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Lady Louisa Lennox
with her husband's Regiment at Minorca, 1769

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(Incorporating the K.O.S.B. War Memorial and War Relief Funds and Clubs)

Originally constituted 12th February, 1898.

Reconstituted 6th October, 1945.

Reconstituted 15th June, 1964.

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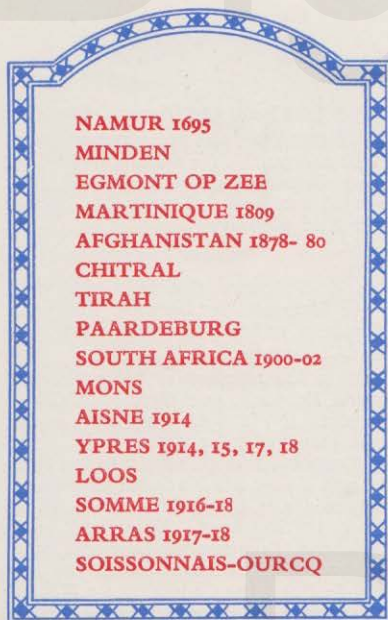
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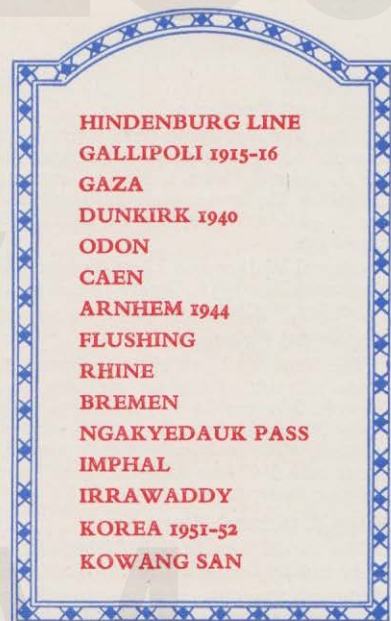
THE REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE OF

THE KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS

1689 ——— 1969



XXV



Vol. 35 No. 2

REG. AT STATIONERS' HALL

31 Aug., 1969

COLONEL-IN-CHIEF	H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E.
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Senior K.O.S.B. Officer, Lowland Brigade Depot	MAJOR A. M. CAMERON
Officer Commanding "C" Coy. (K.O.S.B.) 52nd Lowland Volunteers	MAJOR W. THYNE

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2nd Bn. The Royal New Brunswick Regiment, 555 Murray Ave., Bathurst, New Brunswick, Canada	Lt.-Colonel F. F. Moar, E.D.
25th Bn. The Royal Queensland Regt. Milne Bay Depot, Margaret Street, Toowoomba, Queensland.	Lt.-Col. O. Cusack, M.M.
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EDITORIAL

Regimental Trustees :

Since our last notes were written, there has been a change in Regimental Trustees. Colonel Walker, Lieut.-Colonel Machin, Major-General Macdonald and Brigadier McConnell have resigned and in their place are Brigadier Coutts, Colonel Gillies and Lieut.-Colonel Davidson.

Colonel Walker and Lieut.-Colonel Machin have been Trustees since 1951, General Macdonald since 1960 and Brigadier McConnell since 1963.

Regimental Pictures :

The Trustees have given approval for a copy to be made of each of the six pictures depicting the 25th Foot in Minorca in 1773. They are the property of Lady Ponsonby who has very kindly given her permission. The originals were painted by an Italian artist called Chiesa who lived in Minorca in the mid-eighteenth century.

K.O.S.B. Officers' Messes :

The two Messes, in Galashiels and Dumfries, continue to be run by Colonels Hankey and Gillies respectively.

Notices are sent out to officers who live within reach, letting them know the dates for lunches and dinners. If any officers who live within range and have not received notices want particulars, please contact the P.M.C. concerned.

The Dinners are formal and run on the normal officers Mess lines and the cost is split between the officers attending. The lunches are for officers and their wives and friends, the cost being recovered on Mess bills as above.

Annual General Meeting :

The Annual General Meeting this year was held in the R.E. Mess in Great King Street, Edinburgh. There was a fair attendance. Messrs. Lumsden and Menzies, who run the 4th K.O.S.B. reunion, and Mr. Graham Thomson who runs the 6th Battalion reunion dinners, were warmly welcomed.

The General announced the sad news of the disbandment of our only remaining Territorial Army Battalion, which was now reduced to a Cadre of eight all-ranks under Major George Harvey, and thanked Colonel Bruce for the way he had carried out the tragic role allotted to him.

The Colonel of the Regiment also announced that the Regiment were once again to be permitted to wear their K.O.S.B. Cap-badges.

K.O.S.B. Officers' Club Luncheon and Dinner—London :

There was a change this year, and the functions were held in Quaglino's Restaurant. We were honoured by the presence of our Colonel-in-Chief, and over fifty members sat down to luncheon. Thirty-five officers attended the dinner that evening.

Cadet Camp :

The Dumfries and Galloway Cadets spent their Annual Camp in the Barracks in Berwick this year. Apart from their purely military training they took part in an O.P.M.A.C. exercise.

Their Military Aid to the community being cleaning up the beaches round Berwick, and their efforts were locally much appreciated. It was very nice seeing Colonels Gillies and Hendricks for a few days in the R.H.Q. Mess, also, Corporal Davitt, who was the Mess Corporal when he was doing his National Service, is now an Adult Instructor with the Cadets, and is in the Police and stationed in Stranraer. They had visits from Brigadier Balharrie, Commander Lowland Area, and General Younger. Minden Day fell on the day before the camp finished and the Cadets held a Minden Day Parade on the Square. Colonel Home Robertson provided roses from Paxton and Mrs. Dunn presented them in the traditional manner.

K.O.S.B. Officers' Club "At Home" and Golf :

The "At Home" was held in Berwick this year in a Marquee Tent erected on the Square. The General and Lady Turner welcomed the guests.

The golf at Goswick, the following day, was also well attended and the results were as follows :—

Regimental Cleek was won by Major Alan Berry with a score of 81.

Brigadier Coutts won the Maclaren Cup with a score of 87, and Major Todrick won the Peace Cup with a score of 115.

K.O.S.B. Regimental Museum :

The Museum is now set up in the old Officers' Mess Quarters. The chief concern of R.H.Q. is the safety of the exhibits and it is costing a lot of money to make them proof against youths who, apparently, see nothing wrong in stealing and come equipped with pliers and screw drivers to do just this!

Thanks to Colonel Ward, all the weapons are correctly described and are now on show and are proving of great interest to the public.

1st BATTALION

EDITORIAL

A Review

We have now been in Osnabruck for a full two years. As our last contribution to the *Chronicle* was rather sketchy, we make no apology for a somewhat lengthy review of the Battalion's first two years here, which should give those at home an idea of the life we lead in B.A.O.R.

As is well known, the 1st Battalion moved by air in June, 1967. Well over a thousand individuals were involved, including about three hundred families.

The Battalion is quartered in Belfast Barracks, an aged German Cavalry Barracks devoid of the facilities required for a mechanised Battalion and its vast amount of equipment. Living and stores accommodation is cramped, and considerable ingenuity was required as was much self help. The plumbing is, to say the least, antique. There are no garages or proper workshop facilities for our numerous armoured and soft skinned vehicles.

It was as well that we were going to be busy, perhaps an understatement! The families have fared better and most are in high class flats or houses albeit scattered over a considerable area. Osnabruck itself is a quiet German provincial town, a former Bishopric with a population of just over one hundred thousand. The centre of the town is surrounded by a medieval wall and watchtowers, and a number of historic buildings survive. The population are quite friendly, but there is a lack of contact because of the language barrier, and because the town is oversubscribed with about eight thousand British soldiers and a further six thousand British dependants. Nevertheless, relations are good and considerable progress has been made in Anglo-German communion. The fact that a number of our more prominent officers were invited to march in the annual "Schutzenfest" procession through Osnabruck, the first time that any British Officers had been so invited, bears testimony to the improving Anglo-German climate.

The bachelors suffer from a lack of feminine sympathy in the Osnabruck area, and this is the root cause of much frustration and boredom during leisure hours. To combat this tendency we have kept everyone extremely busy militarily, and much thought and effort has gone into creating social, sporting and adventurous activities designed to make the spectrum of soldiering in B.A.O.R. both as efficient and as enjoyable as is possible in the circumstances. This has meant that we have spent a great deal of time out of barracks which has given the bachelors a full life but the married families have had to endure a lot of separations.

Foot to Armour

The biggest single challenge we faced was the conversion to becoming a mechanized Infantry Battalion. Mounted in FV 432 Armoured Personnel Carriers, each costing approximately twenty four thousand pounds. We now have tremendous tactical mobility and, working extremely closely with Tanks, Artillery, Engineers and Aircraft and using the first rate radio communications available, one has the flexibility required to fight both a conventional phase and a tactical nuclear phase of war—should either be required.

All this does not mean that we can permit ourselves to lose our basic Infantry skills. The Infantry still do their actual fighting dismounted. Being mechanized merely means that we have had to acquire the driving and maintenance skills of an Armoured Regiment and a very detailed knowledge of All Arms tactics, capabilities and co-operation—in addition to being first and foremost Infantrymen.

Actual conversion was achieved in three phases.

First, all FV 432 drivers to be, were put on four ton conversion courses while still in the U.K. A.P.C. instructors were sent to the Army M.T. School, Bordon, and intense Signals cadres took place at Shorncliffe.

Secondly, all FV 432 drivers were sent with the Advance Party to Osnabruck for an intense driving and maintenance cadre so that they were acceptably proficient by the time the main body of the Battalion arrived.

The third phase was protracted and in fact will continue until our tour ends because of changes in personnel, promotions, etc. It consisted of vehicle commanders courses and cadres, further driver and signals training, FV 432 crew training and finally the practical application tactically of all these combined in the field.

One could write a book on A.P.C. maintenance documentation alone (Major Graham Allt did), but suffice it to say that a whole new mechanized vista has been opened. This greatly affected Q administration and some of us, even in our sleep, dream about C.E.S., F.A.M.T.O., metalistic couplings, tachometers and last, but by no means least, gearbox oil, powerpack oil and coolant system levels. A mistake here, or rather a seizure, results in the C.O. being held responsible for neglect amounting to from £3,000 to £6,000. Naturally displeasure escalates downwards and everyone is very conscious of the problem.

Overall, the complicated process of mechanization went pleasingly well. Everyone took to the FV 432s like duck to water. We had the odd "seizure"—well, you cannot make an omelette without breaking a few (three) eggs!

Exercises and Major Events

We had our first tender experience of armoured tactics at the Haltern training area in late July and early August, 1967. Here we were supported by two troops from "B" Squadron 9/12th Lancers. We were to form a very close affiliation with this excellent Squadron, commanded by Major David Maitland-Titterton. The culmination at Haltern was a Battle Group exercise, Counter Punch. During the opening phase, the then Corps Commander, Lieut.-General Sir John Mogg, watched a demonstration of nuclear tactics in the First Corps tactical doctrine setting.

Our first experience in flotation was at O.H.R. Park in September, 1967, with a crossing of the Weser in FV 432s. Under Major Robin Oatts's able direction this delicate manoeuvre went without a hitch. Several other Regiments had managed to sink an A.P.C. Luckily there were no Pied Pipers about in our case, and despite certain wits chalking names like Titanic and Graf Spee on the sides of the A.P.C.s these kept their

rubber skirts or flotation screens well up, the drivers kept their revs up, the vehicle commanders kept their heads—and all crossed—and many times—safely.

In October we went on our first Brigade F.T.X., aptly named exercise Glen Corse. Here 12 Infantry Brigade advanced with three Battle Groups from an area North East of Hanover in a westerly direction. The enemy were 312 Panzer Grenadier Battalion of the Bundeswehr, reinforced by a Tank Company, a Panzerjaeger Company (SP guns) and a parachute Company.

They were brilliantly commanded by Colonel Christian Schunemann who was later to become a great friend of the Borderers and an honorary member of the Officers' Mess.

During operations connected with crossing the river Leine, 1st K.O.S.B. Recce Platoon under Capt. Chris Babington, promptly went to the assistance of a crashed German Helicopter and rescued the injured crew.

After advancing south of the Steinmuder lake we found ourselves blocked by both formidable German positions and a horde of umpires trying to slow up the advance.

We had two Squadrons of Centurions from the 9/12th Lancers under command. Combat Team Alpha, under Major A. D. Myrtle, were launched on a holding attack while Combat Teams Bravo and Charlie infiltrated the enemy right flank. At the moment critique when the Director of Infantry and the Brigade Commander were watching, Combat Team Bravo under Major R. W. Riddle, achieved a breakthrough and cut off the enemy's main escape route. The exercise controllers had run out of umpires owing to the widefront tactics employed!

After two, and in certain cases more, nights without sleep we immediately launched a night crossing over the river Weser in assault boats. That surprise was achieved was shown by the fact that the C.O., assisted by Capt. William Turner and the Tac HQ entourage, captured a German Field Kitchen complete with hot breakfast ready, on the far bank. It took a certain self control to hand it back intact to the opposition!

At dawn Major R. H. B. Oatts organized the flotation of all our A.P.C.s over the Weser and the battle then once again surged Westwards. It ended with a nuclear exchange which would have been very good for promotion all round!

One outcome of this exercise was that we became officially affiliated to 312 Panzer Grenadier Battalion, and very friendly relations were established. A number of exchanges were arranged, and thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned. It was a step in the right direction.

Later that autumn, the C.O. and a number of officers and men were involved in the German 1st Corps exercise, Hermelin. During a pre exercise cloth model presentation, the C.O. was asked by the German Corps Commander, General Benneke, to give his appreciation and plan as acting Commander of 6 Brigade—in German—and before an audience of 300 German Commanders and Staff Officers. A day for cuffmanship!

The year ended with intense preparations for our Fitness for Role inspection. This was carried out by Brigadier H. M. G. Bond, the Brigade Commander, and all went well.

Christmas and Hogmanay were welcome breaks, and the "challenge" and "return" were not dull! Sergt. Speakman saw to that.

1968

In January, 1968, we prepared all our vehicles for the UEI/PRE inspection under inclement weather conditions. A horde of R.E.M.E. inspection teams finally descended upon us, and in the end we got a good report. In late January, our Battalion skiers, under 2nd/Lieut. Robin Cameron-Cooper, did battle for the first time in the 2nd Division Ski Championships at Oberjoch in Bavaria and did well, particularly in the Novices Langlauf which they won.

March saw the Battalion at Sennelager, practising Infantry skills and particularly field firing. Here we became Champion Battalion in 12 Brigade in the Infantry Platoon Challenge Trophy Competition. The winning Platoon was the Recce Platoon commanded by Capt. C. Babington and the best Rifle Platoon was 2 Platoon of "A" Company, commanded by 2nd/Lieut. R. Cameron-Cooper.

In March, 1968, the Battalion Football team reached the B.A.O.R. final.

During April and May we exercised for three weeks at Soltau and during this period we had "A" Company of the Lancastrian Volunteers, TAVR II, attached.

The climax was a Battle Group exercise, Lightning Jock, which lived up to its name as far as rapid movement went.

At this time the Battalion were also made responsible for the Battle Group problem in a nuclear setting in the 2nd Division annual Study Period for senior officers, exercise Major Key III. The C.O., Major Myrtle, Capt. Stavert, Sergt. Smith and others, were heavily involved and much midnight oil was burnt to ensure an eventual satisfactory result.

