stafford.

*P.R.I.*—Capt. G. L. Watson, Gen. List.

*Q.M.*—Capt. (Q.M.) F. Drake, R. Hamps.

*Adjutant.*—Capt. E. W. Leask, Ox. Bucks.

*Intelligence Officer.*—Capt. S. W. G. Villiers, R.A.



K.O.S.B. Stand for the Edinburgh Festival S.S.A.F.A. Exhibition of Regimental Silver and Trophies.

## BORDERERS AT THE ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY, SANDHURST AND STAFF COLLEGE

by CAPTAIN J. B. HENDERSON

**W**HEN I counted up the number of Borderers and sons of Borderers at The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and at The Staff College, I felt, as the number came to no fewer than twelve, that readers of the *Chronicle* would be interested to hear some news of them.

Major Michael Broadway, son of Colonel E. E. Broadway, M.B.E., is at present an instructor here at the R.M.A.

Major Broadway, who is in The Royal Corps of Signals, is the most senior son of a Borderer here.

He has lately very kindly presented a claymore and several small articles of dress to the Regiment which belonged to his father, whose wish it was that these articles should be made use of by cadets receiving commissions in the Regiment.

Colonel Broadway's full dress doublet is, I understand, being sent to the Regimental Depot for safe keeping there.

Colonel Broadway is, I am informed by his son, living in Pietermaritzburg, Natal.

Padre Roger Baggaley is at present one of the two chaplains at the Academy. Roger Baggaley was commissioned into the 4th (Border) Battalion at the beginning of the 1939-45 war and was later transferred to the 6th Battalion in which he served until his release in 1946.

After his ordination in 1947 he resigned his K.O.S.B. Commission in order to be re-commissioned into the R.A.ch.D.

He has recently served in Malaya and Singapore where he had the opportunity of seeing a good deal of the 1st Battalion.

Among the cadets undergoing training at the Academy we have four sons and one great nephew of Borderers, or late Borderers.

Junior Under Officer J. D. Macdonald is the son of Lieut.-Colonel J. Macdonald, O.B.E., at present



Back Row.—C/Sergt. Fleming, O/C E. R. Broadbent, O/C W. S. Turner, J.C.O. J. D. MacDonald, J.C.O. P. G. Shillington, C/Sergt. J. F. McMeeken.

Front Row.—Major M. H. Broadway, Capt. J. B. Henderson, Lieut.-Colonel (Q.M.) A. M. Marshall, M.B.E., Capt. A. B. Cran, The Rev. J. R. Baggaley, M.C., M.A., T.D.

Commandant of The Military Corrective Training Centre at Colchester.

MacDonald who hopes to be commissioned into the Regiment in August of this year, is Captain of Academy rugby and athletics.

Officer Cadet C. G. Mattingley (absent from the photograph) is the son of the late Colonel W. G. Mattingley who was killed in action commanding the 2nd Battalion in Burma during the last war. Mattingley hopes to obtain a commission in the Regiment in December of this year.

Junior Under Officer P. G. Shillington, the son of Colonel J. G. Shillington, D.S.O. is Captain of Academy golf and is also an Academy rackets player.

Officer Cadet E. R. Broadbent is the great nephew of the late Major-General Sir Edward Broadbent, K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment from January 1938 to June 1944. Officer Cadet Broadbent is in his third term at the Academy.

Officer Cadet W. S. Turner is the son of Major-General W. F. R. Turner, D.S.O., and is in his second term here.

The Provost Sergeant at The Academy, a most important and not easy task, is performed by Colour Sergeant McMeeken, while Colour Sergeant Fleming carries out the duties of Colour Sergeant to one of the Cadet Companies.

At Staff College two further Borderers are to be found: Lieut.-Colonel 'J. B.' Marshall, M.B.E., who has been Quartermaster there for five years now, and Capt. Tony Cran, who is undergoing the rigours of staff training.

Sandhurst will be represented at the Regimental Fete at Kelso on the 10th May by a seven-a-side rugby team which the Commandant has given permission to play in the competition which has been organised as part of that occasion.

#### CAPPED FOR SCOTLAND AT RUGBY

We congratulate L/Corpl. I. Hastie, Kelso, on playing rugby for Scotland again this season. He did not commence playing rugby until he was sixteen years old, and then he played for Kelso Harlequins for two seasons before being included in Kelso Firsts. In 1953, he played for the South of Scotland, and in 1954 in his first Scottish Rugby Trial. He was first capped by Scotland in 1955 when playing against France, and in 1958 has been twice capped, having played for Scotland v. France and Scotland v. England. We wish him every success in future seasons.



Ian Hastie, Kelso.



Major Wright's daughter.

Telephone: BERWICK 235.

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## THE K.O.S.B. CELEBRATE THE T.A. JUBILEE YEAR

by Major D. J. LEAR, Training Major/Adjutant, 4th K.O.S.B. (T.A.).

THE King's Own Scottish Borderers celebrated the T.A. Golden Jubilee Year on 10th May by holding a large scale Regimental Fete and Revue in the grounds of Floors Castle, near Kelso, which His Grace The Duke of Roxburghe had kindly lent for the occasion. On the morning of the Fete, ominous black clouds hung over the area and hopes for a fine afternoon were doubtful, but nature was kind to us and the weather remained dry but cold until 19.00 hrs. when there was a little heavy rain—but by then the success of the Fete had been attained.

