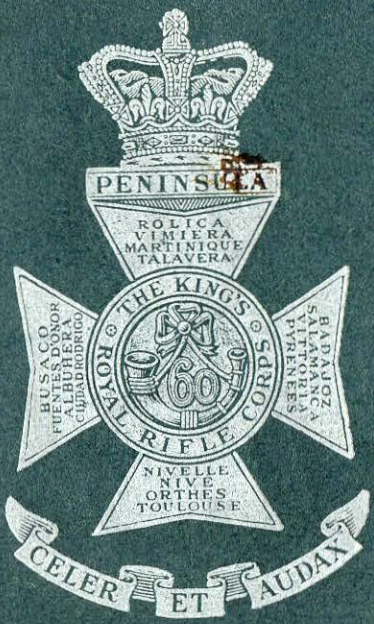
# THE
# King's Royal Rifle Corps Chronicle

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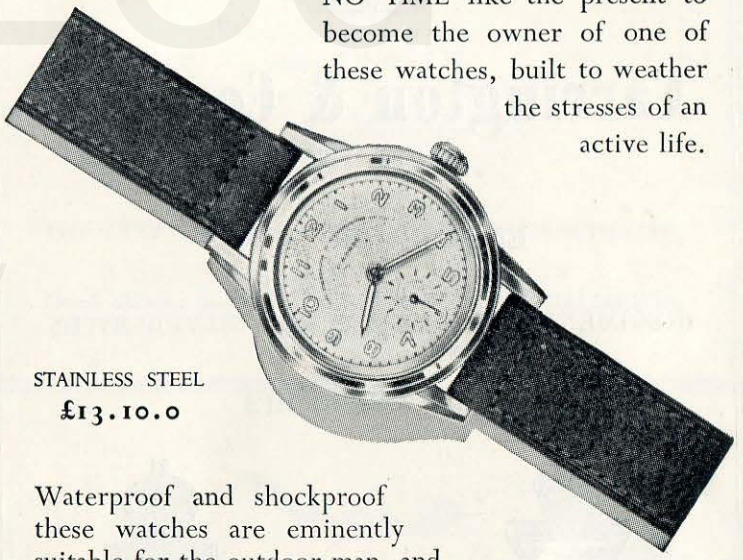

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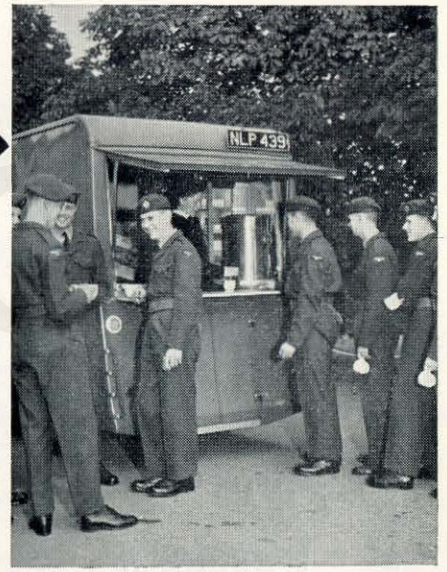