In June, we got down to drill! 1st K.O.S.B. had been chosen to represent Osnabruck Garrison and perform the Queen's Birthday Parade. This was done on 8th June before a number of British and German V.I.P.s and the Battalion families. The Queen's representative was Brigadier H. M. G. Bond, and the Queen's Colour was trooped under command of Capt. C. B. Fairweather. The parade went with the usual Borderer "snap" according to Brigadier Bond, and was televised by both Border and German T.V. Afterwards there was a large Anglo-German luncheon party in the Officers' Mess and similar entertainment in the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Scandinavian Odysseys

During the summer a series of Company scale exercises were held in widely varying places. Both "B" and "C" Companies took part in a series of armoured exercises at Soltau while "A" Company sparred about mounted, for a change in Saracens, in the lovely Moselle Valley. "B" Company then went on a three weeks swan to just north of Copenhagen, staying with the Danish Life Guards and "C" Company went to Berlin on exchange duty. "A" Company followed suit with an exercise in Jutland and then based themselves with the Slesvig Foot Regiment of the Danish Army at Haderslev. Support Company went to the Baltic shore as did a G.P.M.G. Anti-Aircraft team.

On all these expeditions morale was exceptionally high when the Jocks returned albeit many looked badly in need of rest and recuperation!

Our shooting team once more competed at Bisley and progress was made from the previous year.

During the summer a series of adventure training expeditions were also launched. Exercise Active Borderer consisted of a lengthy hike in Platoon strength through the Black Forest. This was done by several

Platoons. Cycling tours organised by Sergt. Paterson, and rock climbing organized by Capt. C. B. Fairweather, were also fashionable.

In August, 1968, the Battle Group went to Vogelsang. It consisted of 1st K.O.S.B. minus "A" Company, but plus "B" Squadron 9/12 Lancers, "P" Battery of 5 Field Regiment R.A. (in Abbott S.P.s), 3 Troop 25 Corps Engineer Regiment R.E. and Air Troop from 5 Squadron Army Air Corps with 5 choppers and last but not least, the Anti Tank Missile Company of the Slesvig Foot Regiment, commanded by Major Jorgen Hinchley from the Danish Army.

We received many kindnesses and much hospitality while in Denmark, and we were very pleased to see our Allies with us. Mention must also be made of Capt. Seltzer (quickly nicknamed "Alka" by the Jocks), the Quartermaster of 312 Panzer Grenadiers, who came along to study the tactical distribution of whisky in the field!

Vogelsang is a Belgian Army controlled training area in the beautiful Eifel country. It was from here that von Rundstedt launched the ill fated Ardennes offensive and Vogelsang Camp itself was rumoured to be a Nazi re-production centre during the final phase of the war!

The area was in reality too small for a Battle Group 1100 strong, but we made the best of it and some useful training was done, particularly All Arms training.

Minden Day

Minden Day on 1st August, 1968, took an unusual form. Our visitor for the day was the new Corps Commander. Lieut.-General Sir Mervyn Butler.

In the morning the General saw normal training, including Combat Team attacks, breaching of mine-fields under chemical conditions, battle inoculation, etc.

The General's party were then taken to lunch. It included Brigadier John Douglas-Withers, Brigadier Mark Bond and Lieut.-Colonel Mike Woodhead, C.O. of the 9/12th Lancers.

After lunch Major Robin Oatts took the General's party to the saluting base. The parade was to take place by a disused airstrip in a Wagnerian setting of Eifel mountains.

All who were present to greet General Butler were—three Press photographers! The Corps Commander soon realized that this policy was deliberate. A moment later 1st K.O.S.B. Battle Group emerged over the skyline in a great rolling phalanx of Armour, 182 vehicles in all. Over the A.P.C.s, tanks and SP guns the helicopters hovered in formation. Each Company, Squadron, Battery now wheeled into line of armoured vehicles, three deep. On a radioed word of command all personnel dismounted and formed a more normal foot parade. Some very rare birds had been got on parade, including both Quartermasters, Captains George Grant and John White, the Padre, the Reverend Stewart Hynd, the Chief Clerk, Staff Sergeant Hails and the 2nd/L.C.s Batman, Pte. McGregor. also on parade were one German Q.M. and a Company of Danes as well as Cavalry, Artillery, Engineers and Army Air Corps.

In all, just over 900 Ranks were lined up. The C.O. made a short speech in both English and Danish on the theme of all battles being won by Private soldiers in the end, assisted by All Arms teamwork.

General Butler also spoke on the theme of soldiering on despite cuts in the Army's Order of Battle.

The rose ceremony then commenced. The roses had been flown from Italy and had arrived just in time, much to the relief of several well known personalities.

The parade ended with a march past. It was televised on both German and Border T.V.

That night three separate smokers, for reasons of space, were held for the Jocks and their friends. It was a Minden Day to remember.

Further south, in the Moselle valley, "A" Company, under Major Andrew Myrtle, who were exercising with 4 RTR, held their own rose ceremony.

Vogelsang training concluded with exercise Mighty Mole, the highlight of which was a mounted, armoured night attack.

Autumn Miscellany

In September, Flotation was once again carried out at O.H.R. Park on the Weser.

The Battalion entered three four-man teams in the B.A.O.R. R.A.P.A. free fall parachuting and tactical competition. Our "A" team, captained by Capt. C. B. Fairweather, gained second place in B.A.O.R.

Next, in October, and at a time when we should have been getting down to some much needed administration, the Battalion was detailed to lay on a major battle demonstration for the J.S.S.C. This involved some well known individuals getting their thinking caps on, and much hard work by Officers and Jocks in the Companies. Rehearsals had to include Saturdays and Sunday mornings. The end result was another K.O.S.B. "spectacular," at least, according to the G.O.C. of 2nd Division, Major General Chan Blair.

We then had a frantic few days to get ready for the 2nd Division F.T.X. exercise Keystone. The exercise was set in the beautiful Sauerland country. The first week was entirely dismounted but thereafter it became mechanized and ranged over a considerable area.

After various tactical to-ings and fro-ings the Battle Group had to cross the Weser by night and engage a new enemy to the east. In the final phase we came under command of the 4th Canadian Brigade, and the exercise ended on a high note. Two *ad hoc* Platoons were formed by H.Q. Company during this exercise. Commanded by W.O. IIs Johnson and McAllister, they did creditably well and helped to hold extended frontages or provided depth in thinly held areas.

No sooner had we got the dust and mud of Keystone off our vehicles and equipment when the frantic race to get ready for the annual fitness for Role inspection began. The Inspection took place on 18th December

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and was carried out by the new Brigade Commander, Brigadier W. G. H. Beach, O.B.E., M.C. Again it went well, and we were graded "very good."

At this time H.Q. Company had to form an *ad hoc* Rifle Company and, led by Major J. B. Henderson, did a Belfast borne move and assault on the R.A.F. Open day at Wildenrath.

Changes

A series of changes had taken place during the year. The big news was that Major Andrew Myrtle was to succeed Lieut. Colonel Bob McCallum in Command. It was during a Brigade Rifle Meeting in the early Autumn that Colonel McCallum had pulled Major Myrtle to one side to give him the good news. Major Myrtle thought that he was about to be given a rocket for something his Company had done wrong!

At the end of the previous year Major Sandy Rundell had left and command of Support Company devolved first on Capt. Mike Reynolds and then on Major Graham Allt.

The Training Company had been reformed initially under Capt. Reynolds and later under Captains C. G. Mattingley and W. S. Turner in succession. Major J. B. Henderson took over command of H.Q. Company from Capt. Hewat, only later to take over the duties of Second-in-Command from Major Robin Oatts. Robin Oatts left in January, 1969, for the School of Infantry. The Regiment owes him and Mary a great deal, and we take this opportunity to wish them both all good fortune in the future.

W.O. II. Johnson was promoted R.S.M. and took over from W.O. I. Laidlaw and we warmly congratulate him. R.S.M. Laidlaw, D.C.M., had completed an extremely successful tenure as R.S.M. of the First Battalion, and we wish him and Mrs. Laidlaw all good fortune at H.Q. Scotland. Rumour has it that the more somnolent members of this Headquarters now move in double quick time!

Virtually all the Company Commanders left. Major Bob Riddle went to Sandhurst, Major Ian Christie to the Staff College, and Major Andrew Myrtle left to go on courses prior to taking over command.

Many congratulations to Staff Sergeant Greig on being awarded the British Empire Medal after 20 continuous years with the Regiment.

Colonel of the Regiment

We were delighted to receive a visit from Lieut.-General Sir William and Lady Turner in early November.

The visit was a huge success and greatly appreciated by the Battalion.

We are most sorry to learn that General "Willow" Turner is to give up the Colonelcy in June, 1970. He has put in an enormous amount of selfless and devoted work for the Regiment and so has Lady Turner. They will be greatly missed.

If this change must be, then we are delighted that the next Colonel is to be Brigadier Frank Coutts. A very warm welcome to him and Morag.

1969

Christmas and Hogmanay came and went.

A loyal message was sent to The Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester and a most gracious reply was received.

January and February, 1969, were difficult months.

For a number of reasons the new Company Commanders had not yet arrived (in some cases there was

an underlap of 5 months) and at this time the Battalion had a certain amount of trouble with FV 432 gearboxes. At the same time we were trying to put literally thousands of things right for the annual U.E.I./P.R.E. inspection due in early March.

Owing to the shortage of Officers a system of centralized vehicle and maintenance control was instituted. Major G. G. Allt handed over command of Support Company to Capt. C. B. Fairweather and spearheaded the maintenance drive as the Battalion's first A.P.C. Director.

The weather was simply foul with snow, ice and freezing temperatures. The drivers and maintenance crews occasionally warmed their hands by braziers on the square and in the L.A.D. and garages work went on until half past ten at night.

In the end success was assured and we achieved a good report from the R.E.M.E. inquisitors.

This winter our skiers, under Lieuts. Robin Cameron-Cooper and Andy Marshall, did extremely well.

After training for a month at Torpo, in Norway, they did battle at Oberjoch in Bavaria in the 2 Division and B.A.O.R. ski championships. We achieved the best Infantry langlauf average, won the novices langlauf, and Pte. Carrs won the novices individual event.

In March, 1969, the Battalion went to Haltern for three weeks, mainly Infantry training in abnormal subzero temperatures. Living in tents in the snow without stoves was an experience that few will forget. The climax was exercise Full Gas which lived up to its name in that liberal amounts of live C.S. tear gas was released, and the Battalion were dressed in anti chemical C.B. suits, looking more like space men than Scottish soldiers.

During the chemical phase we succeeded in gassing the R.A.F. F.A.T.O.C. and the Brigade Commander! We were supported by six Wessex helicopters from 18 Squadron R.A.F., and after a disengagement the Companies were flown out to a concentration area with a view to advancing through the Haltern forest by night.

This was done on foot and the enemy, who were provided by another Regiment, were so frozen that they gave up and retreated to the warmth of their A.P.C.s!

Icing on roads was so acute that some of the Company C.Q.M.S.s took up to seven hours to move vehicles 15 miles!

The Battalion helicopterborne assault had to be cancelled next morning owing to the rotor blades of the helicopter having frozen solid into sheets of ice. Instead an A.P.C. assault with "A" and "C" Companies was ordered. Here Lieut. Corkerton distinguished himself by spearheading the whole of "A" Company on to the wrong objective!

In early May our football team reached the final of the Infantry Cup being narrowly beaten by the 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Highlanders.

On 8th and 9th May, Exercise Go Go, a Battalion march along the spine of the Teotoburgerwald ridge took place.

The distance on the first day was not great, say 29 kilometres, but the area was extremely hilly with a great deal of up and down and this leg took Company Groups from 8½ to 10 hours to complete. We were all drenched by torrential downpours towards evening.

The second day was easy going over flat country, but many suffered from blisters and sore feet. The present rubbersoled boot is not ideal for long marches. The march was run as a competition. The result was



Farewell to Colonel Bob.

Lieut.-Colonel BOB McCALLUM, M.C.

Lieut.-Colonel Bob McCallum handed over command of the Battalion on 18th June, 1969, having been our Commanding Officer since January, 1967.

As a non King's Own Scottish Borderer it was with a certain apprehension that he was at first welcomed. Not since the 1939-45 conflict had we had an officer from another Regiment in command of one of our Battalions.

He very soon settled with us and accepted our ways and traditions. In the end it would be true to say he was every inch a Borderer and indeed will remain badged as one now that he has left.

He will be remembered in the Battalion for his splendid good humour, his outstanding hospitality and his aim throughout his tenure of command which was to ensure that The King's Own Scottish Borderers was very firmly placed on the map of B.A.O.R. soldiering. He achieved his aim most successfully as the foregoing notes show.

After he left us he motored north to Norway to an assignment he had clearly been looking forward to for several months, not that for one moment did he let it take his eye off the ball here in Osnabruck. Colonel Bob was married in Oslo on 27th June, and to him and his bride, Miss Kristine Lovaas, we extend our warmest greetings and best wishes for the future.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

by

Lieut.Colonel R. J. McCALLUM, M.C.

commanding

1st Bn. The King's Own Scottish Borderers

On handing over Command to-day, I would like to thank all members of the Battalion most sincerely for your most excellent and loyal support.

We have come a very long way in the past two years. Mechanization has been achieved and the Battalion's military reputation in B.A.O.R. is now second to none.

In the sporting field our name is not unknown either. These achievements were only possible through your sustained hard work, cheerfulness, determination and skill.

I know that you will continue to give the same loyal support to Lieut.-Colonel A. D. Myrtle, M.B.E.

I am hopeful that we shall soon know where our next station is to be and that it will be a good one.

I hope that we will all meet again and I wish you personally and your families all good fortune, health and happiness in the future.

Keep the Regiment top of the league.

Auf Weidersehen,
ROBERT McCALLUM.



Rebadging Parade.—Colonel Andrew Myrtle and S/Sergt. McLellan.

Major ANDREW DEWE MYRTLE, M.B.E., K.O.S.B.

Son of Lieut.-Colonel J. Y. E. Myrtle, D.S.O., K.O.S.B., who was killed in action in Tunisia, Andrew Myrtle won the Sword of Honour at The Royal Military College, Sandhurst, before being gazetted to the Regiment. His father also won the Sword of Honour.

Major Myrtle joined the Regiment in 1953 and started to dominate the Army Rackets championships.

The following year, he won the Army Rackets singles championships, went off to Malaya with 1st K.O.S.B., won it again in 1960, 1961 and 1962 and with Brigadier D. W. McConnell won the Inter-Regimental doubles for the K.O.S.B. that year.

After being Signals Officer he was appointed Adjutant of the 1st Battalion in Malaya in 1957. His father had been Adjutant of the 1st Battalion twenty-three years before!

He went to Berlin with the 1st Battalion, still as

Adjutant, and then to the Staff College in 1962. Again, his father had been there twenty-seven years before! In 1964, back in U.K. Capt. Myrtle won the Army Rackets singles championship for the fifth time and then went to Aden with the 1st Battalion. He won the Championship again in 1965 for the sixth time, and with Lieut. Tim Toyne Sewell the same year won the Inter-Regimental doubles for the K.O.S.B.

Major Myrtle was then posted to Aden as Brigade Major, being promoted Major in 1966, and was awarded the M.B.E. for his services there before rejoining the Battalion in Germany.

Apart from his prowess as a Rackets player, he is an excellent golfer and cricketer, like his father was before him. He takes over the Command of 1st K.O.S.B. in Germany in May this year, and he will be the youngest C.O. of a Scottish Regiment.