The Fete started at 12.30 hrs. with the public being allowed inside the Castle grounds to buy at the many Stalls selling thousands of free gifts sent by people from all over the Borders and indeed all over Scotland. The Committee was most struck by the tremendous kindness and generosity of everyone with their gifts—not only from those associated with the Regiment but also from many who really had little connection other than that they lived in the Borders or in the city in which we were raised—Edinburgh.

There were five main stalls which were divided into "County" Stalls; the Arts and Crafts stall from Berwickshire and North Northumberland; the Depot Work Party Stall from the K.O.S.B. Depot; the Produce Stall from the County of Roxburghshire; the Fancy Goods and General Stall from the County of Selkirkshire; and the Bottle Stall from all three

Counties. The profits made from the sales at the Stalls, and, in fact, from every source, go to the Regimental Charitable Fund which since 1946 has helped over 240 ex-members of the Regiment or their families every year. Over £2,500 has been spent yearly in assistance—to date making the formidable total of £30,000—what better cause could there be in the T.A. Jubilee Year?

As soon as the stalls opened, the customers came streaming in. By 14.30 hrs. the Bottle Stall and the Produce Stall were empty and the other two stalls doing very brisk trade, and, by tea time, little or nothing remained. This was a great relief to the Committee, for there is nothing more awkward than trying to dispose of left-overs. The generosity of donors to these stalls was astounding and supplies early Saturday morning were pouring in—even the Border shops were only too glad to present a case of drink, joints of meat, tins of produce, etc.

At 14.30 hrs. there was a parade of the 4th (Border) Battalion K.O.S.B., W.R.A.C. (T.A.) and A.C.F. of Roxburgh, Berwick and Selkirkshires. The 4th Battalion parading their Colours with the 1939-45 Battle Honours emblazoned on them for the first time. As the Tower Clock at Floors Castle chimed 14.30 hrs., the Inspecting Party could be seen approaching the parade ground, led by Major Sir Samuel Strang-Steel, Bt., T.D., who was the Inspecting Officer. He was



K.O.S.B. Kelso Fete, 10th May, 1958.

L. to R.—Major T. Russell Fairgrieve, Capt. R. A. Brooks, M.C., Sir Samuel Strang-Steel, Bt., and Lieut. W. Thyne.

accompanied by The Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General J. Scott Elliot, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., and The Honorary Colonel of the 4th K.O.S.B., Colonel The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.T., P.C., G.C.V.O., T.D. The Inspecting Party was completed with O.C. 4th K.O.S.B., Lieut.-Colonel D. O. Hogg, M.C., T.D., J.P., and O.C. 314 Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.), Major G. A. D. Pearson, M.B.E., T.D. Accompanying them were Their Graces The Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe, Mrs. Strang-Steel, Mrs. Scott Elliot and Mrs. Hogg.

The Inspection, carried out by Major Sir Samuel Strang-Steel, Bt., T.D., (retired Lord Lieutenant of the County of Selkirkshire), went with a great flourish and he made a short speech at the end. Sir Samuel has been closely associated with the T.A. since 1908—for 50 years—and it was very right and proper for him to have this honour in our Jubilee Year. After the Inspection the Parade marched past Sir Samuel by way of tribute to his long and loyal service.

The Parade was immediately followed by a Seven-a-Side Rugby Competition which proved to be a very great attraction and the grounds were packed with between 8,000-10,000 eager and acutely critical rugby fans.

The teams taking part were no amateurs at the game and were as follows:—London Scottish, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst; Royal Navy in Scotland, *H.M.S. Caledonia*; Scottish Command; Northern Command; R.A.F. in Scotland; The K.O.S.B.; and the K.O.S.B. (retired). The Championship was very suitably won by the K.O.S.B. team, 10-8, against Northern Command. The winning team, all but one, was composed of ex-members of the 1st K.O.S.B. team that won the Far East Rugby championship in 1956.

At 17.00 hrs. a Display was given by the Depot K.O.S.B. In this, teams of recruits with only six weeks training carried out a complicated race. The teams were the Dumfriesshire team, Edinburgh team, Galloway and the West team, and the Borders team. They loosened up with a little P.T.; then started the

#### THE WINNING TEAM



Back Row.—W. Jackson (Gala), T. Grieve (Langholm), J. Campbell (Kelso), W. Noble (Gala).  
Front Row.—A. Hastie (Melrose), C. Elliot (Langholm), J. Wallace (Hawick).

race by changing into Weapon Training kit; dismantled a Bren gun; gave each other a fireman's lift to the other end of the pitch; donned respirators; reversed their fireman's sliif; re-assembled their Bren gun; and the first team back fallen in correctly and properly dressed won the race.

Also at 17.00 hrs. the draw was made for the very large scale raffle which had, for the expenditure of one shilling, such prizes as a 17 inch Television Set, £15 Premium Savings Bonds, Braemar Twin Set, Pringle Twin Set, £5 Premium Savings Bonds, a Berwick Salmon, a large number of suit lengths, £10 Premium Savings Bonds, an Electric Iron, a case of miniature liqueurs, an Electric Blanket, a bottle of whisky and a bottle of rum.