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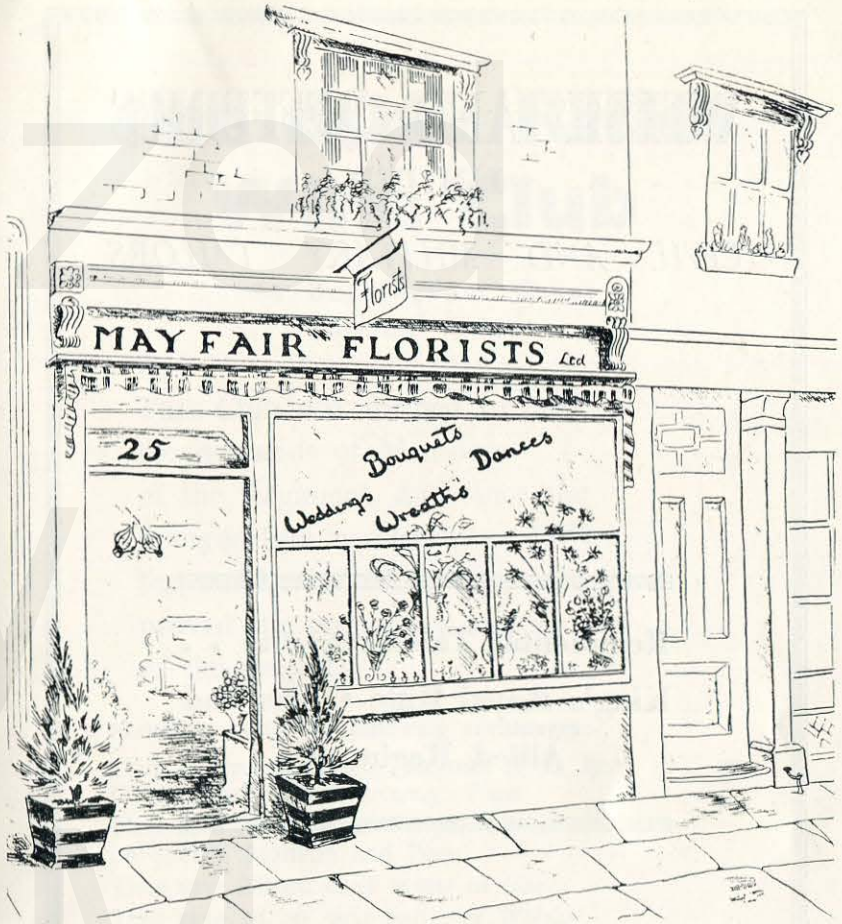


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THE

# KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS CHRONICLE

## 1954

*Editor*—The Historical Committee,
Celer et Audax Club

Address—The Editor, *K.R.R.C. Regimental Chronicle*,
32 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

*(For prices, subscription, etc., see page vi.)*

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## BATTLE HONOURS

**"Louisburg," "Quebec, 1759," "Martinique, 1762," "Havannah," "North America, 1763-64," "Rolica," "Vimiera," "Martinique, 1809," "Talavera," "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Peninsula," "Mooltan," "Goojerat," "Punjaub," "South Africa, 1851-2-3," "Delhi, 1857," "Taku Forts," "Pekin, 1860," "South Africa, 1879," "Ahmad Khel," "Kandahar, 1880," "Afghanistan, 1878-80," "Tel-el-Kebir," "Egypt, 1882, 1884," "Chitral," "Defence of Ladysmith," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1899-1902."**

### WORLD WAR I.—26 Battalions

**"Mons,"** "Retreat from Mons," **"Marne, 1914,"** "Aisne, 1914," **"Ypres, 1914, '15, '17, '18,"** "Langemarck, 1914, '17," "Gheluvelt," "Nonne Bosschen," "Givenchy, 1914," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Festubert, 1915," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," **"Somme, 1916, '18,"** "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Guillemont," "Flers-Courcelette," "Morval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916, '18," **"Arras, 1917, '18,"** "Scarpe, 1917," "Arleux," **"Messines, 1917, '18,"** "Pilckem," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917, '18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Lys," "Bailleul," "Kemmel," "Béthune," "Bapaume, 1918," "Drocourt-Quéant," "Hindenburg Line," "Havrincourt," **"Epéhy," "Canal du Nord,"** "St. Quentin Canal," "Beaurevoir," "Courtrai," **"Selle," "Sambre,"** "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Macedonia, 1916-18."



## BATTALIONS OF THE REGIMENT AND ALLIED UNITS
## 1954

| | |
|---|---|
| THE 1ST BATTALION | Germany |
| THE 2ND BATTALION | Germany |
| QUEEN VICTORIA'S RIFLES, K.R.R.C. (T.A.) | London, W.1 |
| THE QUEEN'S WESTMINSTERS, K.R.R.C. (T.A.) | London, S.W.1 |

*K.R.R.C. Organisation:*

| | |
|---|---|
| THE GREEN JACKETS DEPOT | Winchester |
| THE COLONELS COMMANDANT'S OFFICE | Winchester |
| RIFLE RECORDS | Exeter |
| K.R.R.C. "CELER ET AUDAX" CLUB, K.R.R.C. ASSOCIATION and RIFLEMEN'S AID SOCIETY | 32 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1 |