ORDER OF BATTLE**Battalion Headquarters**

Commanding Officer.—Lieut.-Colonel A. D. Myrtle, M.B.E.

Second-in-Command.—Major J. B. Henderson.

Adjutant.—Capt. C. G. Mattingley.

A/Adjutant.—L/Capt. J. McDonald.

Intelligence Officer.—2nd/Lieut. J. M. Lidstone (Int. Corps.)

Intelligence Officer (Des.).—Capt. T. P. Toyne-Sewell.

R.S.M.—W.O. I. K. Johnson.

Chief Clerk.—S/Sergt. R. Hails.

Headquarter Company

Officer Commanding.—Major J. C. McQ. Johnston.

Signals Officer.—Capt. D. K. M. Innes-Wilson.

A/Signals Officer.—Lieut. I. J. Oddie (R. Signals).

M.T.O.—L/Capt. K. U. Fraser.

Q.M. (Tech.).—Major G. J. Grant, B.E.M.

Q.M. (Maintenance).—Capt. J. P. White.

U.F.O.—Capt. E. G. T. Critchell.

Padre.—Capt. R. S. Hynd (R.A.ChD.).

Paymaster.—Major J. S. Roberts (R.A.P.C.).

O.C. L.A.D.—Capt. T. O. Parker.

O.C. L.A.D. (Des.).—Capt. S. A. T. Baxter.

R.Q.M.S.—W.O. II. R. McKeen.

R.Q.M.S. (Tech.).—W.O. II. A. D. Hay.

C.S.M.—W.O. II. T. Anderson.

A.S.M.—W.O. I. R. G. Calvert (R.E.M.E.).

Training Company

Officer Commanding.—Capt. W. S. Turner.

C.S.M.—W.O. II. E. Thackray.

W.T.O.—W.O. II. M. Earll.

A.P.C. W.O.—W.O. II. J. Nelson.

Recruiting Team (U.K.)

Regt. Rec. Officer.—Capt. A. J. C. Hewat.

"A" Company

Officer Commanding.—Major F. A. L. Alstead.

Second-in-Command.—Capt. C. H. Babington.

Platoon Commander.—Lieut. D. J. P. Corkerton.

Platoon Commander.—2nd/Lieut. J. A. Kirkwood.

C.S.M.—W.O. II. C. Rimmer.

"B" Company

Officer Commanding.—Major I. K. McBain.

Second-in-Command.—Capt. M. D. Sixsmith.

Platoon Commander.—Lieut. J. St. J. Babington.

Platoon Commander.—Lieut. A. D. W. Marshall.

Platoon Commander.—2nd/Lieut. C. J. Campbell.

C.S.M.—W.O. II. M. Russell.

"C" Company

Officer Commanding.—Major P. I. B. Stevenson.

Second-in-Command.—Capt. G. F. W. Rundell.

Platoon Commander.—Lieut. K. R. H. Mitchelson.

C.S.M.—W.O. II. J. McAllister.

Sp. Company

Officer Commanding.—Major G. G. Allt.

Second-in-Command.—Lieut. P. W. Eydes.

Mortar Platoon Commander.—do.

Recce Platoon Commander.—Lieut. R. A. Hulf.

A/Tank Platoon Commander.—Lieut. C. G. O. Hogg.

C.S.M.—W.O. II. A. Amos.

"A" COMPANY

Since the last notes Alpha Company have journeyed far and wide and despatched her sons, some newly promoted, to their posts within the Battalion and at home.

We visited Denmark last summer, "for the purpose of training" so it was said; indeed, we took part in a three day Brigade F.T.X., but it was much more a social and liaison visit. Sports matches against local teams, a rifle meet with our hosts, the Schleswig Foot Regiment, and much "liaison" with the local population on the beaches and in the "pubs." All in all a thoroughly enjoyable trip.

We returned from Denmark to prepare for the Brigade Rifle Shoot, where, to our surprise, we came second.

Prior to this we had spent a couple of weeks training with 4 R.T.R. in the Moselle Valley, a time we prized far more highly in lieu of the Battle Group training that took place at Voelsang. This exercise was one of tremendous movement, so we were largely mentally prepared for that "battle of movement and attrition" the Divisional F.T.X. It was at one stage rumoured that a recently joined recruit had actually sited the enemy, but we are glad to say that such heresay was quickly squashed. The exercise had its lighter moments such as the time when one well known subaltern wedged his A.P.C. firmly between three or four trees and could not get out!

The exercise done and the drive home completed we launched with vigour into preparations for the "Admin. Inspection." At this time we began to scatter the sons of Alpha, jewels in a stormy sea. Lieut. Cameron-

Cooper had left us after our Danish trip for to Ski, and in his spare time, to command the Recce Platoon.

We then indulged in the luxury of some well earned leave to return in time to bid farewell to Major Myrtle. We were, of course, sorry to see him go but delighted, of course, that within six months we would be able to say with pride—"The Commanding Jock, aye he came frae "A" Company." We wish him every success.

The partings continued—2nd/Lieut. Nigel Haig left us for civilian life. We were all very sorry to see him depart. Our Senior N.C.O.'s were also changing fast, Sergt. Middlemass went to the Infantry Junior leaders Battalion, Oswestry, Sergt. Boyes became a recruiter, and newly promoted Sergt. Hamilton, to whom we offer our congratulations, transferred to the Regimental Police.

To take their place in came Sergt. "Budda" Smith, Sergt. Spencer from Oswestry, 2nd/Lieut. Kirkwood from Mons O.C.S. and in the field at Haltern our new Company Commander, Major F. A. L. Alstead. To both he and his wife we offer a warm welcome and hope that they have an enjoyable tour in "A" Company.

Finally, our sporting achievements—we had a soccer team who played with great gusto and considerable ability; a fit running team which lifted the Cross Country Cup by a large margin last year, and which twice won Battalion Orienteering events "in the field" at Haltern and Sennelager. Meanwhile a few members of the Company helped to increase the birthrate—in particular with the arrival of twins for Pte. and Mrs. Millar and daughters for Corpl. and Mrs. Montgomery and L/Corpl. and Mrs. Munro. To both couples we offer our congratulations.

"B" COMPANY

Company Commandev.—Major I. K. McBain.

Company Second-in-Command.—Capt. M. D. Sixsmith

Company Sergeant Major.—W.O. H. M. Russell.

Colour Sergeant.—C/Sergt. J. I. Drennan.

M.T. Sergeant.—Sergt. J. W. Rodger.

Officer Commanding 4 Platoon.—2nd/Lieut. C. J. Campbell.

Platoon Sergeant.—Sergt. M. Connor.

Officer Commanding 5 Platoon.—Sergt. A. Mitchell.

Platoon Sergeant.—Sergt. R. Simpson.

Officer Commanding 6 Platoon.—2nd/Lieut. A. D. W. Marshall.

Platoon Sergeant.—Sergt. G. Wood.

Immediately the festivities of Christmas 1968 and the New Year 1969 were over, the Company faced the task of preparing for the Annual R.E.M.E. Inspection of A.P.C.s, weapons and radio equipment. This was a formidable task since the training season of 1968 had been very hectic and little time had been available to overhaul our equipment. All was going well until early February when we awoke to find our A.P.C.s covered in snow to such an extent that they had to be dug out. This weather continued right up until the inspection and in these freezing conditions great credit goes to Sergt. Rodger, Corpl. Stroud and all the drivers for getting the vehicles ready for inspection in the first week in March.

The day after the R.E.M.E. inspection ended the training season for 1969 got underway as the Company, along with the remainder of the Battalion rolled down Route 51 to Haltern. The aim of the fortnight at Haltern was to shake away the cobwebs of the winter in barracks and for Platoon Commanders to revise basic field training and Platoon tactics. Spirits were high on the first days training when the sun was shining and although there was a nip in the air it seemed that we were due some good weather. However, this was not to be, and memories of Haltern conjure up dripping tents, frozen sleeping bags, and marquees filled with soaked clothing drying over coke braziers.

We returned to Osnabruck on 29th March and remained in barracks enjoying a long Easter break, 3rd to 9th April, until we moved to Sennelager for classification in mid April. Again we were dogged by bad weather, but the majority of the Company fired their S.L.R. and G.P.M.G. courses successfully. The end of April saw part of the Company on the shores of the Baltic at Todendorf carrying out trials of a new G.P.M.G. mount on the A.P.C. firing in the Air Defence Role. This was an interesting week as it was somewhere new and our training was somewhat different from usual. This time the weather was kind, and in three days we successfully fired off 17,500 rounds at the target which was a drogue towed by a Sea Fury aircraft



March to Formelager—Sergt. Wilson and Piper Harvey.

of 1939-45 vintage. We were accompanied at Todendorf by detachments from other units of 2 Division and Corps Troops and with various types of M.G. firing from 13 points the effect was most impressive and proves that when used correctly infantry weapons can provide a very effective deterrent to attacking aircraft.

On return from Todendorf we set out almost immediately for our three weeks training on the field firing ranges at Sennelager. It was decided to leave most of our A.P.C.s behind and on the morning of 8th May the Battalion set out to march, not all the way, but most of the 60 miles to Sennelager. This was no easy task when you remember that for two years the Battalion had been training in A.P.C.s, and we were out of practice at marching long distances. The march was run on a competitive basis and "B" Company tied with Support Company for first place, and we were presented with two well earned barrels of beer by the Commanding Officer. After the weekend to allow our feet to recover we began training in earnest on May 19th. We made maximum use of the very good field firing ranges and we were also able to carry out a considerable amount of dry training which included a Company night attack and defence withdrawal exercise. Unfortunately, the latter took place in appalling weather conditions, and the withdrawal had to be conducted rather earlier than was planned from fear of the smaller members of the Company drowning in their trenches.

The climax of our training at Sennelager was the Inter-Platoon Battle Competition which consisted of successfully completing the assault course, a forced march of two miles and firing sections on the range. Although we did not win the competition, our Platoons did very well and showed considerable spirit in the various tests. 6 Platoon came very close second to the winning Platoon from "A" Company.



"B" Company, Joint Winners march to Sennelager, receiving their prizes.



Sergt. Rodger "B" Company being congratulated by Colonel McCallum.
Battalion Sports Meeting, Sennelager, May, 1969

Whilst at Sennelager we took part in a Battalion six-a-side Football competition which we made sure of winning as both finalists were from "B" Company. We also took part in Battalion athletics, but I am afraid our prowess in this field was not so good as the football field, although we did reach the final of the heavyweight tug-of-war.

The first five months of 1969 have seen many changes in "B" Company personnel, and it is impossible to record them all. Major McBain arrived from Scotland to take over as Company Commander at the end of January, and in early April, we lost Sergts. Harrigan and Drysdale on promotion to C/Sergeant. In their places we welcome Sergt. Simpson from the Depot and Sergt. Wood from the Signal Platoon. W.O. II. Amos was posted to Sp. Company in early May, and we welcome W.O. II. Russell as C.S.M. To complete the changes C/Sergt. Drennan is due to leave us in August on posting to the 52nd Lowland Volunteers.

Perhaps our saddest loss was the posting of Lieut. Briscoe, R.M.P., who had been attached to the Company for 18 months as O.C. 5 Platoon had been very much a "B" Company man. We wish him well in his new appointment in Hong Kong.

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"C" COMPANY

The last six months have seen a number of changes in the hierarchy of the Company. C.S.M. Thackeray has retired, to look after the Sergeants' Mess, and we welcome C.S.M. McAllister in his place. Much to Capt. Rundell's annoyance Major Stevenson arrived at the beginning of April to take over as Company Commander. We understand that our Second-in-Command is treating the Company to a drink when he eventually gets his Major's pay!

Other comings and goings recently, mostly goings, have been Lieut. Wawn to learn to fly, Mr. Lidstone to Battalion Headquarters as Intelligence Officer, and Sergt. Nixon to try and recruit a few unwilling soldiers. We welcome Sergt. Paterson to our midst, but where are the Officers?

Amongst our junior entry the C/Sergeant's wife obliged with No. 4 boy in March, and also Corpl. Craig's, L/Corpl. Wood's and L/Corpl. Dickson's wives have added to our potential numbers by producing sons. We offer them all our congratulations.

The early part of the year was taken up with the preparation for the U.E.I. (Unit Equipment Inspection). Men could be seen trying desperately to keep warm and keeping a close watch on their vehicles to ensure that nothing went missing! Suffice it to say that all the hard work was not in vain, and the Company was voted best at vehicle maintenance and were awarded three barrels of beer, which went down very well.

Shortly after the U.E.I. the Battalion went to Haltern for a short training period. Short! It was so cold that a number of people thought it would never end, and particularly so when the rain froze on them during an exercise. There were, however, one or two lighter moments when, for instance, the Padre was seen chasing a white car in the wood, and a certain Officer had a difference of opinion with a tree, perhaps that is the reason he is the only Subaltern left in the Company!

After Haltern the Company returned to Barracks for 'rest and recuperation' before going to Sennelager by the way of the Teutoburger Ridge. Sennelager, apart from sore feet, was busy but enjoyable, and no one was killed or injured during the field firing! Corpl. Shield's Section won the Company Section competition, and they enjoyed a mixed hamper as a prize. We wonder who ate the diabetic chocolate.

The Company did extremely well in the various competitions which were held at Sennelager, and won both the athletics (shared with H.Q. Company) and the 100 st. tug-of-war. In the athletics we had a number of star performers and, in particular, L/Corpl. Burgess and Ptes. McHarg and Burns 76. Pte. McCreddie also showed some astonishing endurance in the two miles race, but unfortunately not for the Company. He ran as an individual. In the orienteering competition the Company were second and the two Platoons in the Inter-Platoon Battle competition were 3rd and 4th.

The highlight of Sennelager was the search for the famous missing eggs. An anonymous article on the search is set out below. With regard to searches we are still wondering what happened to the C.O.s copy of 'Playboy'!

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"AN EGGSTRAORDINARY TALE"

Oscar City in Sennelager National Park was "eggog" with "eggscitement" as an "eggocentric" criminal had made a big snatch: 360 eggs complete with yokes Mk II, had vanished into the night. Quickly super sleuth and his trusty henchmen got on the job, but to no avail, as the weight of this monstrous crime very soon overpowered his slender resources. The only clue found in the vicinity of the crime was Hot Dogs false teeth.

Plan "B" was quickly put into "eggsecution" and the Battalion was "yoked in" in an effort to arrest the dastardly "eggomaniac." Having formed up the Regiment set off to search every nook and cranny in Oscar City all the while being "egged" on by the big chief.

Game and other forms of wild life which had lain undisturbed in the park for years, ran, hopped and crawled in the direction of Alma "B" and Salamanca in one "eggstraordinary" stampede.

Meanwhile digits were being "eggstracted" by all as the search continued and some "eggstremely" good finds were made, three tent pegs, four old socks, a certain C.S.M.s unmentionables and many beer bottles. The day went on and finally the hunt ground to a halt as the criminal master mind had covered his traces and gone to ground.

But we know where they went to—don't we Sunray Minor?

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H.Q. COMPANY

Another B.A.O.R. winter has passed, and another campaigning season has begun. But for H.Q. Company, winter and summer are alike; there is no let up in the frantic whirl of everyday life. Heads of departments are forever besieged with requests for men for fatigues, guards (whoever wrote that letter on man management which laid down that soldiers should be warned for guard 14 days in advance?), border patrols and other commitments which fall or are pushed into our laps.