At the same time as the main events there were also many side events: an Arms Display was given by the Permanent Staff Instructors of the 4th K.O.S.B. to show the fathers and mothers exactly what sort of vehicles, weapons and equipment the present day soldier uses. An added attraction was a soldier in the kit worn by the Regiment in Korea and another soldier dressed for Malaya. These were an unfeeling draw to all those who had been there and were checking up to see if the wearer had it all fitted properly!—and doubtlessly airing the knowledge to their wife or girlfriend!

The W.V.S. ran a creche for children so that mothers could be free to wander the grounds of the Fete. A left parcels tent proved a useful innovation for all those buying up the produce of the stalls. The Ednam House Hotel ran a Buffet and Bar under canvass through the afternoon and the 4th K.O.S.B. ran an Officers' Refreshment tent for all Regimental Officers. The Red Cross very kindly ran a First Aid Tent. The entrance fee to the Fete was 10/- per car and one shilling for everyone on foot.

The prizes were then presented by Mrs. J. Scott Elliot, the wife of the Colonel of the King's Own Scottish Borderers. This was followed by the Colonel of the Regiment presenting T.A. Meritorious Service Certificates to three W.O.s of the 4th K.O.S.B.—W.O. II. Telford, W.O. II. McTeer and W.O. II. Wylie.

The final item was "Beating of Retreat" by the Massed Bands of the K.O.S.B. T.A. Battalions—the 4th (Border) Battalion and the 5th (Dumfries and Galloway) Battalion. Two Military Bands and two Pipe Bands made an impressive sight all in full dress, and the Massed Bands numbered over a hundred. An added attraction to the "Retreat" was a commentary by Major D. J. Lear, the Regular Officer of the 4th Battalion in full dress. A brief explanation of the history of "Beating Retreat" and of the various tunes selected made the spectacle interesting for everyone.

Lastly, the Rev. Ronald Selby Wright, T.D., D.D., sometime Chaplain of the 4th K.O.S.B. and War-time Radio Padre, said an evening prayer and brought to a conclusion a most ambitious but highly successful and profitable Regimental Fete, which not only brought to the notice of the general public the valuable work being done by the Territorial Army but also assisted a most laudable cause—Regimental Charities. The Fete was undoubtedly a very great attraction and this can be seen by the attendance figure—8 to 10,000 people. The amount raised for Regimental Charities, when going to print, was unconfirmed but amounted to approximately £1,600.

The following is the list of winners in the Raffle held in connection with the Fete:—

Television Set (Ticket No. 5147), B. R. Mason, 5 Union Street, Lockerbie.

Braemar Twin-Set (7332), Sergt. J. Moran, Middlesex Regiment, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

Chicken (2801), Mrs. Menzies, Kames, Duns.

Pair of Sheets (5470), C. Urquhart, The Shop, Bruist Avenue, Stenhousemuir, Stirlingshire.

Bottle "Hunting Squire" Whisky (10227), Neville Dundas, Forest Lodge, Selkirk.

Pringle Twin-Set (10668), Miss E. Hodgson, 14 Devorgilla Terrace, Dumfries.

Premium Savings Bonds—£15 (4878), Mrs. Bowman, 59 Buckingham Gate, S.W.1.

Bottle "John Haig" Whisky (5257), John Wilson, 20 The Square, Kelso.

Tweed Salmon (14182), Mrs. Finlaison, Duthieston, Dunblane, Perthshire.

"Simpson & Fairbairn" Suit-Length (9158), Lucy Hull, Denbie, Lockerbie.

Dress-Length "Ballantyne" Black Watch Tartan (14807), C. Lohanson, Eccles, Bankhead, Coldstream.

"Noble" Suit-Length (3286), Mrs. Sandy Paterson, 180 Scott Street, Galashiels.

Premium Savings Bonds—£10 (2397), F. Green, Berwick Arms, Berwick-on-Tweed.

"Wilson & Glenny" Suit-Length (3916), T. Cairns, Harleyburn, Melrose.

"Pescio Twin-Set" (12046), R. Scott, 4 Chapel Street, Galashiels.

Electric Iron (13689), Public Baths, Galashiels.

Case Miniature Liqueurs (12681), Mrs. J. Brown, 27 Lynwood Crescent, Hawick.

Premium Savings Bonds—£5 (9857), B. McCrick, Whitmuirhaugh, Kelso.

Electric Blanket (5053), James Graham, 30 Castle Break, Ecclefechan.

Bottle Rum (13294), Mrs. Evans, Waldrige House, Paxton.

#### SUBSIDIARY RAFFLES.

Regimental Cake (2637), Mrs. Robson, 40 Bontrees, Jedburgh.

Box Mixed Cheeses (25676), Mrs. Elliot, Eilrig, Robertson, Hawick.

Lawnmower (21875), Mr. Wright, 34 Comely Bank Street, Edinburgh.

Box of Groceries (2841), Mrs. Kerr, 22 Wood Market, Kelso.

The Regiment wishes to thank all those who gave gifts to the Raffle and Stalls, also the Press and the Public who supported the Fete so generously.

## OBITUARY.

### Colonel W. R. SPRUNT

It is with great regret that we have to state the death of a very old and valued friend of the 4th Battalion in Dr. Sprunt.