### AFFILIATED REGIMENT

2ND KING EDWARD VII'S OWN GURKHA RIFLES (THE SIRMOOR RIFLES)

### ALLIED REGIMENTS

**Canadian Army**

| | |
|---|---|
| THE REGINA RIFLE REGIMENT | Regina, Sask. |
| THE KING'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA (M.G.) | Moose Jaw, Sask. |
| THE HALIFAX RIFLES | Halifax, Nova Scotia |
| THE ROYAL RIFLES OF CANADA | Quebec, P.Q. |
| THE DUFFERIN AND HALDIMAND RIFLES OF CANADA | Brantford, Ontario |
| THE BROCKVILLE RIFLES | Brockville, Ontario |
| VICTORIA RIFLES OF CANADA | Montreal, P.Q. |

**Australian Infantry**

| | |
|---|---|
| SYDNEY UNIVERSITY REGIMENT | Newtown |

**Union of South Africa Defence Forces**

| | |
|---|---|
| THE KAFFRARIAN RIFLES | East London |

**Southern Rhodesia Defence Force**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1ST BATTALION THE ROYAL RHODESIA REGIMENT | Salisbury, S. Rhodesia |
| 2ND BATTALION THE ROYAL RHODESIA REGIMENT | Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia |

**Fiji Islands**

THE FIJI INFANTRY REGIMENT

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   *Paper bound,* 5*s. post free.*
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2. *A limited number of copies of previous Chronicles,* **except 1941, 1943, 1944 and 1946, which are out of print,** *can be obtained from the Secretary, "Celer et Audax" Club.*

3. **The Secretary, "Celer et Audax" Club, will be glad to receive copies of old Chronicles not required.**

4. *Articles for publication in the* 1955 *Chronicle will be gratefully received. Articles on regimental history, sporting and travel trips, etc., from officers would be much appreciated. All too few of such contributions have been received in recent years. Articles and photographs (returned if required) should be forwarded to: "The Editor," 32 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.*1 *as early as possible and* **not later than October 31st, 1955.**

5. *To publish the Chronicle as early in the year as possible and to assist publishers who are less busy in the winter, the Chronicle year is now* 1*st November to* 31*st October.*

6. **Annals of The King's Royal Rifle Corps**
   *Vols. I, IV, V and Appendix (Uniforms) are no longer available. Vols. II and III,* 10*s.* 6*d. each, post free, from the Secretary, "Celer et Audax" Club.*

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**Memoirs of a Rifleman Scout**
*By Major F. M. Crum, K.R.R.C. (Retd.)*

*To be obtained from A. Learmouth and Son, "Journal" office,* 9 *King Street, Stirling, Scotland.*

The Rt. Hon. Sir Anthony Eden, K.G., P.C., M.C., M.P., Hon. Col. Q.W., Major J. R. C. Radclyffe, M.B.E., Capt. J. W.M. Crisp, Capt. J. E. Shirley, Sgt. Archer and Lt.-Col. F. L. Knight. Windmill Hill, 1954

With the greatest respect, The King's Royal Rifle Corps offers its congratulations to the Right Honourable Sir Anthony Eden, K.G., M.C., Hon. Colonel The Queen's Westminsters, on his appointment as Prime Minister, and also on receiving the Knighthood of the Garter from H.M. The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief. Needless to say, previously no member had graced The "Celer et Audax" Club by holding these honours.

# REGIMENTAL NEWS

Under the gracious leadership of Her Majesty the Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, 1953 (Coronation and Mount Everest year) marked the beginning of a new era for the King's Royal Rifle Corps.

The reconstruction of the post-war period was nearly complete. The War Memorials had been emplaced and dedicated; and the bereaved families cared for. 32 Eccleston Square had been re-decorated and every inch of spare space let as flats or offices. The Riflemen's Aid Society had signed a lease for another 99 years. After many vicissitudes the Depot had been reconsituted and organized to deal with modern conditions and National Service. Moreover after a somewhat acrimonious struggle it was back in its rightful home, albeit in a state of collapse.

Thanks to the personal intervention of King George VI the R.B. and 60th were dressed in No. 1 Dress of Rifle Green with Cross Belts, which had actually been banished from the army.