After a comparatively quiet start in the new year, we were soon in the midst of frenzied preparations for the P.R.E. In arctic conditions, and breaking off every few minutes to thaw out at braziers thoughtfully provided, we finally managed to get everything ready, although it seemed that at times we would not. At the last minute the A.P.C. Director was seen frantically splashing paint over the rear of H.Q. Company A.P.C.s, as our Union Jacks were in the wrong place. Undaunted, the drivers carried on as if nothing had happened.

Hardly had we pushed the last inspector out of the gates before we were following them out on our way to Haltern for two weeks training. H.Q. Company was split into two parts. Tac H.Q. and A2 Echelon resided in the warmth of the permanent camp, while A1 was in tents just up the road. Many were the occasions when, in the driving rain and freezing cold, we campers wished we were down in the permanent camp. We cheered up considerably at the arrival of the R.A.F. with their Wessex helicopters, who camped in the Echelon area. It was nice to see this inter-service co-operation extended to the camp fires; and we fed quite well off the R.A.F. rations, of which there was no scarcity. Once again H.Q. Company provided an *Ad Hoc* Platoon, or as a member of the A.C.C. calls it 'haddock Platoon.' This has now come to be a regular feature of all Battalion training and it is a constant headache to wring enough people out of departments to fill it.

April was a fallow month, and we managed to classify a part of the Company. The only thing of note that happened was when Major Johnston proved the fallability of the electric target range at Sennelager, much to the horror of the range staff.

May again saw us at Sennelager, for the annual three weeks of field firing. But, this year, saw an interesting change—we marched there, or at least part of the way. The H.Q. Company group, led by Lieut. I. Oddie, must have marched about four miles further than anyone else. (Can this account for this Officer being nicknamed "Trig-Point")? Once there, H.Q. Company (except for Tac H.Q.) must have been in the muddiest part of the whole area. The only time the Company was together was for early morning P.T. Other features of Sennelager were C.S.M. Anderson's raucous shouts at reveille (which surely would have roused the spirits of past users of the area); the famous egg hunt (it was reported that the culprit was taken to hospital with shell shock); the rain; free-fall parachutists landing anywhere and everywhere; the police resisting and replanting the flag pole at frequent intervals; and others too numerous to mention.

We must not omit the performance of the H.Q. Company Platoon in the Battle Platoon competition. Aply led by Lieut. Oddie, and consisting of sections from the Signal Platoon, M.T. and *Ad Hoc* Platoon (doesn't No. 4 rifleman look suspiciously like the Intelligence Officer), the Platoon came 5th out of 10 Platoons competing—a noble effort.

H.Q. Company also did well in the Battalion athletics meeting, tying for the shield with "C" Company. Among individual winners were L./Corpl. Scott, L./Corpl. Telford, Corpl. Bovington and the relay team of Lieuts. Oddie, Lidstone, L./Corpl. Simpson and McCusker. It was also nice to see a member of H.Q. Company winning the over 35's race, in which the M.T.O. romped home ahead of the Second-in-Command.

To end, we welcome Major Johnston as Company Commander who has just taken over from Capt. Innes-Wilson, who has been acting in a caretaking capacity since Major Henderson departed to be Second-in-Command. In an ever changing Company, perhaps the biggest changes have taken place in the cellars. C/Sergt. Shearsmith has returned to married life at the Depot and has been replaced by C/Sergt. Common. C/Sergt. McLellan has gone to the Officers' Mess, and his place was filled first by C/Sergt. Drysdale and more recently by C/Sergt. Harrigan. To these and other new and old members of H.Q. Company, best wishes.

SUPPORT COMPANY

It is reputed that Napoleon once said "ask of me anything but time." The 1969 B.A.O.R. equivalent saying is "it never stops." During the first six months of this year time has really flown, and it hardly seems possible that in addition to three major periods of Battalion training away from Barracks, and a complete unit equipment inspection, we have sent large numbers of men on ski courses in Bavaria and managed to get the majority of the Company on three weeks' leave.

In addition, there has been a steady flow of N.C.O.s coming and going on specialist courses of instruction, which are of such vital importance if we are to increase our operational efficiency.

We would like to congratulate the following members of the Company on their promotion:

Corpl. Gavin to Sergeant.
 Bandsman Eveleigh to L./Corporal.
 Pte. McCutcheon to L./Corporal.
 Pte. Kerr to L./Corporal.
 Pte. Kyle to L./Corporal.
 Bandsman Jones to L./Corporal.
 Bandsman McGregor to L./Corporal.
 L./Corpl. Linklater to Corporal.
 L./Corpl. Liddell to Corporal.
 L./Corpl. Tamburrini to Corporal.
 L./Corpl. Poklekowski to Corporal.
 L./Corpl. Skeldon to Corporal.



Support Company Officers, March, 1969.

L. to R.—Robin Cameron-Cooper, Recce Platoon ; Colin Grant Hogg, Anti-Tank Platoon ; Graham Allt, Company Commander ; Clive Fairweather, Mortar Platoon ; Robin Hulf, Recce Platoon.

To those who, since last issue, have been married, we wish happiness and good luck. They are :

L/Corpl. Stickland to Kay Reynolds from Aylesham, Kent.

Pte. Johnston 34 to Teresa Dolores Veronica Mahon from Manchester.

L/Corpl. Roden to Elsa Morton Scott of North Shields.

Pte. Thomson 26 to Mary Margaret Jackson of Folkestone.

In conclusion we would like to congratulate the following :

Pte. and Mrs. Dourish on the birth of Carl Andrew.
Corpl. and Mrs. Tamburrini on the birth of Lara Maria.

L/Corpl. and Mrs. Johnston on the birth of Anne Maree.

L/Corpl. and Mrs. Wood on the birth of Mari Louise.
Pte. and Mrs. McKenzie on the birth of Tracy Anne.
Corpl. and Mrs. Poklekowski on the birth of Caroline.

MORTAR PLATOON

With the arrival of the new year the Platoon carried out a concentrated cadre for all Mortar numbers, and at the same time ran a fire control cadre for the N.C.O.s. The value of both these cadres was proved by the shoots that were carried out both at Haltern, in March, and Hohne, in April, where the Platoon took part in the annual Brigade Mortar Concentration.

In order to maintain our ability to field six tubes under operational conditions, we have recently had five young soldiers posted to us. They are Ptes. McAlroy, Frizzle, Gibson 03, McArthur and Pagan 40, who joins his brother Pagan 73, who has been in the Platoon for three years.

With the end of our training at Haltern, in March, we said goodbye to our Platoon Commander, Capt. C. B. Fairweather, who has left the Battalion. We

would, through these columns, like to wish him every success in his new appointment, and to thank him for the constant efforts he made throughout his time of command of the Platoon, to look after our interests, and to improve our operational efficiency as mortar-men.

In his place we welcome Lieut. P. W. Eydes who has recently joined us from the Divisional Depot (Glencorse) where he had been employed as an instructor. We would like to wish him, and his wife, an enjoyable tour with the Battalion.

During May we were again out on training, this time with the complete Battalion, at Sennelager, where for two thirds of our time we joined "A" Company as an additional Rifle Platoon. We would like to thank the members of "A" Company for the help that was given

us in improving our basic skill as Infantrymen, which sometimes due to the pressure of specialist training, we do not have an opportunity to practice.

In order to maintain and improve our standards the following have attended courses during the period covered by these notes:

Corpl. Auld, 81mm Mortar Course at the Support Weapons Wing, School of Infantry.

L/Corpl. Stickland, 81mm Mortar Course at the Support Weapons Wing, School of Infantry.

During June the Platoon will be away on leave and return in time to move to Libya with the Battle Group for desert training in areas that would be well known to soldiers who served in the 8th Army.

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

With the commencement of the new year the Platoon has received reinforcements, and we welcome the following to the gun crews: Ptes. Frew, Hiddleston, Falconer, Simpson, Robson o8 (who has already a brother in the Platoon) and McKenzie.

With the H.Q. 1 (B.R.) Corps Anti-Tank concentration in mind, much hard work has been put in by the gun detachment commanders: Corpls. Liddell, Laidlaw, Poklekowski, L/Corpls. McLeod, Findlater and Miller. At times training was being carried out under sub-zero conditions which were experienced at Haltern in March.

The recent course results obtained at the Support Weapons Wing on Anti-Tank courses by Sergt. Mercer, Corpl. Poklekowski and L/Corpl. McLeod have been exceptionally good, and as a result our gunnery, efficiency has improved.

We welcome Sergt. Arnott who has joined us from the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion at Oswestry where he was an instructor.

Sergt. Haley has recently left us to go to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, as an instructor, and we would like to wish both he and his wife good luck in their new posting.

Corpl. Simpson, having recently completed his engagement, has returned to civil life, but says that he is likely to be back.

A book entitled "Good Gardening" is being read avidly by the Platoon, and even the Platoon Commander now knows how to plant onions.

L/Corpl. Semple is taking the names of those who have not seen the film "Zulu" as we are informed, on good authority, that there are some good lessons to be learnt from it regarding discipline and shooting—"Mark Your Targets Lads."

ASSAULT PIONEER PLATOON

After the commencement of the new year we were joined by Pte. Shaw who, after an absence as a civilian for nearly four and a half years, decided to rejoin. He has now been promoted L/Corpl. with Pte. McCutcheon. We would like to congratulate them both.

In January, L/Corpl. Winning left us to go to the Scottish Divisional Depot (Glencorse). We were very sorry to see him go, and wish him and his family good luck in their new posting. As his replacement, L/Corpl. Rodden (the man with the toughest finger tips in Support Company) joined us.

In March, we found ourselves with the remainder of the Battalion at Haltern where the conditions could only be described as Arctic. Having survived these

frost bite conditions, in April we were attached to 25 Engineer Regiment in order to bring us up to "Sapper" standards again. A competition, held at the end of this training, was won by Number 3 Troop 12 Squadron who are part of the Battalion Battle Group. We like to think that this result was partly due to the help of the Assault Pioneers of 1st K.O.S.B., who also took part! Three days after our return from the Engineers exercise, we rejoined the Battalion at Sennelager, and at the end of May found ourselves marching back over the hills from Sennelager to Osnabruck. Although mechanised, we are still Infantry.

A short exercise with the Recce Platoon followed in early June, with Sergt. O'Neill acting as combined Platoon Commander.

RECCE PLATOON

As is well known by those who have served in a mechanised Battalion in B.A.O.R., there is literally never a dull moment, and there is a constant coming and going of members of the Battalion due to postings.

The Recce Platoon are no exception, and during the first six months of 1969, our Platoon Commander, Lieut. R. C. Cameron-Cooper, left us to become the A.D.C. to the Commander of the Division.

Our new arrivals include Lieut. R. A. Hulf, who has joined us from the Army Youth Team, and Ptes. Peats, Muir, Webster, Elsom and Chell.

In addition to the major periods of training that the Battalion has undergone during the last six months at

Haltern, Sennelager and Soltau, the Recce Platoon has had a number of additional exercises. The following members of the Platoon have attended courses: Corpl. Dorans, Nuclear Biological Warfare; Corpl. Ross, Senior N.C.O.s Tactics Cadre; and Pte. McAllister Medical Orderlies courses.

With the arrival of additional landrovers in the Platoon a continuous cadre is being run in order that every man in the Platoon is a qualified "B" vehicle driver. In this connection we would like to thank Corpl. Tamburrini for his tireless efforts to "produce the goods," and make the Platoon efficient from an M.T. point of view.

SIGNALS PLATOON

As usual, the last six months has been a hectic merry-go-round, with scarcely time to breath or tap a morse key. At the beginning of the year we started running a cadre for all the newcomers that we had acquired. Unfortunately, it was badly interrupted by Snow Queen, P.R.E. preparations, and other duties. We managed to give most people at least a basic grounding in signalling, but we will have to wait for another lean period before we can hope to classify anyone.

A lot of hard work went into preparing our vehicles and radios for the P.R.E., and the Platoon is becoming even more than before, a gang of grease monkeys. The weather was not ideal, but at least we had braziers to cheer us up in the coldest weather. Our hard work obviously paid out, as our radios passed the inspection with flying colours, and the vehicles were not far behind.

At Haltern we did not get much signalling done; but we got a lot of experience in laying line and exchange operating. We also found out the difficulties of operating radios in arctic conditions. The freezing rain froze the tuning knobs on the A4rs, and it was impossible to retune. I don't suppose many of those who were on the Battalion 24 hour exercise will forget the night of freezing rain.

In May, we went to Sennelager, and once we had recovered from the march there (and forgiving the vagaries of our map reading expert!) we settled down to Ex "South Paw," to practice us in H.F. working at

longer ranges than the Platoon had been used to. Sergt. Andrew took a small detachment down to Bavaria, and we endeavoured to contact him. For us it was a limited success with occasional voice and key conversations with our man down south. It was good experience and essential as we will be working H.F. in Libya in July. Anyway, Sergt. Andrew's crew, camped in the middle of an American sports field, seemed to have enjoyed themselves—although they are keeping fairly quiet about it.

We now have a definite M.T. Section in the Platoon, to which we have lost one of our Sergeants. Sergt. Wood ably managed this section, and now it is in the hands of Sergt. Oliver, who is at present on a course at Bordon.

Congratulations to L/Corpl Pullman and L/Corpl. Loughran on their performances on R.S.I. course; L/Corpl. McDowall is due back any day from his S.T.D. 1 Course. Congratulations also to Sergt. Oliver on his promotion.

We said a reluctant goodbye to Sergt. Wood in March, and wish him all luck in "B" Company—his Platoon should have no communication problems anyway. We welcome W.O. II. Wallace back to the Platoon, and hope that his dog won't chew through too many coaxes. To other newcomers, too numerous to mention, also welcome.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The New Year started off on a sad note with our farewell to R.S.M. 'Geordie' Laidlaw, D.C.M. At a dinner dance, shortly before the New Year, he and his wife were presented, by the Mess, with a silver tray and two handsome decanters.

Early in February we were visited by Colonel Ward, and there was much reminiscing of Korea and Berlin. His visit coincided with our bulk indent for Lovat Jerseys, but the coincidence must have been accidental! Later in February Colonel Sturgeon, from the Record Office, spoke to the Mess on the aspect of the new Scottish Division.

On March 8th, Bandmaster Geoff Daniel left us, and we left for training in arctic conditions at Haltern, where we were visited by Colonel Thorburn. Before leaving, however, Geoff treated the Mess to a first class band concert which was most enjoyable. Our good wishes go with him. His successor is Bandmaster Dougie McKay who came from the Royal Dragoons. His first job, and at short notice, was to prepare for the Band's periodical admin. inspection which was held in the Mess (for acoustic purposes) and which was thoroughly enjoyed by the few members who were able to attend. Colonels Morris and Jaegar were both impressed by the Band's standard and the surroundings.

An enjoyable game's night was held in mid-April with the Sergeants' Mess of 1st Battalion Devonshire and Dorset Regiment. About this time we welcomed our new R.Q.M.S., Dick McKeen from the Royal Scots, and said farewell to Ted Martin who left us to go to 52nd Lowland Volunteers as R.S.M. Ted came to us from the Cameronians and quickly settled down. He was a

popular Mess member and we hope to see him again one day. The 10th May saw a large number of Mess members striding briskly towards Sennelager; the 11th saw exactly the same number arrive—incidentally C.S.M. Amos had to be re-shod en route! Our three week spell there passed quickly. The Mess's Cameronian contingent were conspicuously absent on Cameronian Day—possibly regimental custom. Major Cameron popped down and saw us and the Sports Day was a great success, although we regret no success in the Old Soldiers' Race. During the inter-Platoon battle tests we were watched from helicopter and landrovers by a variety of the General Staff and W.O. II. Earl successfully drove off Brigadier Coutts and our Brigade Commander with a judiciously timed gas cloud.