"Sprunto", as he was affectionately called, after having served in the 1914-18 War with the Royal Engineers, and having been wounded, joined the 4th Battalion as Medical Officer in 1927. He remained with the Battalion until 1940, leaving to command a Field Ambulance. He served in Europe, North Africa, Syria and Italy, and was mentioned in despatches.

Who of the old pre-war 4th Battalion can ever forget his unfeeling kindness to all, his tremendous sense of pawky humour and, above all, his complete and utter loyalty to the Regiment.

Just before his recent illness, he happened to be visiting the Barracks when we were holding our Annual Battalion Rifle meeting and, having met several of his old friends, he took us back reminiscing to the pre-war camps of Gales, Barry, Craigluscar, etc., which he did so much enjoy. Dr. Sprunt will be missed by many, especially those who were privileged to serve with him. To Mrs. Sprunt we offer our deepest sympathy.

#### Lieut.-Colonel E. N. BLACKLOCK

It is with regret we record the death at his home at Craigievar, Portloring, by Dalbeattie, on January 23rd of Lieut.-Colonel Edward Blacklock, at the age of 50 years.

He was in the 5th Battalion before the War and served in the Commandos and on the Staff in Norway, North Africa and Italy. At the end of the War he was appointed a Deputy President of Courts Martial in Vienna and presided later over the War Crimes Tribunals in Malaya.

On his return to this country, he carried on his

business as a solicitor in the legal firm of Messrs. J. E. Blacklock & Co. in Dumfries.

We offer our deepest sympathy to his widow.

#### C/Sergt. ARTHUR DYE

It is with regret that we record the death at his home in Dumfries of Mr. Arthur Dye at the age of 84 years. He joined the Regiment in 1895 and served continuously for 22½ years.

After some service later in India, where he had a Temporary Commission as a Quartermaster, he was appointed a Recruiter in Dumfries from 1922 to 1932 and again from 1939 to 1944. He had the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal also the Meritorious Service Medal.

He is survived by four daughters and a son, to whom we offer our deepest sympathy.

#### Mrs. GEORGE GRAHAM POOLE

On March 4th, at 15 Lennox Street, Renton, the wife of ex-C.S.M. Poole, at the age of 52 years. Our sympathy is extended to Mr. Poole on the sudden death of his wife.

## A BRIEF OPERATIONAL INTERLUDE

THE Battalion had been committed on an operation lasting well after Christmas, and I was sitting in the Adjutant's office on 22nd December, 1957, wondering what the next brain child of the Commanding Officer's would be when I heard his voice bellowing from his office: "Andrew."

I snapped back, "Sir," seized my millboard, and paraded myself in front of him.

"I have just been asked by the Brigadier i/c Administration at 17 Gurkha Division if we can send a Platoon and the Pipe Band to Manila next week to attend the inauguration of the new President of the Philippines—President Garcia—what about it?"

"A splendid idea sir. "A" Company will have a Platoon to spare and the Pipes and Drums are free."

"The difficulty is to know whom to send in charge of the detachment."

I thought this was a rather stupid remark to make as I saw quite clearly who should be selected. The Colonel luckily spotted the answer as he said, "Oh, alright, you can go, but make sure you are back for the New Year."

Events then moved fast. On the 23rd December G.H.Q. said they only required the Pipes and Drums, but on the 24th December it was decided that a Platoon should go with 12 members of the Pipe Band. C.S.M. Murdoch drilled the "A" Company detachment on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and the 27th December, and the Pipes and Drums were heard marching round the camp on all three days except on the afternoon of the 27th December when they were suffering from their yellow fever, tetanus and T.A.B. inoculations, and other similar punishments administered by the R.M.O.

On the 28th December, 1957, we left Batu Pahat by road and stayed the night at Selarang Barracks.

On arrival in Singapore, we soon felt like film stars as public relations photographers proceeded to pursue us and photograph us from all angles, even when we were looking dishevelled and ill after the long journey. After being weighed by the R.A.F., documented by the Army, fed by the 1st Battalion The South Wales Borderers and having had Malayan dollars changed into American dollars, we retired to bed early and dreamt of being entertained in Manila by beautiful Philippine girls.

We left Selarang early on the morning of 29th December, 1957, and after a smooth flight from Changi arrived at Clarke Field Air Base in the late afternoon. Clarke Field is probably the largest American Air Base in the Far East. It's size compels all airmen to have cars or motor scooters in which to travel around the camp. We were met by a British R.A.F. officer who soon told me what was expected of us at Manila next day. The first shock being that we should have to march past in line, and on the narrow road at Batu Pahat we had only practised marching in threes. However, there was no time to practice on the tarmac that night!

The detachment found that the American barrack rooms were more spacious and comfortable than any they had experienced in England, and they found the food (chicken, spam, fruit salad, etc.) too rich! The Pipe-Major told me that the detachment all retired to bed early but the strains of the pipes could be heard at 03.00 hrs.—perhaps American can also play them?

We left Clarke Field at 07.45 hrs. on 30th December and landed at Manila at 08.30 hrs. where we were met by a member of the British Embassy and a Philippine Army Major. They were destined to be our guides for the whole visit.