The Green Jacket 2nd Battalion had been re-raised. With haste it laid itself alongside the 1st Battalion in its watch on the Rhine with their Armoured formations. To the undisguised delight of the R.A.C. our prescriptive right to serve as Motor Battalions had been tardily recognised. The tactical and administrative necessity of linking our T.A. Regiments with Armour had also been accepted after other decisions had obtained for a time.

Unique with its Battle Honour, our 1st Cadet Battalion had been retrieved after dismemberment from "The City" and after amalgamation with the 2nd Cadet Battalion settled down happily in the congenial and Riflemanlike atmosphere of the County of London.

After nearly 100 years of alliance in spirit, the blood-brotherhood of the 2nd Goorkha Rifles and 60th had at last been recognised in an official affiliation. Under the direction of King George VI, the Fiji Infantry Regiment was allied to us, the alliance being cemented by the presentation of a "Tambua" to the 60th by Sir Lala Sukuna.

"Swift and Bold" (by H.W.) and the Recruit's Pamphlet had been published, and the Brief History brought up to date. The Green Jackets recruiting posters were paying a handsome dividend. Green Jacket Drill had been co-ordinated and a Drill Book issued. One omission affecting morale needs early rectification; the allotment of our hard-earned Battle Honours in World War II.

In all spheres of Riflemanlike activity, 1954 has witnessed a continuance of the new era's brilliant start.



As testified in this edition, progress and success are reported in the field of military efficiency and in the realms of sport, games, athletics, racing and equitation. Energy and kneenness are everywhere in evidence. Judging by the rush of both Regulars and National Servicemen to join, the 60th enjoys the confidence of the public.

Success in the Non-Central A.R.A. competitions is quite outstanding. Results are the more astounding, when one recollects the vast amount of additional training incidental to a Motor Battalion, training connected with W./T. nets, fitters, drivers and the number and diversity of vehicles to be maintained.

In producing these results, not only is the greatest credit due to each team, individually and collectively, but also of course to the C.O. s and all instructors of all ranks, who helped in winning the success.

Excellent results are reported by our T.A. Regiments, Q.V.R. and Q.W. On the international running track the successes of Lieut. Chataway, Q.W., have excited world-wide interest and admiration. His defeat of his Russian opponent by inches was certainly a fine example of "Celer et Audax". Our 1st Cadet Battalion is settling down very well indeed in its new organization and is working happily under the wing of our T.A. regiments.

We all admire the way in which the Kenya regiment, with its Green Jacket permanent staff, is tackling its tremendous task. No doubt the secret of success can be found at Battalion Headquarters, where "the Campbell twins" hold the appointments of C.O. and second-in-command. The admiration and good wishes of the 60th are always with the G.O.C.-in-C. East Africa, General Bobbie Erskine (General Sir George Erskine). All wish him the best of good luck in his future appointment of G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command.

Throughout 1954, close liaison has been maintained with our allied regiments in Canada, Rhodesia and South Africa. Lieut-Colonel Martin Gilliat, on the staff of the Governor General of Australia, is now well placed for liaison with our far-flung Sydney University regiment. The 2nd Goorkha Rifles and Fiji Regiment are both hard at it in Malaya.

After a strenuous, varied and successful tour in command of the Green Jackets Brigade at Winchester, Colonel D. R. C. Boileau, D.S.O., has handed over command to Colonel the Hon. M. F. Douglas-Pennant, D.S.O., M.B.E. During the former's command the increase in the number of Regular recruits was indeed remarkable, whilst the Depot's musketry results beat, it is believed, all previous records. On his retirement, the Green Jackets wish Dick Boileau and his

family the best of good luck. They would also like to take this opportunity both of congratulating Malcolm Douglas-Pennant on his appointment, and of offering to him and his lady their heartiest congratulations on their marriage.

All the above good news and much more (for which there is not space here), will give universal satisfaction; but as in all human activities here and there losses and disappointments occur. The 60th mourn the loss of Major-General Sir John (Tavish) Davidson. What a debt of gratitude the Regiment, past and present, owes him! As Colonel Commandant during the late war, Tavish, helped by Hereward Wake, had a gruelling time, especially as he was burdened by so many heavy outside responsibilities. With deep gratitude, long may the 60th cherish Tavish's noble memory!