On 17th June was held a parade combining the Queen's Birthday and the restoration of our Regimental cap badge. L.S. & G.C. medals were presented to R.Q.M.S. McKeen and S/Sergt. Chalmers, R.E.M.E., who is attached to us. A lunch was held afterwards in the Mess for which credit must go to the organising members.

Our twelve days at Soltau must not pass without reference to "C" Company 52nd (L) Volunteers who accompanied us. It was grand to see some of the faces again and we were all impressed by their adaptability to our role.

Our congratulations to all those whose wives have produced offspring.

Farewell and thank you to W.O. II. Chandler, C/Sergt. Shearsmith, Sergts. Dawson, Cochrane, Eustace, Wilson, Renwick, Haley, Boyes, Middlemass and Nixon.

Welcome (and congratulations where applicable) to W.O. II. Melia, Earl, Bell, Russell, C/Sergt. Rodden, Drysdale, Harrigan, Hill, Lancley, Common, McLellan, McMillan, Sergts. Butterfield, Arnott, Cavin, Sinton, Johnstone, McCaig, Scott, Oliver, Simpson, Gater, Spencer and French.

Our apologies to anybody we have missed and a final bouquet to 'Eck the Tech' who "has satisfied the Examiners in Map Reading."

In conclusion—we must leave space for those whisky adverts—we have had a hectic year and are now ready to go to Libya for a month's training.

Presentation of Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to R.Q.M.S. McKeen (left) and S/Sergt. Chalmers, R.E.M.E., on the Rebadging Parade.



183 Clarets

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PIPES AND DRUMS



Pipes and Drums at the Osnabruck Gate.

We have had several changes of appointment this year. Pipe-Major Wilson has gone home to take over as Pipe-Major of the Army Apprentices College at Harrogate, and we wish him well in his new job.

We extend a warm welcome to Pipe-Major Rodden who joins us from being Pipe-Major at the Scottish Infantry Depot (Bridge of Don). Pipe-Major Rodden enlisted in the Black Watch in 1954, and was Pipe-Major of the 1st Battalion in Cyprus in 1959. He took over as Pipe-Major of the Scottish Infantry Depot (Bridge of Don) in 1961. So he has been a Highlander all his service so far, but with a little help from us, we are sure he will not let that hold him back!

Corpl. White and L/Corpl. Hume attended the 9th Senior Pipers' Course in Edinburgh, and both came back with good write ups—well done.

Some people think the Pipe Band have an easy life and always going off on tours and missing the joys of Haltern in the freezing cold, and Sennelager in the mud. But our programme this year has been as hectic as the Battalions' and we haven't avoided our operational commitments either. No sooner have we returned from one tour than we are off on the next—generally on a weekend—which means that we have seen little of our families since January.

We have been doing our best to keep the Pipe Band Fund in credit by accepting many commercial engagements. This, together with the obligatory military engagements has left us with little time for serious

practice and our young Pipers certainly need this. But we are hoping to make some good headway on this during the Battalion exercise in Libya, for the Pipe-Major is going to remain behind with the young pipers while the remainder get their sun tans.

Our major engagements, this year, have been taking part in two major tattoos, one under N.A.T.O. auspices in Brussels and Arnhem, and one run by 4 Division in Herford. Both went off extremely well, and we had some very complimentary letters afterwards. Our commercial engagements have included a long trek down to Caen in France, to assist the Scotch Whisky Association in a sales promotion exercise (well rewarded) an engagement in Antwerp, taking part in German festivals in Krefeld and Munich, Burns supper engagements with the R.A.F., and Tübingen University in Bavaria, providing dancers for festivals in Osnabruck and for the German Army in Hamburg, an international festival in Frankfurt and at the time of writing the Band is in Sonderburg in Denmark with the Military Band. A full programme indeed.

The future looks even more hectic with a British week in Vienna, taking part in the Arnhem anniversary celebrations and the 52 Lowland Division reunion at Walcheren—not to mention the Brigade exercise and other major training exercises such as flotation training at O.H.R. Park (we mustn't forget our A.P.C.s), but still—people seem to think we have a quiet time.

WILDENRATH AIR DISPLAY ARMY/R.A.F. ASSAULT DEMONSTRATION BY "A" COMPANY

Most sat in the aircraft, nervously nibbling their all too inadequate sandwiches, while the remainder bumped wearily along the inside lane of the autobahn watching resentfully the slick Mercedes whisk past. To both groups the destination was in the form of R.A.F. Wildenrath. Their aim was rather undefined, but it seemed it had something to do with an infantry demonstration, for the imminent air show at Wildenrath. Surprisingly, the air party arrived first, and awaited the arrival of the road party to make up the full complement of a hundred and forty men made up from "A" Company, with the balance from detachments of "C" and "Sp" Companies.

The road party having successfully map read its way from Osnabruck, ventured no further than a hundred yards inside Wildenrath camp before becoming helplessly lost in a Hampton Court like maze of billets, bowling alleys, bathing pools and bicycles. After several "Well first right and second left should take you there, Sir's" the main body was found idly exposing itself to the not unpleasant sun. Although browned off waiting for their baggage they eagerly grabbed their civilian clothes from their suitcases and disappeared into the more than excellent accommodation to prepare themselves for their night recce of the hot spots of R.A.F. Wildenrath. These included Naafi, Malcolm Club, Swimming pool, cinema and bowling alley. They excluded, however, the W.R.A.F. compound, reputedly guarded by four ferocious dogs and a high barbed wire fence. Whether this was intended to keep the men out or the women in was not made entirely clear.

So excellent was the evening meal and subsequent entertainment that the mechanised duty patrol's only task was to escort apparently innocent maidens away from the clutches of slick-talking Jocks. It seems that this is the first time that the Sergeants' Mess has been known to volunteer for duty. The only slight bit of trouble was the overnight disappearance of the land-rover trailer complete with contents. Not till after M.P.s were called in was it discovered. Not only was it in the W.R.A.F. compound, but it was actually in one of the corridors in their quarters. Six women had, in fact, been seen wheeling it away in the small hours! Fortunately, a high standard of behaviour continued throughout our stay, and a lot of very good public relations work was done by the Jocks. This included bagpiping, recorded interviews, trips in Canberra jet bombers, being invited to R.A.F. homes for meals and the odd striptease.

The first three days were to be spent rehearsing with ten Wessex helicopters. The plan for the demonstration was an airborne assault on an area of scrub preceded by night photo flashes dropped from a Canberra, then the pin pointing of the target by Sioux helicopter, and an air strike by four Hunters. We were then to be dropped by helicopter into our assault. The Wombats were brought in by a second helicopter lift, and then a casevac of bandaged and Ketchup stained wounded was carried out by two more Wessex heli-

copters, while we awaited to be counter attacked by a centurian tank and two Saladin armoured cars.

On the first rehearsal with the helicopters, one chopper landed near the scrub and sucked the newly cut grass into its massive intakes. This very nearly resulted in an engine seizure in midair. Understandably the other pilots were not just too keen on repeating the performance until the grass had been cleared. But the grass did not belong to the R.A.F., and therefore we could not pick it up! Consequently, two days lapsed while Anglo German relations became rather frayed during the diplomatic discussion for the removal of the offensive grass.

Eventually, however, all was favourable; the landing zone was clear and almost a full complement of aircraft were flying. There followed a technical R.A.F. briefing of which the army contingent understood approximately fourteen words, and then a full run through. Anything the R.A.F. lack with regards to grass they certainly make up in the air, and this rehearsal brought us very near to a satisfactory demonstration. The finer points were touched up and by Saturday 14th June, we considered we had a pretty good display.

During the Saturday, we had a fairly leisurely morning preparing for the Dress Rehearsal in the afternoon. At mid-day the station announcer gave a time check for all those taking part in the display. What the Officers failed to realise as they ate their lunch in their Mess was that all the Jocks had put their watches back an hour because the time check had been given in *alfa* time! Therefore, when the Officers arrived to check the Company at four o'clock, everyone was sleeping or in the swimming pool. After a frenzied half hour the company paraded on time and ready to go. It all goes to show that miracles still do happen! As a result of this episode the Company have renamed *alfa* time "Rimmer time."

The big day arrived and, although the Jocks were not suffering from stage fright at the thought of two hundred and fifty thousand spectators, there was a certain anticipation in the air. We were not performing till right at the end of the show, so there was an opportunity to mix with the crowds. Whether the soldiers were more interested in the spectacle or the decorative spectators is a debatable point. Right on time, and with everyone aboard, we put in our assault amidst battle simulation bangs, flashes, and green smoke. The lady reporter who came with us, rumoured to be of Sergt. Smith proportions, turned out to be tall and rather shapely. After a slight complication over suitable clothes for her, the illustrious Sergeants' denims were changed for flying suit and T.O.S. Vainly she tried to keep her microphone away from the strong language and out of the mud that she fell headlong into on deplaning!

After our demonstration we waited in the shrub till the huge Belfast aircraft arrived to take us back to Osnabruck. All were loaded on and got back satisfied with what was reported to have been a very effective demonstration. Most were even too tired and hot to eat their sandwiches.



Military Band Inspection. L. to R.—Colonel McCallum, Bandmaster McKay, Colonel Morris (inspecting officer).

MILITARY BAND

The two main events of this period, January-June, were undoubtedly the change of Bandmasters and the Knellar Hall Inspection. Two events which are significant in the life of the Band.

After the Christmas break the Band began the New Year with a concert in Hanover. This lasted two hours and was very well received by the audience which was composed of Old Age Pensioners from the area.

March saw the Band in the Sergeants' Mess where Mr. Daniel conducted them in his farewell concert. It is fitting here to write a few words about Mr. Daniel. In common with any organisations Bands have their 'ups and downs.' Mr. Daniel came to us when we were quite definitely down, and when he left the Battalion the Band had improved beyond recognition. We wish him all the very best in the future.

His successor, Mr. Mackay, who started his career in the Royal Scots and is therefore no stranger to trews and glengarries, although the spats did have him baffled for a time, came to us from the Royal Dragoons on their amalgamation with The Horse Guards. To him we extend a very sincere welcome.

The Knellar Hall Inspection is, of course, the event in any Regimental Band. This took place on 24th April, and the Band gave of its best and rose to the occasion, which it always does.

We obtained a 'good' grading, which being the second highest grading possible is, in our opinion, well done. Sergt. (Scouse) Verner insists that it be recorded that he got an outstanding report for the Band Library. Why he did, we don't know, as his library is outstanding all the year round. We must thank the Pipes and Drums for all their help during the course of the Inspection; behind the scenes as well as on the square, and a special thanks to the Drum Major and Corp. White.

The Dance Band continues to do very well financially, but if Mr. Mackay's reputation is anything to go by the members of the Military Band will soon be buying cars too.

We will have plenty of marching practice this summer thanks to the Schutzenfests. One outstanding memory of last year was the Hanover Schutzenfest, where we began marching at 0300 hrs. and finished at 1500 hrs.

Since the last notes we have said farewell to Corp. Meyer, Bandsmen Simpson and Sharp, all of whom we wish all that they wish us.

In closing, we look forward to the visit of the Junior Bandsmen in June. A very comprehensive programme has been prepared for them.

ORDERLY ROOM NOTES

Since our last notes, many changes have taken place. We have said farewell to Colonel McCallum, Major Oatts, and Capt. Turner, and welcome in their places Colonel Myrtle, Major Henderson, and Capt. Mattingley. To those who have left we send good wishes for their new appointments.

The staff has remained fairly constant, but we have lost Sergt. Cochrane to the Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse, and we have been reinforced by Pte. Jackson, as typist, and Corpl. Topping, who has returned to the fold from Recruiting Duties.

The pace has not let up in any way. In B.A.O.R. paper work is like a circle—it has no end.

There has been little opportunity for the staff to get out and about, therefore, the majority have had to stay in Barracks while our more active members—Corpl. McGuinn and Pte. Jackson—have been able to enjoy the luxuries of Haltern, Sennelager and Soltau. Admittedly, Haltern was a little cold and wet, Sennelager was a little windy and wet, and the sun never shone on Soltau, but you can't have everything, can you?

We will split into two forces for Ex-Vitular in Libya. Red Force, comprising the Chief Clerk, Corpl. Scott and Pte. Jackson, will fly off for the sun and sand, while the Blue Force, led by Sergt. French, will remain in Osnabruck. No doubt they will be able to baffle each other and maximum confusion will result on reunification. Cries of you lot did that, had that, etc., will abound.

The following two extracts of orders published by Garrison H.Q. are in the running for the Misprint of the Year Award :—

From the N.A.A.F.I. and Amenities meeting :—

"... Our representative is now pleased to state that there is a good selection of attractive French "Wives" now available at reasonable prices..."

Comment by the Assistant Adjutant—"surely not part of the buy British campaign?"

From Garrison orders :—

"Occupants who consume solid fuel in their married quarters can obtain an instruction booklet in English at the Estate Office."

Some people will go to any length to avoid stoking their boilers.

Two members of the staff, who will remain nameless, queued up outside the N.A.A.F.I. all night in the hope that the first was not a misprint—sad to say they waited in vain.

Judging by the number of births to the wives of the staff—Corpl. Harris a son, Chief Clerk a daughter, Pte. Pringle a son—together with Corpls. Scott and McGuinn still waiting, 1969 will be known as "The Year of the Stork."

On conclusion we send our good wishes to all past members of the Orderly Room Staff and assure them that life remains as hectic as ever.



Pte. Govan, HQ. Company, B.A.O.R., Individual Boxing Championship Winner.

BOXING

The main event in the boxing calendar this season was the B.A.O.R. Inter-Unit Team Boxing championships. The Battalion team was as follows :—

L/Corpl. Rae, Bantam ; L/Corpl. Scott, Feather ; Pte. Lowther, Light Weight ; Pte. Brown, Light Welter ; L/Corpl. Seggie, Light Welter ; Sergt. Seggie, Welter ; Corpl. Liddell, Welter ; Corpl. Niven, Light Middle ; Pte. T. Govan, Light Heavy ; Pte. D. Govan, Heavy ; L/Corpl. McDougal, Middle ; L/Corpl. Paul, Welter.

We won our way through the 1st round, beating 2 Division R.C.T. by 9 bouts to 2. But this early success was not repeated in the 2nd round, and we were beaten by 2 Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment by 3 bouts to 8. However, we had some very hard fought bouts, and this rewarded the efforts put into the training by the team. With so many activities going on in B.A.O.R. we have not been able to devote nearly as much time to boxing as we should have liked.

In the B.A.O.R. Individual Boxing Championships, Pte. T. Govan won the 2nd Division finals and went forward to Berlin where the B.A.O.R. finals were held. He won the final to become the B.A.O.R. Light Heavy-weight Champion of 1968.

He then went forward to the U.K. Individual Championships where he lost in the semi-finals, only by a majority decision. Govan is to be congratulated on his very good performance this year. A very promising young boxer, and should obtain his Army Colours in the 1969-70 season.

We are looking forward to the 1969-70 season, and promise to do better than last season. We hope to start the season with the Novices Inter-Company competition when we return from Libya.