We changed into No. 1 Dress in the Airport waiting room and were assisted into our elaborate dress by

astonished Philippine airmen. After parading outside the Airport we left in open trucks for the parade Assembly Point. We were late, but our drivers were determined to cut down the time deficit. We sped through the streets of Manila clutching our blackcock feathers and trying to remain composed and dignified. The first heroic action was carried out by L/Corpl. Bell who was unlucky enough to lose his false teeth during the journey. He acted with initiative. Stopping the truck he jumped onto the main road, adopted the "on guard" position, halted the flow of Philippine vehicles, retrieved his precious false teeth, jumped back into his vehicle and accompanied by roars of applause from the Philippines who were lining the street, proceeded on his journey.

We debussed at the Assembly Point on the main highway which was wide enough to hold 25 men marching in line. Having been shown our forming up point and having fixed bayonets we waited, watching American airmen, Marines in chromium plated helmets and Philippine soldiers all forming up by executing complicated drill movements all done to whistles.

The pipers were soon the centre of attraction and Philippine children gave us drinks to help us keep moderately cool. It was far hotter than in Malaya or Singapore.

At 10.50 hrs. President Garcia drove past on his way to the saluting base and each detachment came to attention and O.C. detachments saluted him.

At 11.05 hrs. the parade started. The crowd obviously favoured the pipers and we were cheered all along the route. The Greek Ambassador, who had hardly spoken to the British Ambassador since the Cyprus troubles started, leapt to his feet as we passed the grand stand and hugged a British Embassy Official.

After the parade the whole detachment was entertained most generously by H.E. The British Ambassador at the British Embassy. Over 200 bottles of beer were consumed and I was beginning to be worried lest the Embassy's hospitality should be too extensive.

Lieut. Bristol, Pipe-Major Bradford, myself and the dancing team remained at the Embassy and the remainder were conducted round Manila. I was taken to lunch by a British Embassy Official in the

centre of Manila and whilst enjoying a Philippine meal I heard "Blue Bonnets" being played down the street. Yes, the Borderers had certainly conquered Manila.

The detachment returned to Clarke Field leaving the officers, Pipe-Major and the dancing team to enjoy the night life of Manila. At Clarke Field the detachment was given true American hospitality. The pipers played for the Colonel of the Air Base and the detachment celebrated an early New Year with both American sexes!

At Manila we were lucky enough to accompany H.E. The Ambassador to the Presidential Batt at the Royal Palace. We will long remember the ladies' Spanish dresses, the dignity of the diplomatic corps, the friendliness of the Philippines and the overwhelming hospitality of the members of the British Embassy. We met the Indian Minister who knew 2nd K.O.S.B. in India, the German Minister who said that the Scots Guards had kicked him out of his own home in Germany, in 1944, but they had done it very nicely, and an American officer who said, "Say Captain, your fancy pants sure stole the show on parade to-day."

After a member of the British Embassy had diplomatically cleared the dance floor and the Philippine head of protocol had announced the "King's Own Barbers" will now perform some dances, the Pipe-Major and the dancing team danced a foursome and a sword dance with which the President seemed suitably impressed.

We left Manila next morning and after a bumpy flight were soon back in Singapore. A long drive to Batu Pahat brought us back to the reality of soldiering in Malaya and we were ready to see in the New Year in customary style.

We had only been away three days but they were three days we will not forget. The importance of the British soldier as an ambassador was forcefully brought home to us. We will always appreciate the hospitality of the Americans, the Philippines and the British Embassy and in particular the words of H.E. The British Ambassador when he said to us, "Remember that each of you can be a far better ambassador than I can ever hope to be."

## “EGU”

Like most people I had often heard of the "Wild Man from Borneo," and had always associated the name with a circus character who haunted my dreams as a very small boy. I had certainly never expected to meet such a character, so I was somewhat surprised when I discovered on arrival in Malaya that each Battalion had tame head-hunters from Borneo attached to them as trackers.

It was not until the Battalion moved to Batu Pahat that I saw my first Iban, the race from which the trackers are recruited. He was about five foot tall, and extremely well built, but the thing that struck me first was his hair. He wore a pigtail of thick greasy black hair tied up in a bun at the back of his head, and a fringe. On his throat was an intricately

designed tattoo and he had tattoos all over his body; all were extremely well designed and are the Ibans' form of Art. He was the most striking of any Iban I have seen since; unfortunately a great many of them have their hair cut when they arrive in Malaya, as the Malays laugh at them and call them savages, but Egu steadfastly refused to follow the others example. As he explained to me later, the alternative to his hair-do would be a "Busty Murdoch haircut," and he would rather be laughed at by all the Malays in Malaya than have his head shaved.

All the Ibans seemed very lost to begin with, as they had come straight from their Depot at Port Dickson and had never served with British Troops before. But they and the Jocks soon got to know and under-

stand each other and it became a not unusual sight to see a Jock and an Iban going out together for a meal in Batu Pahat. However at the beginning, the chief problem was the language difficulty. When the Ibans first arrived they spoke no English but used sign language in their conversation with the Jocks. One tended at first to misunderstand some of their signs! This had a rather unfortunate result on the first operation we did with the Ibans. I had gone out with Egu and three men on a recce patrol when we discovered a fresh bandit track. After we had followed it for a mile or more Egu made a sign for us to be very quiet, and we crept through a patch of swamp expecting to be fired upon at any second. Egu went slower and slower until he stopped and signalled to me to come up to him, when I reached him he pointed his rifle to the front and raised four fingers. I had been expecting to walk straight into a bandit camp so I whispered, "bandit camp." He nodded his head enthusiastically and pointed his rifle again. Before the operation we had been instructed by the Brigadier not to attack any camps we found but to call for an airstrike. I was certain there was an occupied camp a few yards ahead of us, and that if we went any further forward we would give ourselves away. I therefore left two men watching to see if anyone tried to escape and went back to inform the C.O. by wireless and ask for an airstrike. This however was refused as there were to many patrols in the area and I was ordered to attack with what men I had. Back we went to our sentries, and off along the track extremely cautiously, seeing imaginary bandits behind every tree. Further and further we went but no camp appeared. Then the rain came down in torrents and we lost track. It was only the next morning when I returned rather shamefacedly to Base Camp I discovered that when Egu had pointed he had not meant four bandits in a camp just ahead, but he would like to kill four bandits. After that I made a point of taking an interpreter with me until Egu's English became more proficient.

During the next few months Egu's English improved after lessons from the Jocks. At first conversation was limited to "Borneo played out—No Elephants" or "Scotland Number One, Borneo Number Three—Borneo good, No M.P.s." But eventually he learned to carry on a reasonably sensible conversation in a mixture of Scots and Iban. He became extremely popular with all of the Company, and it became more

and more difficult to get him to go on a patrol, as everybody else wanted him. He was a better class tracker, and saved us miles of walking in the jungle. There was nothing better than after an extremely tiring patrol to say "back camp Egu" and off we would go, map and compass forgotten, taking short-cuts I would never have dreamed of. By uncanny age old jungle instinct Egu always found his way back, and always far sooner than I expected. In Base Camp he was invaluable. In a few moments he would construct a basha which we could never have built in an hour. On long operations when the sight of tinned rations made one ill he would supplement our diet with fish, mouse deer, or Nipaug Palm and occasionally a tortoise which we were never too enthusiastic over, but which he considered the greatest delicacy. His knowledge of jungle lore was unbelievable and he used it in many different ways to make life more comfortable. Once, when we were doing our first operation we had forgotten to refill our water bottles at the last stream and were parched with thirst when he suddenly seized a vine and cut it in half and, to our amazement, out poured water.

He was always extremely keen to do well and kill bandits, and if he ever made a mistake he punished himself more severely than any European could ever punish themselves. Once in the early days he slipped when he was leading scout and let off a round. It was all I could do after it to stop him beating his trigger finger for its carelessness, and he considered himself in disgrace for a very long time. He was also, like all his race extremely superstitious and never went on a patrol without his lucky charms. He even insisted I should carry a small bottle of coloured liquid next to my heart which would turn any bullet that was fired at me.

One could fill a dozen volumes with anecdotes of Egu's career with "A" Company. He was, without doubt, the most colourful personality we had. Now he has gone back to his longhouse, having been with the Battalion the entire time they were in the Yong Peng area. He was glad to go back as he disliked Malaya, especially the swamp; his answer to the Emergency was: "K.O.S.B. go back to Scotland. Ibans go back to Borneo. Big Boom finish bandits." The Big Boom was his name for the hydrogen bomb. Perhaps he was right.

## PARTS OF NORTH WEST EUROPE RE-VISITED

FROM the 27th of September to the 11th of October, 1957, my wife and I went on a motoring holiday in France, Belgium, Holland and Northern Germany. During that period, we visited many places where the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Battalions of the Regiment fought or were billeted during 1939, 1944 and 1945.

I thought, therefore, that it might be of interest if I tried to record some of our journeys, my impressions of some of the places we visited and the memories these visits brought back. As I served in 1939, 1944 and 1945 only with the 1st and 5th Battalions of the Regiment, my account will mostly be concerned with

incidents affecting those two units and I hope, therefore, that anyone who served with the other Battalions, which fought in North-West Europe in 1944-45, will forgive me if I do not sufficiently emphasise their activities or if I make some errors of fact.

We crossed the channel from Dover to Boulogne on a lovely day with a calm sea and bright sunshine: we had no difficulty with the French customs and twenty minutes after the ship berthed we were on our way to Brussels where we spent the first four nights of our holiday.

We left the direct route from Boulogne to Brussels at Lille where we turned south to have a look at

Fretin where the 1st Battalion was billeted in 1939 and 1940. My memory of the roads in that area was bad, and we took a long time (and incidentally had a puncture) motoring around the villages of Seclin, Templemars, Vendeville and Seclin again before we eventually reached Fretin. This village appeared to me to be exactly the same as it was in 1939 except that the main road through it was no longer cobbled but surfaced with tar macadam and, therefore, much better for driving along. We drove east through the village till we reached the level crossing where we turned south and had a look at "C" Company Headquarters (the one-time home of Jeff Shillington): then we turned east again and visited the farm where "A" Company had its Officers' Mess. Here we received a great welcome from the farmer and his wife, both appeared to remember me—they assured me they did anyway. We were both given a glass of beer and over it we discussed old times. The farmer remembered well an officer to whom he referred as "Alass-taire" (A. J. Rennie) and who had apparently visited him in the last two or three years.

He also clearly remembered my successor though the name (McAlester) was beyond him. He referred to Jock as "Monsieur Wiss-key—Oh-La-La"!