RUGBY

Rugby Quiz

1. Is it true that Sergt. (Budda) Smith was actually able to see his own feet after two weeks of circuit training?

2. Is it a fact that there are no good rugby players in Selkirk because they are all in the 1st Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers?

3. Are L./Corpl. Devlin (Langholm) and L./Corpl. Douglas (Yetholm) being awarded the freedom of Bunde? (It is the only thing they have not taken from Bunde!).

There are no prizes for knowing the answers to these questions, but if you want to know them, and are interested in the *proper* Border game, join the Borderers Rugby team *now* before the new season kicks off.

Season 1968-69

This season was one when we did not aim to go in for serious Army Cup competition. Considering this, we had a very good season indeed, winning the 2nd Division cup and reaching the B.A.O.R. cup final.

In the first round of the cup we defeated 2 Division Royal Engineers 31-6. The second round match was the most exciting of the season. With ten minutes left for play, against 25 Corps Engineers, we were trailing 24-9. Full time, and the score was level at 24-24. Our first score in extra time is worth a mention. We were awarded a penalty only five yards inside the opponents half and L./Corpl. Laidlaw (Heiton) with a prodigious kick bounced the ball off the Engineers cross bar, and

over it went. This knocked the heart out of the opposition, and we eventually won 31-24.

The next round found us up against 2 Division Royal Signals, a team coached by that well known bar fly and 'Quisling' Major Reynolds, K.O.S.B. We defeated them at Bunde by 14 pts. to 3.

We went to Bunde again for the Divisional cup final and ran out worthy winners over 42 Medium Regiment Royal Artillery, 14-6. L./Corpl. Douglas and Pte. Linton (Selkirk) worked the scissors to great effect in this match, resulting in two fine scores by 'Mick' Linton.

7 Signals Regiment proved too good for us in the B.A.O.R. cup final. They specialise in rugby, and have a team which does nothing else but play rugby, and train full time. They defeated us 28-3.

Capt. C. Babington and Pte. Linton were both selected for B.A.O.R., and Linton was unlucky enough to have his jaw broken playing against the R.A.F.

We are now trying to recruit players for 69-70. We have lost Capts. Griffiths and Turner, both Babingtons are leaving and L./Corpl. Douglas has been posted. We have some young players from whom we expect great things next season, namely Lieut. Hogg (Kelso), Pte. Domingo and L./Corpl. Scott (Hawick).

New players are needed to help out stalwarts like Sergt. Anderson (Selkirk), Sergt. Smith (Stranraer), L./Corpl. Devlin (Langholm) and Pte. Weatherhead (Kelso) not to mention C.S.M. Anderson (Selkirk) who received a free transfer from the Cameronians!

SKI-ING

Langlauf

Despite, at one stage, having no skis, a genuine case of "but I thought you'd packed them," the team achieved impressive results for its second season. In the 2nd Division meeting the novice team won the 4 x 10 km. relay, and overall placings were 6th and 8th; two teams being entered. In the same meeting our final position was also 6th, with Pte. Carss of "A" Company winning the Novice 15 km. individual race.

This was due entirely to training. Thanks to Major General Nygaard, Commander of the Royal Norwegian Home Guard, we were able to train at Torpo, a Home Guard School on the Oslo-Bergan railway line, approximately 150 miles from Oslo. During our six weeks there, we were treated with great kindness and hospitality by Major Groven, the Officer Commanding, and Capt. Lindheim, the Second-in-Command. Our coach Ola Simenson, came from the local ski school, and having been to America found no difficulty in expressing himself if anyone on a training stint did not produce the results required! With Ola's help, when the time came to return to Germany we had a very fit, if not frustrated team! In Bavaria two local races were entered, and although a long way from winning the results were most gratifying and revealing.

All in all a most rewarding season. If we can train in Norway again this year, and produce a Downhill team, the Infantry Cup could be ours.



Battalion Ski-ing Team—L./Corpl. Haig, SP. Company, and Pte Carss, "A" Company.

FOOTBALL

After many cancellations due to snow and severe frost, the second half of the season got under way, and we finished off the league as 2 Division champions, never having lost a game all season.

Results during second half of season:—

	For	Against
v. 10 R.C.T.	2	2
v. 1 D. & D.	7	2
v. 1 D. & D.	1	0—WO
v. 10 R.C.T.	4	3
v. 25 C.E.R.	6	1
v. R.A.F. Gutersloh	3	2
v. 1 R.S.	4	1
v. 2 Div. Signals	1	0—WO
v. 5 Field Regiment R.A.	5	5
v. 9/12 Lancers	1	0—WO

WO denotes walk over. Two points claimed as team failed to appear or awarded unit both points.

League—Played 16, won 13, drawn 3.

Army Cup—2 Divisional Final (Army Cup Quarter Final—B.A.O.R. Section)

On the 22nd January we met H.Q. Regiment 1 (B.R.) Corps in the 2 Division Area final, and after some excellent football, it resulted in a victory for the Borderers by 3 goals to 2, to give us the cup for the second year in succession. Goals were scored by Sherry, Byers and Kerr.

Army Cup B.A.O.R.—Semi Final

Once again weather prevented this game being played on schedule, and the venue, H.Q. B.A.O.R. sports ground, saw the Borderers go down by 5 goals to 3 to 23 Regiment R.C.T. A game full of thrills. Borderers scoring within one minute then allowed the R.C.T. to dominate play by scoring 3 goals in the 8, 9 and 10 minutes.

R.C.T. scored another in the second half, and pressure by the Borderers was on for Sherry to complete his hat-trick, with the score now 4-3. For the last ten minutes we pounded away at goal only to see S/Sergt. Knight pull off some marvellous saves. Against the run of play R.C.T. scored No. 5 about two minutes from time.

Army	For	Against
v. 2 Division Signals	9	0
v. 10 Regiment R.C.T. ...	3	0
v. H.Q. 1 (B.R.) Corps ...	3	2
v. 23 Regiment R.C.T. ...	3	5

Infantry Challenge Cup

Weather once again was against us, and our first game was awarded as a "walkover", as 1 Devonshire and Dorset Regiment failed to field a team. We then met 2 Scots Guards, at Belfast Barracks, and after a hard game won 1-0. The next two games were played at Sennelager, semi-final v. 1 D.E.R.R., winning, 6-1, and in the B.A.O.R. final v. 1 Gloucesters from Berlin, won 2-1, and then met 1 Q.O.H. from Redford Barracks to decide the Infantry Battalion champions and lost by 2-1. (A revenge for their last years defeat in the semi-final of the Army cup).

A fair report on the game is an extract from the 2 Division B.F.B.S. reporter, Mr. Bill Kidd, who has kept the Borderers in the public eye on his weekly sports report over the B.F.B.S. network.

Infantry Cup Final

1st Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers (B.A.O.R. winners) met 1st Battalion The Queen's Own Highlanders (U.K. winners) at Roberts Barracks, Osnabruck, on Saturday, 3rd May, 1969.

A fine sunny afternoon, first class entertainment and a football treat for the large contingent of spectators.

K.O.S.B. were on the attack from the first whistle, and the Highlanders goal bore a charmed life. Anderson, the Highlanders centre half, was a tower of strength with some fine clearances and certainly steadied the defence. The Borderers forced four corners in the first seven minutes, two flashing headers by Sherry were just wide, and a rasping right footed drive by McNally was taken by difficulty by goalkeeper Bateson. Further desperation clearances by the Highlanders averted certain goals, a terrific left foot drive by Byers hitting the side rigging. Playing with a swirling wind, the Highlanders commenced to use the long ball down the middle and came more into the game, cup tie nerves, however, saw numerous goal scoring chances go begging by both sets of forwards.

In the 18th minute, against the run of play, the Highlanders went into the lead, right back Matheson floated in a 30 yard lob, keeper Millward, out of his goal, got his hands to the ball but could only deflect it into the net. Highlanders were now piling on the pressure, but Galloway and Todd broke up many attacks. A run by Grieve, K.O.S.B. outside right, almost brought the equaliser, but Bateson pulled off a fine save. In the 44th minute, K.O.S.B. equalised, Byers making a good run down the left, crossed to Grieve, who promptly pulled it into the centre for opportunist Sherry to flick in a glorious header. A draw at half time was a fair reflection of the play.

More thrills were to come in the second half, and again the Highlanders defence was under considerable pressure. The goal posts were hit twice, the cross bar once in a matter of minutes, and an outstretched leg appearing from out of the blue averted an almost certain goal on the line. The Capt. Hugh Galloway was continually pushing through intelligent passes, and Sherry, always a danger man when in possession, brought about a series of brilliant saves from Bateson. McNally was also unlucky with another pile driving right which just scraped the post with the goalkeeper unsuspected. Highlanders increased their lead from a breakaway, unmarked outside left Topping picked up a ball inside his own half, made considerable ground and crossed to Matheson, who, with all the time in the world scored with an unstoppable drive. K.O.S.B. now threw everything into attack only to see Bateson bring off almost impossible saves. McNally fired in a powerful drive from the right only to see Bateson tip over in fine style. A glaring handball offence in the area by Highlanders on the blind side of the referee went unnoticed and brought forth howls of dismay from the spectators. K.O.S.B. continued to attack, and two indirect free kicks against Bateson were cleared with difficulty, the second from McNally being saved by a flying dive from Bateson.

Outside right Grieve was now limping badly and with three minutes play left was brought off, Peters substituting. The Highlanders were now driven to desperation clearances as time was running out and almost on time, Sherry scraped the bar with another header.

The Highlanders defence held out until the final whistle and both teams deserved the tremendous applause.

My summing up, this is one the K.O.S.B. should not have lost, both goals coming from defensive errors, however, that is cup tie football. The Highlanders can certainly thank Bateson for a brilliant game in goal, also Anderson and Dawson who remained steady under continuous pressure. K.O.S.B. are always good to watch and played top class football for the complete 90 minutes.

An excellent game of football, clean, played in fine spirit, well done in both teams.

Just before concluding my report, I would like to mention that 1st K.O.S.B. have been awarded my Team of the Season title. No dismissals from the field during a hard and trying season, they have always played football and listened to advice from popular George Grant and Tom Scott.

Inter-Platoon Knockout Competition

Another Knock-out Competition was held during the training period at Sennelager, Bad Lipps, ringe Sports Complex on 24th May, 1969, with thirty teams taking part and after a very exciting contest "B" Company teams 1 and 2 reached the final by defeating Sp. 1 and H.Q. 1 respectively.

After four games each both teams took the field tired but energetic and B2 became champions with B1 runners up.

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Lieut. Hulf, Sergt. Gavin, Corpl. Dorans, L/Corpl. Young, Pte. McAllister and another. Recce Platoon, 1st K.O.S.B. in Libya this summer.

DEPOT NOTES

ORDER OF BATTLE

Depot H.Q.

Commanding Officer.—Lieut. Colonel D. C. R. Ward.

Adjutant.—Capt. A. W. Stavert.

O.R.S.—Sergt. H. Cochrane.

Training Company

Officer Commanding.—Major A. M. Cameron.

Second-in-Command.—Capt. P. B. Gow.

Platoon Commander.—Lieut. R. W. Minchin.

Platoon Sergeant.—Sergt. Short.

Supernumary Sergeant.—Sergt. C. Bateman.

H.Q. Company

C.S.M.—W.O. II. Thompson.

C.Q.M.S.—C/Sergt. Mann.

C.Q.M.S.—C/Sergt. Shearsmith.

Orderly Sergeant.—Sergt. Renwick.

Junior Soldiers' Company

Pipe Major.—W.O. II. E. Bradford.

Band Sergeant.—S/Sergt. D. Tweedie.

As can be seen by the extract from the Order of Battle the Depot still retains a fair proportion of Borderers within its walls, and rather more than a fair proportion of the supply of recruits passing through seems to be destined for the Regiment, a testimonial, to the Regiments' recruiters. At present, of the eighty-nine adult recruits under training, thirty-seven are Borderers. Of the one hundred and thirteen juniors in the Depot forty-two are Borderers.

In addition to those named in the Order of Battle the following N.C.O.s of K.O.S.B. are serving at the Depot: Corpls. Winstone, Beeton, Murdoch, Inglis, Liddell, Kinnen, Storrie, McMillan, Hamilton, Pattie and Morris.

The reduction in the number of recruits joining has resulted in a pro rata reduction in the training staff and therefore no "lightening of the burden" has resulted from the poor recruiting figures. Courses and leave must continue and therefore the available instructors are tied to a very tight schedule. As yet there have been no complaints from anyone finding it difficult to pass the time!

At the moment the most important date in the calendar of the Depot bound Borderers is the "Glorious Sixteenth" when once more the badge with the Castle, Cross and Crown will adorn the space above the left ear. In addition to the Depot Staff the First Battalion K.A.P.E. team and Bisley team are to attend the re-badging parade at Glencorse. The parade R.S.M., on this occasion, is to be our own R.S.M. Laidlaw, on loan from H.Q. Scotland. The parade is to be followed by a short celebration and it is difficult to imagine much serious training taking place in the afternoon.

More mention of visiting teams and personalities perhaps serves to highlight one of the pleasant aspects of Depot life, the meeting of as many Borderers serving away from the Regiment who pass through on leave, visits, transfers and, regrettably, discharge.

Bisley time is again fast approaching, and at present both the First Battalion and the Depot teams are being trained at Glencorse by an ex-Borderer, Alex Baird, S.A.S.C. The Regiment is once again well represented, in the Depot team. The results, last year, were good with the Depot gaining one Army Hundred place and being runners up for the Staff and Schools Cup. Who



Lieut. Corkerton and K.O.S.B. Kape team training in Osnabruck, May, 1969.

knows where we will finish this year, but certainly fairly high in the lists.

Life at the Depot continues to excite and agitate, with yet another two Open Week-ends under our belt, there are those who consider them more exhausting than a season's training, but, nevertheless, worthwhile.

VISIT OF JUNIOR SOLDIERS FROM GLENCORSE TO ISERLOHN

In the latter part of June, this year, a party of sixty Junior Soldiers from Glencorse, drawn from the Pipes and Drums and Military Band, spent ten days in B.A.O.R. with the 1st Battalion The Royal Scots and 1st Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers in Osnabruck.

The object of the visit was to give the boys a chance of seeing, at first hand, what life is like in an infantry battalion in Germany.

The party was comprised of R.S., R.H.F., and K.O.S.B. boys under the command of Capt. J. L. Howden-Ferme, with W.O. I. B. T. Keeling and Drum-Major I. Knight in charge of the Military Band and Pipes and Drums respectively.

The visit being only a semi-official one, the cost had to be borne by those taking part, and W.O. I. Keeling managed to arrange cut price fares, with such ingenuity, that the total cost per head was only in the region of £5. Talent such as this should surely be employed in a travel agents!

The party, complete with musical instruments, left Glencorse by bus and travelled to Dover by train where a night was spent in the Junior Leaders R.E. Barracks.

The channel was crossed by Townsend Ferry, and hired coaches conveyed the party from Zeebrugge to the Advanced British Base in Grobbendonk, in Belgium, where a meal was provided and British money changed into D.M.

This had repercussions, as the Staff Paymaster found himself in possession of nearly eight hundred pounds

worth of Scottish Bank notes which do not seem to be accepted on the other side of the channel. Major Donnelly, of the R.H.F., was in Grobbendonk and eased the passage of the party.

A long and rather uncomfortable road journey then completed the journey to Osnabruck. Much to everyone's delight, and to O.C. Junior Soldiers surprise, no one had got lost, and none of the baggage or musical instruments was missing or damaged.