After over half-an-hour of struggle in our school-girl-and-boy French, we managed to break off the engagement and continue our journey to Brussels, leaving on our left the ancient Fort, just North-North-East of Fretin, which "D" Company, under Jumbo Ker, did its best to make into a modern defensive work during that "phoney war" winter of 1939-40. We reached Brussels at dusk on 27th September, and after great difficulty found our hotel, the Cecil, where we were very comfortable for the next four days.

From Brussels we motored into the surrounding country each day: on Saturday, the 28th of September, we went first to Ostend where the 4th and 5th Battalions had landed in October, 1944, in the very battered and badly damaged harbour. The port was completely restored and working to full capacity: the whole town seemed to be flourishing and its cafes doing a roaring trade. We then went on to the lovely old town of Bruges where the planning for the assault on the island of Walcheren was done. This beautiful city, which escaped damage during the war, was looking at its best. The narrow streets, quiet canals and little humped bridges make one feel that it still belongs to medieval days, though that idea is quickly dispelled by the large numbers of modern American cars and the difficulty of movement, even on foot.

From Bruges we went to the village of St. Georges where the 5th Battalion was billeted both before and after the battle of Walcheren. We found, without much trouble, the old chateau surrounded by a moat where the Battalion H.Q. had been. This chateau had been completely restored to normal and all the gardens and lawns round it were in excellent condition and beautifully kept. We were given a most friendly welcome by the owners who insisted on giving us an excellent tea—this in spite of the fact that, when I explained carefully that I had commanded the Scottish Battalion which was billeted there in October and November, 1944, the owner replied: "Ah yes, we remember the Scots very well: they pinched all our potatoes." I remember that we did in fact have some difficulty over potatoes after being only a few days on the continent because, even if the bulk of the "compo" ration was quite popular, the tinned potatoes were certainly very unpopular. However, in spite of the misdeeds of some members of the 5th Battalion

thirteen years previously, my wife and I could not have been more cordially received and entertained. Our host, in fact, came in especially to welcome us from the garden where he had been going round in a small cart drawn by a donkey: he was badly wounded in World War I. and can walk only with great difficulty so he goes about his garden and estate in a donkey cart. He told us that during World War II. his chateau had been occupied at different times by military units from Belgium, France, Germany, Canada, England, Scotland and Poland.

On Sunday, 29th of September, we spent the morning sight-seeing in Brussels itself. We visited the Grande Place which is a really magnificent square from the architectural point of view: I was able to recognise the small cafe in one corner where Officers on short leave from the battle used to congregate on Sunday mornings and drink champagne cocktails. We also went and looked at the well-known statue, the Manekin-Pis, and at the Royal Palace and the art gallery. After lunch we drove into that small bit of Holland which is South of the Scheldt Estuary and went to Breskens, the little port from which the 4th and 5th Battalions sailed in assault landing craft for the attack on Flushing on the island of Walcheren. The Port of Breskens and all the buildings and roads in that area have been completely rebuilt: the contrast between the present day and the appalling conditions of October, 1944, was quite staggering—no ruined houses, no wrecked bridges, no shell-holes in the roads and fields and no dead and smelling cattle lying about with their legs in the air. Instead everything was neat and tidy: the land all looked to be well farmed and the animals well fed and cared for: the people were smartly dressed and obviously enjoying life and the autumn sunshine. The town of Flushing was clearly visible across the Scheldt.

On Monday, 30th of September, we went first to Ghent which members of the 4th and 5th Battalions used to visit in October, 1944, and near which the 1st Battalion was stationed in August and September, 1945, before going to the Middle East. From Ghent we drove westwards: we passed through Deinze where in August, 1945, the 1st Battalion lost all those members who were in age groups 26 and below and was made up to strength by men in age group 27 and above who were posted in from the 4th and 5th Battalions of the Regiment and from the 7th/9th Royal Scots. In Deinze I had no difficulty in finding the Battalion H.Q. office and Officers' Mess, and I gave my wife a glass of beer in the little cafe which I used to visit in 1945, and through the owner of which I bought lovely underclothes on the black-market to send home during those dreadful days of clothes rationing.

From Dienze we motored west again and passed the race courses where some of us used to go on Saturday afternoons to try and make a few francs by betting on the trotting races: we did not generally have much success though I remember one day when Harry Douglas got a really good tip and we all came home very rich!

Continuing west, we went through Desselghem, the village in which the 5th Battalion was billeted on first arrival on the continent in October, 1944. I recognised the house in which I was billeted, but we did not try to find the Belgian who acted as interpreter between the local inhabitants and members of the Battalion. His English was not of a high order as I remember his most used sentence was "I K-now because I speak the verity."

From Desselgham we drove on west past Hill 60 to Ypres: here we examined carefully the Menin Gate, that wonderful memorial to all those who fell during World War I. in the various battles round Ypres and who have no known grave. We also looked at the modern, but very fine, Church and Cloth Hall which were built after 1920 to replace their predecessors which were completely destroyed between 1914 and 1918.

On the 1st of October we left Brussels and set off through Antwerp for Holland. At Bergen-op-Zoom we turned west and motored across Beveland to Walcheren: I was interested to see that on either side of the old causeway between these islands large stretches of land have now been reclaimed from the sea with the result that "The Sloe," over which a Battalion of the Cameronians assaulted in boats on to Walcheren, is now well cultivated farm-land.