This may seem common place to any member of the Regimental Band, but for Juniors on their first overseas trip and one that entailed eight loadings and transfer of baggage, it was no mean achievement.

Both the Royal Scots, with whom the Pipes and Drums stayed, and The King's Own Scottish Borderers had laid on a full and interesting programme for the duration of the visit.

Conducted tours of the Battalions interspersed with outside visits, the highlights of which were a visit to the Khaman Ghia Motor works in Osnabruck itself. The visit was followed by an excellent lunch.

The bands had offered to perform a small concert for the workers, but the tight production schedule did not allow any time for this. No doubt had the visit been to a British Works the bands could have entertained the strikers.

A visit was made to the local Zoo, and a concert was given after this, and was much applauded by the German people.



The Colonel of the Regiment being installed as "Honorary Wintering Partner" of the Beaver Club of Montreal on 27th November, 1968.

A long coach trip was undertaken to visit Bad Pirmont where the Military Band of 1st K.O.S.B. was playing to the large numbers of visitors who come to the Spa.

It was arranged for the boys to play for about half an hour, and they performed admirably, despite an initial fit of nerves when they saw themselves faced by an audience of over two thousand middle aged rather dour looking teutons.

On the fourth day of the tour the party travelled to Iserlohn where it was received in the city museum by the Oberburgemeister. This is the first visit by any members of the Regiment since the city granted the freedom of the city to the 1st Battalion R.H.F.

After refreshments and a tour of the House of Friendship, during which the Drum presented by the R.H.F. to the city was seen, the Bands played for three quarters of an hour in the town square. Again an excellent luncheon was provided, and afterwards a tour of local beauty spots lasted until five o'clock.

The last two days in Osnabruck were spent in seeing the Battalions in their role as A.P.C. Regiments, and the Pipes and Drums were able to gain air experience in helicopters of the Royal Air Force. Both Regimental Bands of the Royal Scots and King's Own Scottish Borderers organized an excellent social evening in the Military Band club at Dover Barracks. A final day of sight seeing in Osnabruck, with time off for shopping, and then the return journey was undertaken, a repeat of the outward trip, with a night in Dover and then back to Glencorse just in time to prepare for the Company's summer camp in Benbecula.

All in all, the journey, although hard to plan, was well worth while from the educational point of view, of all the many amusing moments during the trip the efforts of the Junior Soldiers to speak German in the first stopping place on the autobahn was topped by the intense delight of the six Gurkha pipers, who, accompanied the boys when they discovered an automatic beer dispenser, a novelty not yet common in Nepal one suspects!

52nd LOWLAND VOLUNTEERS "C" COMPANY

Officer Commanding.—Major W. Thyne.

Second-in-Command.—Capt. D. Sturrock.

Platoon Commander.—Lieut. A. Doig.

C.S.M.—W.O. II. W. Muir.

C.Q.M.S.—C/Sergt. J. Stuart.

P.S.I.s.—W.O. II. J. Fleming, Sergt. C. McKenna,
Sergt. J. Larsen.

1969 has heralded further changes for our Company. The Stranraer detachment ceased to be part of the Company in April and this meant a considerable loss of numbers and a farewell to many good friends from there. Some transferred to the Military Police and three continue to attend training at Dumfries. This all meant that we had to get a considerable number of new recruits, and we have achieved this. We have enlisted about 45 new recruits in 1969 which is most encouraging and "C" Company is currently the strongest in the Battalion, with 114 men.

The Company has had an altogether good year, with annual camp in B.A.O.R. as the highlight. There has been a lot of basic infantry training to do with so many recruits. The Anti-Tanks, under Sergt. T. Andrews, have become a well co-ordinated and very efficient team. The Mortars moved from Stranraer to Dumfries where Sergt. Fair has built up an excellent section in a very short time. Corpl. Davidson has a very highly trained Signals section and this is always evident at Battalion Signals week-end training and also during camp with the 1st Battalion.

The Company completed Classification in April and May on the Range at Melrose. A Company Shooting competition will be held there in October to replace, in some measure, the Divisional shoot which no longer is held. Corpl. Davidson is to be congratulated on winning the Dumfries "Guid Nychburris" .22 shooting competition this summer, where all rate-payers can compete.

Annual Camp in Germany was a great success. We flew from Prestwick in an R.A.F. Air Transport Command VC. 10, the height of comfort, and had an excellent journey to Hanover. Instead of going directly to Soltau training area, we had the tedious journey via Osnabruck to complete. It was, however, an opportunity for us to see the 1st Battalion's permanent home for much of their tour in Germany.

Our Camp site in the Soltau Training Area was comfortable, although somewhat wet initially, and rather over run with mosquitoes. We were somewhat perplexed that a site was chosen where there was no flowing water at all, but presumably such plans have a purpose. The training area was not well suited to the sort of basic infantry training which we hoped to do but we made the most of the wooded areas by doing ambush and counter ambush drills, patrolling, map reading, and wood clearing.

The Mortars and Anti-Tank Sections were attached to the 1st Battalion, and we are grateful to them for the training they were given. The remainder of the Company had two days in "B" Company's A.P.C.s, which in the hot weather was about sufficient. Everyone found these vehicles interesting and time-saving, but few expressed regret that we did not have these for two whole weeks. We had a day with a Squadron of Centurion tanks which was certainly the highlight of the fortnight and we were sorry not to have had more of this type of training. We would like to thank "B" Company for all their instruction.



"C" (K.O.S.B.) Company 52 (L) Volunteers embarking at Prestwick for Hanover in an R.A.F. V.C. 10.



"C" Company 52 (L) Volunteers on parade at 1st K.O.S.B. Barracks in Osnabruck.



Group of "C" Company 52 (L) Volunteers waiting for their helicopter, on training.

Helicopter training was another chance for us to train "with a difference." We were lucky to get helicopters for three days and full use of these. Innumerable Company attacks and withdrawals were completed and yet fascination for these excellent machines did not wear off. The mortar and anti-tank sections were also both able to train with helicopters.

We would like to thank Lieut. A. Marshall and W.O. II. Russell for all their help while attached to us, and to Ptes. Sneddon and Crombie (who we hope returned safely) for looking after the canteen. Indeed, thanks are due to many friends in the 1st Battalion and they can rest assured that Camp for us was a great experience.

We were visited by Major-General H. E. N. Bredin, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Director, Volunteers, Territorials, and Cadets on our first Tuesday. He braved six inches of water on the Officers/Sergeants' Mess floor and joined us for dinner. He later visited the Canteen and had very friendly and frank discussions with the men. He also visited us during training and wrote a very congratulatory and appreciative letter.

For our memorable visit to Hamburg, please see September's issue of "Playboy."

We flew home to Turnhouse in a Britannia and unfortunately were held up for twenty-four hours in Hanover. This frayed many tempers, but in fact, we were well accommodated and fed.

We are very short of man training days until our training year ends in October, but the Signals attend a Regimental Cadre at Otterburn in September, and the Mortar and Anti-Tank sections will also meet there for the Support Weapons Shoot.

Various social activities take place at both Dumfries and Galashiels throughout the year. These consist of .22 shooting, domino competitions, children's parties and dances. Such activities are very important in keeping the Company together, particularly when we are now more closely centred around Dumfries and Galashiels.

During the past year there have been a number of promotions and we congratulate C.S.M. Muir, C/Sergt. Stuart, Sergt. Andrews, L/Corpls. Kosak, Clingan, Brown 17, Johnston, McClure, Gentleman, and Pool, on their recent promotions.

In April it was decided that the 4/5 (T) K.O.S.B. T. and AVR III Cadre would join our Company to fulfil their training. We welcome Major George Harvie and his cadre and were very glad they could come to camp with us. Already they have done more training than they are asked to do and, with their enormous experience, have been of great help to the Company.

W.T.



Major Willie Thyne descending.

K.O.S.B. EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

- The undermentioned have obtained employment through the Regular Forces Employment Association.
- 24117041 D. P. Madge, Middlesborough. Trainee PSV Driver.
- 4264966 M. Cockburn, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Porter Handman.
- 23716488 J. A. Wylie, Carlisle. Plant Operator/Driver.
- 1465520 J. Geddis, Belfast. Shipkeeper.
- 23909523 E. R. Inglis, Edinburgh. Post Office.
- 14463261 H. J. McGrady, Berwick-upon-Tweed. Post Office.
- 22803865 P. Flannigan, Middlesborough. Commissionaire.
- 3196556 D. Somerville, Leeds. School Porter.
- 22367815 N. A. McAllister, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Semi Skilled.
- 223833045 W. T. Simpson, Stoke-on-Trent. Pottery Worker.
- 14485298 H. J. Critcher, Edinburgh. Caretaker/Handyman.
- 23832940 T. Loudon, Glasgow. Storeman.
- 3187674 J. Reid, Glasgow. Porter.
- 23510666 J. E. Waters, Chester. Process Worker.

WARTIME COMMANDING OFFICER ISSUES OPERATION ORDER —7th K.O.S.B.

Colonel Gordon Dinwiddie wrote to the Editor, last year, to tell him about the "Airborne" Dinner, held in The Rag, on 8th November, 1968.

He sent Colonel Payton Reid's "OP" Order which is now published.

General Lord Bourne, the Chairman, gave the 7th K.O.S.B. Officers a good mention in his after-dinner speech.

It was quite unique for a war-time C.O. to be able to collect his four Rifle Company Commanders, who flew into Arnhem with him, on such an occasion.

Colonel Payton Reid is leading the K.O.S.B. party on their final pilgrimage to Arnhem this year.

7th K.O.S.B.—'O' GROUP Friday, 8th November, 1968—1930 hrs. ARMY & NAVY CLUB (R.V. Lower Bar 1920)

Following Company Commanders will attend:—

- "A" Company.—Major R. G. Buchanan, T.D.
 "B" Company.—Major M. B. Forman, T.D.
 "C" Company.—Lieut.-Colonel G. M. Dinwiddie, T.D.
 "D" Company.—Major C. G. Sherriff, D.S.O.

Following Officers are excused for reasons shown:—

- Lieut.-Colonel R. D. Sellon—Recovering from trouble with an old wound.
 Lieut.-Colonel P. St.C. Harrison, D.S.O., O.B.E.—Holding the Ramparts at Berwick-on-Tweed.
 Capt. D. Clayhills-Henderson.—Absent without leave.
 Capt. R. Finlay Wilson.—Combined Ops. Training Canaries.
 Capt. G. C. Gourlay.—Teetotal.

R. PAYTON-REID, Colonel,
(ex) Comd. 7th K.O.S.B.

Wickham Bishops,
Essex.

Despatched by Second Class Mail (P.R.I. Funds being low).

2nd November, 1968.

N.B.—The 1968 Airborne Officers Dinner is being used by the Commanding Officer of the 7th (Galloway) Bn. The King's Own Scottish Borderers as the site of an "O" Group. This unit was part of 1st Airlanding Brigade, at the Arnhem Landing. Four of the five surviving Company Commanders have obeyed orders.

OBITUARY

Capt. HUGH GUNNING

Captain Hugh Gunning died in hospital on March 31st, 1969.

He had landed on "D" Day on the same beach as 1st K.O.S.B. and served as an Officer observer throughout the campaign in North-west Europe. He had been trained as a gunner with the 15th Scottish Division, and his parent unit was 181 Field Regiment, R.A., which supported 6th K.O.S.B. in 44 Brigade.

As a military observer from 21st Army Group, attached to 3rd Division, Capt. Gunning had the mobility and opportunity to contact, from time to time, the 1st, 4th, 5th and 6th Battalions of our Regiment and was selected after the war by the K.O.S.B. Regimental Council to write up the history of the Regiment during the 1939-45 War. When he had written "Borderers in Battle" for the Regiment, he fully merited our gratitude for his achievement.

He was also a Freeman of the City of London.

His widow lives at 12 Wharram Close, Beeford, Driffield, East Yorkshire, to whom we extend our deep sympathy.

Pipe-Major CHARLES MILLER

It is with regret that we have to record the death of ex-Pipe-Major Charles Miller, on 10th July, at the Dumfries & Galloway Infirmary, Dumfries, aged 71. The funeral took place at St. Michael's Cemetery, Dumfries, on Monday, 14th July, 1969. This was well attended by his many friends, amongst whom were many old ex-Borderers.

Pipe-Major Miller served with the H.L.I. during the 1st World War. In 1926, he joined the K.O.S.B., and took over Pipe-Major of the 5th Battalion, where he continued to serve as Pipe-Major until early 1940 when he was promoted to C.Q.M.S. of H.Q. Company. He was discharged as medically unfit, approximately 1942-43.

He was well known in the South-west of Scotland for his piping. From 1927 until 1937 he taught piping and acted as Pipe-Major to the Dumfries Academy Cadets until they were disbanded.

When the Dumfries Branch of the K.O.S.B. Association was reformed in 1947 he took over Secretary and continued to act as Secretary until 1963 when he resigned for health reasons.

JAMES EDWARD BOYLE

James Edward Boyle, M.B.E., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., late Director of Music Nigerian Police Band and Singapore Police Band, ex-K.O.S.B., age 52 years, died at West Middlesex Hospital on 14th March, 1969.

Major ALAN HUTCHISON

Major Alan Hutchison, died on 17th January, 1969, aged 43 years. He was Adjutant of the 4/5th (T) K.O.S.B. at Dumfries. Alan was in the Royal Horse Guards, serving in Germany until 1952, then served in Cyprus until becoming Depot Commander of the Holding and Training Squadron at Combermere Barracks, Windsor. Our sympathy is extended to his widow and son. Address: Brigston, Lochfoot Road, Dumfries.

Mr. WILLIAM T. NELSON

Mr. William T. Nelson, died in Dumfries on 30th July, 1969, age 56 years. He enlisted in 1937, and was on the first draft to 2nd K.O.S.B. to Jubblepore in 1940. He served on the North-west Frontier in India and all through the Burma Campaign. He left the Regiment in 1946. He was a member of the Burma Star Association. Address: 54 Brodie Avenue, Troqueer, Dumfries.

Mr. JOSEPH (JERRY) HEWSON

Mr. Joseph (Jerry) Hewson died in Berwick on 20th August, 1969. He served twice at the Depot K.O.S.B. during his 24 years in the Regiment, and retired as W.O. I. He was evacuated from Dunkirk and served for two years in the West Indies before relieving R.S.M. J. Walls, M.C., as R.S.M. of the Depot in 1948, when Mr. Walls went as R.S.M. to 1st K.O.S.B. in Palestine.

Hewson was an excellent footballer, and played for the Regiment and Berwick Rangers. He latterly became a postman. He was always a cheerful and charming man, and much liked in the Regiment, and in Berwick. He is survived by his widow and three children, to whom we extend our deep sympathy. Address: St. Bartholomew's Crescent, Spittal, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

His funeral was attended by Colonel Harrison, Mr. Walls and Mr. McLaughlin from Regimental Headquarters, and a large number of ex-Borderers.

EDINBURGH BRANCH

The Branch held its Annual General Meeting on the 9th February, 1969, in the Royal Engineers' Club. Our Chairman, Major T. Little, M.C., decided, after nine years in office, to retire. The President, Colonel R. C. Robertson-Macleod, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., paid tribute to all the good work Major Little had done for the Branch.