On Walcheren we drove through Middleburg to Flushing. I was surprised how easy it was in this town to find so many streets and houses that I knew so well in 1944. There was no difficulty at all in finding the tiny beach on which we landed: it is now marked by two small monuments, one a memorial to the Commandos who carried out the initial assault and one, a plaque bearing the 52nd Divisional sign and recording that in order to liberate the island of Walcheren, units of that Division landed on that beach.

What really astonished me was the minute size of the landing area; it seems incredible that it was ever found in the dark by the navigators of the assault craft and that, even when found, it was large enough to admit all the troops, equipment, vehicles and stores which eventually were required on the island.

I found without difficulty the house in which the 4th Battalion had its R.A.P. and where Tommy Kennedy-Moffat was treated for the wound he received within one minute of the 5th Battalion crossing its first start-line in 1944.

I was able to show my wife exactly how the 5th Battalion set about its task of clearing the town: I pointed out where the R.A.P. was set up in a shop, where Battalion H.Q. was established and showed her the line of buildings into which the Mountain Gunners took one of their guns, carried it upstairs and fired it out of a window across a stretch of water and split open, with anti-tank shells, a large concrete German pillbox.

We then moved eastwards through the town till we came to the electric power station on the west bank of the Middleburg Canal. In this power station the 5th Battalion established its H.Q. for the assault over the bridge across the canal prior to capturing the railway station and large areas of the docks. George Carmichael won his M.C. in this area when he, as a very junior subaltern, commanded "C" Company for three days. It was here also that C.S.M. (later R.S.M.) Lees won his M.M.

The town of Flushing has, of course, been completely repaired and is now, quite clearly, a busy and thriving port. It is still dominated by several huge cranes standing high above the docks: from these same cranes in 1944, German snipers took a heavy toll of those who walked about the streets in daylight. It was with the greatest difficulty that these snipers were removed and eventually the Mountain Gunners were again used in an unusual role: they set the engine house of each crane on fire by hitting it several times with solid shot and so burnt out the snipers.

On the afternoon of the 1st of October we drove from Flushing to Utrecht passing through Bergen-op-Zoom,

Tilburg, which will be specially remembered by members of the 6th Battalion, Vught (where the Germans had a well known concentration camp and where the 5th Battalion was stationed in the barracks in early November, 1944, while the 4th Battalion held positions along the River Maas) and S'Hertogenbosch. We spent four nights in Utrecht and from there visited Amsterdam, Haarlem, Ijmuden, The Hague, and Delft.

On the 5th of October we left Utrecht and spent the whole day travelling by a roundabout route to Enschede: during this day and the next we visited many places where the various Battalions of the Regiment had fought. In fact, these two days were entirely spent in touring the various battlefields. We drove through Oosterbeek, the scene of the 7th Battalion's historic battle, on into Arnhem and across the famous bridge. From there we went south to Nijmegen, Grave and through Oploo to Overloon. Those names will bring back a host of memories to many members of the Regiment as nearly everyone, who served in the campaign in North-West Europe, was at some time in the winter of 1944-45 at one or other of those places. At Overloon we visited the War Museum which is largely filled with relics, photographs, etc., connected with the 3rd British Infantry Division in which the 1st Battalion served throughout the war. We were welcomed by the Mayor and Town Clerk who insisted on giving us an excellent lunch and presenting us with a "Present from Overloon"—an attractive blue and white china plate. From Overloon we went on south and passed through or close to several villages which so many of the Regiment will remember during that cold and wet winter—Venraij, Smakt, Blitterswijk, Horst, Wansum and Blerwick which was one of the 6th Battalions most successful battles. We crossed the River Maas into Venlo and then motored North-East till we reached the River Rhine and Wesel. We did not have time to study the great battles which were fought in February and March, 1945, between the Maas and the Rhine, and which are all included in "Operation Veritable." We did, however, leave the main road for a short while and take a look at the stretch of the Rhine which the 5th Battalion held until 6th Battalion went through on 23rd of March for the assault across that great river. It was interesting looking at the farms nestling under the river's flood-bank: those farms where we had lived for 14 days and eaten the pigs, sheep, ducks and chickens which the Germans had to leave behind when they were compulsorily evacuated from the area. It was here, too, that we lived, and nearly choked, in "Monty's Smokescreen" which covered the whole country-side during all the hours of daylight so that the enemy could not see our preparations for the assault over the river. I found the house in Ginderich where the 5th Battalion had its H.Q. and outside which Donald Barron was wounded one night when the Germans sent over about twenty heavy shells. I was also able to point out to my wife the church tower where the Battalion manned an Observation Post, and up which I took the Army Commander, General Dempsey, so that he could do his personal reconnaissance of the ground East and North of the Rhine over which the Army was to assault.

After having had a good look at the Rhine from the top of the flood bank, we crossed the river into Wesel, turned down stream and motored into Rees, the village into which the 1st Battalion crossed behind the assaulting units of the Highland Division.

*To be continued*

# The King's Own Scottish Borderers' Association.

(Incorporating the K.O.S.B. WAR MEMORIAL and WAR RELIEF FUNDS and CLUBS)

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