On the 9th May we had a very successful Social Evening in the Sergeants' Mess, Edinburgh Castle. We were grateful to Brigadier F. H. Coutts, O.B.E., for making this possible. The Colonel of the Regiment was present, we were also pleased to have the Regimental Secretary, and two members of the London Branch with us. The attendance was about 100. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Several members represented the Branch at the Scottish National War Memorial Service in July.

The Branch is still very active. Major W. E. B. Atkinson is our new Chairman, and we wish him every success.

At a Committee Meeting held on the 29th July, the President presented Major T. Little with a painting of a K.O.S.B. Officer in No. 1 Dress. Major Little thanked the Branch Committee for its kindness.

Our next Social Evening has been arranged for Friday, 21st November, in the Sergeants' Mess, Edinburgh Castle.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

RETIREMENTS—REGULAR ARMY

Major S. C. Warman, M.M., retires on retired pay w.e.f. 3rd December, 1968, and is appointed to the reserve of Officers w.e.f. 1st April, 1969, in the rank of Major.

Lieut. B. J. Jerman retires on account of disability w.e.f. 11th December, 1968.

Major N. L. West retires on retired pay on 24th December, 1968, and is granted the Honorary rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

Major (Q.M.) A. Galloway retires on retired pay w.e.f. 10th February, 1969.

Major J. B. A. Smyth retires on retired pay w.e.f. 5th March, 1969.

Lieut.-Colonel L. P. G. Dow, O.B.E. retires on retired pay w.e.f. 29th April, 1969.

Capt. D. M. W. Griffiths resigns his Commission w.e.f. 2nd June, 1969.

Capt. J. C. Mackay-Lewis retires receiving a gratuity w.e.f. 31st March, 1969.

Capt. K. M. Cooper retires on retired pay w.e.f. 31st July, 1969.

Major A. B. Cran retires on retired pay w.e.f. 31st August, 1969.

Lieut. J. St. J. Babington resigns his Commission w.e.f. 10th July, 1969.

T. & A.V. RESERVES

Major-General J. F. M. Macdonald, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., relinquishes his appointment as Hon. Colonel of 4/5 Territorial Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers T. & A.V.R. w.e.f. 31st March, 1969.

CATEGORY IV

Capt. J. M. Lountain, from T.A. K.O.S.B., to be Captain 1st April, 1967, with seniority 22nd March, 1968.

CATEGORY II

Capt. W. Thyne, K.O.S.B., 52 Lowland is granted the acting rank of Major, 16th December, 1968.

Lieut. D. P. Sturrock, K.O.S.B., 52 Lowland is granted the acting rank of Captain, 2nd December, 1968.

Major The Hon. M. A. J. Oakshott, K.O.S.B., 52 Lowland from T.A. & A.V.R. to be Major, 16th December, 1968.

CATEGORY III

Lieut. R. Arneil from T. & A.V.R. Category III, 4/5 K.O.S.B. to Lieutenant, 31st March, 1969.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Major (Acting Lieut.-Colonel) W. Bruce from T. & A.V.R. 4/5 K.O.S.B., Category III (to be Major acting Lieut.-Colonel) w.e.f. 1st April, 1969.

Major J. J. Ballantyne from T. & A.V.R. 4/5 K.O.S.B., Category III to be Major 31st March, 1969.

Capt. E. G. Scott-Watson, T.D. from T. & A.V.R., Category III 4/5 K.O.S.B. to be Captain 31st March, 1969.

PROMOTIONS—REGULAR ARMY

Lieut. P. B. Gow to be Captain w.e.f. 1st May, 1969.
The under-mentioned Captains to be Majors w.e.f. 31st December, 1968.

Capt. M. J. Reynolds, Capt. B. A. S. Leishman, Capt. M. Thomson.

Capt. (Q.M.) G. J. Grant, B.E.M., to be Major, 23rd March, 1969.

2nd/Lieut. R. Thomson, to be Lieutenant, 28th January, 1969.

The under-mentioned Lieutenants to be Local Captains w.e.f. 15th April, 1969.

Lieut. K. U. Fraser, Lieut. J. McDonald.

The under-mentioned 2nd/Lieutenants to be Lieutenants w.e.f. from 15th June, 1969.

2nd/Lieut. A. D. W. Marshall, 2nd/Lieut. K. R. H. Mitchelson.

The under-mentioned O/Cadet from Mons Officers Cadet School to be 2nd/Lieutenant w.e.f. 25th April, 1969.

John Anderson Kirkwood—Direct entry.

Major A. D. Myrtle, M.B.E., to be Lieut.-Colonel w.e.f. 30th June, 1969.

The under-mentioned Lieutenants to be Captains w.e.f. 2nd August, 1969.

E. F. R. Scroggie (K.O.S.B.), S. A. Sellon (K.O.S.B.).

The under-mentioned O/Cadets to be 2nd/Lieutenants, 25th July, 1969.

Alastair Howard Cunningham (K.O.S.B.), George Andrew Middlemiss (K.O.S.B.), James Stewart Miles Walker (K.O.S.B.).

LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Capt. K. U. Fraser has been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, 4th June, 1969.

NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST

British Empire Medal Military Division

No. 3197860 S/Sergt. Robert Greig, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

M. A. McDonald, Esq., now at
44 Garden Royal, Kersfield Road, London, S.W.15.

Major A. M. Cameron, K.O.S.B., now at
20 Redford Gardens, Bradbury Lines, Hereford.

Major J. W. Lindquist, now at
c/o Lloyds Bank Ltd., 6 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

I. W. T. Croke, Esq., K.O.S.B., now at
22 SAS Regiment, Bradbury Lines, Hereford.

Major J. M. Hamilton, K.O.S.B., now at
3 Redford Grove, Edinburgh, EH13 0AH.

Major M. Thomson, K.O.S.B., now at
Royal Military School of Science, Shrivenham,
Nr. Swindon, Wilts.

Lieut.-Colonel R. J. McCallum, M.C., K.O.S.B., now at
Ministry of Defence, SAAS, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1

Major A. B. Cran, now at
Balcome, West Brae, Paisley.

Lieut.-Colonel L. G. S. Sanderson, O.B.E., M.C., now at
HQ NEARELF, B.F.P.O. 53.

Colonel R. Caulfeild, O.B.E., now at
Box No. 12450, G.P.O. Nairobi, Kenya.

Major M. P. E. Legg, now at
Abu Dhabi Defence Force, P.O. Box 309, Abu Dhabi,
Arabian Gulf.

Major M. J. Reynolds, K.O.S.B., now at
"G" Branch, HQ 2nd Division, B.F.P.O. 22.



Capt. C. S. Stirling Cookson, Adjutant, 1st K.O.S.B.,
outside Officers' Mess, Suvla Bay, Gallipoli, 1915. This
photograph was sent to the Editor by Lieut.-Colonel
Duncan Rowley.



Tim Ogilvy, O.C. "A" Company, 1st K.O.S.B., Suvla Bay, 1915.



Colonels Jardine Paterson, Batchelor and
Stirling Cookson at the A.G.M.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

A letter received from 3192732 W.O. I. J. Kirkhope, M.B.E., M.M., P.S.B., from The Royal Brunei Malay Regiment, Berakas Camp, State of Brunei, is appended below:—

"Just a few lines to thank you for the copy of the Newsletter which I receive with great pleasure from you every month.

There are now three representatives of the Regiment serving out here, I will give you a few lines on each as it may be of interest for the Newsletter or the *Chronicle*.

1. Major C. Lindsay, ex-Cameronians, who served with the Regiment in Aden is now commanding "B" Company of this Regiment. He has now been with us here about eight months.
2. C/Sergt. J. Morgan is still going strong with the Regimental Band here. He has been accepted for a second tour with this Regiment. He will be coming to U.K. in July this year for a three months inter-tour leave with his family. No doubt he will be in Berwick visiting Mrs. Morgan's family and paying a call at R.H.Q.
3. The news concerning myself is that I am not finishing with this Regiment in July this year, but have been granted a one year extension to 2nd July, 1970, which will practically finish my service as I will be retiring in September, 1970. I will be in U.K. for an inter-tour leave in August this year, when I hope to visit Berwick and R.H.Q. His Highness The Sultan of Brunei honoured me in his Honours List in January this year, by awarding me the P.S.B. (Pekerma Stia Brunei).

Please give my regards to all old friends in R.H.Q., also any visitors you may have."

Major G. H. Calvert, M.B.E., E.D., writes "in case any of my contemporaries who happen to be on the South Coast wish to visit us, I would be grateful if you could publish my address. It is 2 King Edward Avenue, Worthing, Sussex."

Commander A. D. Gilbert, R.N., Honorary Secretary of the Portsmouth Cathedral D. Day Fellowship, Flat 2 Cathedral House, St. Thomas's Street, Old Portsmouth, writes:—

"The D Day and Battle of Normandy Fellowship, formed in connection with the Portsmouth Cathedral Completion Appeal, continues to build up steadily. Membership, now several hundred strong, includes people from the U.S.A., Canada and other overseas countries. An application leaflet can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, D Day Fellowship, Flat 2, Cathedral House, St. Thomas's Street, Old Portsmouth."

Enclosed with his letter was a pamphlet which explains about Membership. It reads as follows:—

REMEMBER D DAY

The *D Day Fellowship* will keep alive the memory of the contribution so many thousands of individuals made to the cause of human freedom in 1944.

Membership is open to Service and Ex-Service men and women who took part in the D Day landings and subsequent operations up to the end of the Battle of Normandy (August 19th)—and to their parents and other near relatives.

Subscription—which is for life—is £1. There will be an annual service in Portsmouth Cathedral on or about the anniversary of D Day; in addition, members' names will be inscribed in a book to be placed within the Cathedral precincts. Finally, each member will receive a certificate recognising his or her contribution and conferring membership.

Funds raised through subscription to the D Day Fellowship will help to complete the ancient Cathedral Church of St. Thomas a Becket at Portsmouth as a D Day Memorial. Plans have already been approved by the Royal Fine Art Commission for an extension to the nave as a suitable memorial. It will seat 1,500 people and the roof span will be nearly double that of St. Paul's Cathedral in London. Empanelled in the ceiling of the ambulatory surrounding the nave will be 400 crests of units which took part in the operation from Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the United States of America, France, Holland, Belgium and other allied nations.

Brigadier Coutts wrote about The Short Service Commission linked to Industry, a most generous offer and he enclosed some details which are as follows:—

THE JOINT SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION AND INDUSTRIAL CAREER

1. *Conditions for Short Service Commissions*
 - a *Period of Service.* 3 years, to reckon from the date of reporting at Mons.
 - b *Age bracket.* Over 18 and under 26.
 - c *Education.* 5 'O' levels, one of which must be English language.
 - d Medically fit.
 - e British nationality.
 - f *Training.* Five months at Mons Officer Cadet School, Aldershot.
 - g *Pay.* £10 per week while under training as an Officer Cadet at Mons, uniform allowance of £230-£264 depending on Regiment, £794 per annum as 2nd/Lieut. and gratuity of £550 (subject to agreement to serve for 5 years on the reserve).
2. *Conditions for the Industrial Career*

This scheme has been negotiated between the Confederation of British Industry and the Army Department.

 - a As soon as the applicant has passed the Regular Commissions Board, the list of firms who participate in the scheme, is given to the applicant.
 - b Thereafter the candidate and potential employer may make direct contact and both sides are encouraged to keep in touch during the officer's service. Firms are entitled and encouraged to obtain up-to-date confidential reports on their prospective employees before confirming their appointment.
 - c Any offer of employment will be provisional, both firm and candidate being able to withdraw should circumstances change. At about six months before the end of the candidate's Army service, the provisional offer of employment and acceptance of such offer will be confirmed. Where the offer is not confirmed, the candidate may apply to other firms.

3. *Application*

Write to :—Brigadier J. L. Proudlock, D.S.O.,
Schools Liaison Officer,
Headquarters Scotland,
PO Box 85,
GPO Edinburgh, 1,
for further details.

He went on to say that over 100 firms in Britain are prepared to offer an executive Career to any young man who is good enough to pass the Regular Commissions Board, do five months training at Mons Cadet School and complete his three years Commission successfully with a Battalion. There is an intake at Mons every three months, the next one is No. 42 on 20th November, 1969.

The K.O.S.B. want more Short Service Officers as well as Regular Officers.



Colonel of the Regiment fortunately not giving his Regimental Secretary a rocket on this occasion !

ACCOUNT OF 25th ANNIVERSARY PILGRIMAGE TO NORMANDY

by **Capt. D. B. Hume** (late 8th Royal Scots)

During the last week-end in June, some former members of the 15th Scottish Division paid a visit to Normandy to commemorate the 25th anniversary of their first battles there, and to re-dedicate the Divisional Memorial at Tourville sur Odon.

The party was led by General Sir Gordon MacMillan of MacMillan, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., who commanded the Division in Normandy until he was wounded there, and Brigadier R. M. Villiers, D.S.O., who commanded the 46th Highland Infantry Brigade, was responsible for the very excellent arrangements.

Saturday was spent visiting places where the Division fought and established their reputation second to none, such places as St. Mauvieu, La Gaule, Cheux, Le Haut du Bosc, Colleville, Tourville, Tourmauville, Gavrus and Grainville, and it was interesting to see how little the countryside had changed. The hedges are just as thick as they were, and the corn in the fields the same as it was twenty-five years ago, although the villages and farms have all been re-built and the cows are alive, the air smelling the sweeter for that.

Later in the day, the members of the party were invited by the Mayor of Caen to a reception in their honour in the Town Hall, after which the members of

the Division entertained about fourteen French guests to dinner. After the toasts and speeches, a short programme of pipe music was played, much to the delight of the French guests, by Pipe-Major R. J. Gillies of the 1st Battalion The Royal Scots.

On Sunday morning, at Tourville sur Odon, a procession was formed and included members of the "Anciens Combattants" and the Resistance movements from the surrounding district, all the members of the local councils, the local inhabitants, and not the least in importance a contingent of French Infantry. A Mass was held in the beautiful small church, and was conducted in English, as well as French, by a priest from the training school at Vire. Wreaths were laid at the memorial in the churchyard where there are six Divisional graves, and it was here that "God save the Queen" was sung by the local school children who had learnt it in English specially for the occasion. Among these present was Lady Barbour, wife of the late General Sir Colin Barbour, who also commanded the Division, and to whose memory a Scots pine has been planted in the churchyard.

The service, which followed at the Divisional Memorial nearby, was most impressive. It was conducted by the Rev. A. I. Dunlop, T.D., and the Rev. A. W. Sawyer, M.C., D.D. The Pipe-Major and a bugler of the 1st Battalion The Royal Scots played during the service, at the close of which a wreath was laid on the Memorial by General MacMillan in memory of all ranks of the 15th Scottish Division who lost their lives during the war. Other wreaths were laid on the memorial by representatives of the various Regiments and members of the various French organisations.

A final compliment was paid to the Scottish party, by the Mayor and Council of Tourville, by inviting them to a "Vin d'honneur" and buffet lunch, at which those who made speeches expressed their gratitude to the 15th Scottish Division for the part they played in the liberation of their country, and more especially their own townships.

In the late afternoon, a visit was made to the War Cemetery at St. Mauvieu where so many comrades lie buried. It was the second cemetery visited during the tour, and it is remarkable how beautifully these are laid out and maintained to such a degree of perfection. Truly a most impressive end to a wonderful tour.

The lasting memory of these few days is the warmth of welcome given by the French people, and the friendliness of everyone to the visitors from the 15th Scottish Division.



Lieut.-Colonels Dunn and Ward at the A.G.M.