Now, alas, the recently re-raised 2nd Battalion is once more to fade away. It does so in a sunset of glory, for not only has it won the 1954 Queen Victoria Cup, but also possesses a Regular element, the envy of the army. With its fifty-fifty R.B. and 60th composition, the 2nd Battalion is a shining example of the integration of the Green Jackets, the success of a great experiment.

On the approaching eclipse of this brilliant battalion, it is difficult to withhold critical and perhaps undisciplined remarks, which one's pen itches to inscribe in our archives; but at this moment obviously one and all are called upon to exert restraint. We have sustained bitter blows before; but for 200 years our history proves the fact that eclipses are not permanent but passing phenomena.

In spite of this set-back, the future is full of promise. Her Majesty, our Colonel-in-Chief, has graciously announced her intention of visiting the City of Winchester on Monday, 25th July; and in the afternoon of inspecting Her Regiment on the occasion of its Bicentenary Celebrations.

*En route* for a tour in the Middle East the 1st Battalion is expected home in June, and will be present at Her Majesty's inspection.

On the 25th June, 1954, the Queen graciously accepted the 60th's gift of a brooch in the form of a Rifleman s cap badge, the design of which had previously been personally inspected and approved by Her Majesty. The badge was presented at Buckingham Palace by the Colonels Commandant, accompanied by Lieut.-General Sir Euan Miller, on the eve of his taking over the appointment of Colonel Commandant of the 1st Battalion. The Queen graciously charged the Colonels Commandant to thank, on her behalf, all concerned in the gift, adding how much she looked forward to wearing the 60th brooch on appropriate occasions.



# NOMINAL ROLL OF REGIMENTAL OFFICERS OF THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS HOLDING REGULAR ARMY COMMISSIONS

**(December, 1954)**

| | |
|---|---|
| T./Colonel The Hon. M. F. Douglas-Pennant, D.S.O., M.B.E. | Brigade Colonel. |
| Lieut.-Colonel E. A. W. Williams, O.B.E., M.C. | Comd. 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, R. F. L. Chance, M.C. | Comd. 1st K.R.R.C. |
| Bt./Lieut.-Colonel J. L. Corbett-Winder, O.B.E., M.C. | H.Q. Mid West District. |
| T./Lieut.-Colonel W. D. Keown-Boyd, O.B.E. | H.Q. Army Field Forces, U.S.A. |
| Major H. R. G. Howard | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| T./Colonel G. W. White, M.B.E. | Comdt. Eaton Hall O.C.S. |
| T./Lieut.-Colonel M. J. Gilliat, C.V.O., M.B.E. | M.S. to Gov. Gen. Australia. |
| Major J. F. C. Mellor, D.S.O. | Green Jackets Depot. |
| Bt./Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Hunter, D.S.O., M.B.E., M.C. | G.S.O. I, H.Q. 6th Armd. Div., B.A.O.R. |
| Major C. S. Madden | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| T./Lieut.-Colonel H. A. Hope, M.C. | G.S.O. I, G.H.Q. E. Africa. |
| ,, H. R. W. Vernon, M.B.E. | G.S.O. I, H.Q. B.T.E. |
| Major P. H. Parker | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, E. G. B. Davies-Scourfield, M.B.E., M.C. | H.Q. N.A.G., B.A.O.R. |
| ,, P. Pardoe | H.Q. 2nd Inf. Div., B.A.O.R. |
| ,, J. H. P. Curtis, M.C. | H.Q. 91 Lor. Inf. Bde., B.A.O.R. |
| ,, R. C. Gibbs, D.S.O., M.C. | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, R. F. Nixon, M.B.E. | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| T./Major J. R. C. Radclyffe, M.B.E. | Q.W. (K.R.R.C.) T.A. |
| ,, J. A. G. Lc Coq | Q.V.R. (K.R.R.C.) T.A. |
| ,, G. H. Mills | H.Q. 7th Armd. Div., B.A.O.R. |
| ,, C. A. Humphreys, M.C. | H.Q. 11th Armd. Div., B.A.O.R. |
| ,, E. C. Phillips, M.C. | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, D. G. House, M.C. | 168 Lor. Inf. Bde. (T.A.). |
| ,, R. J. A. Darwin | H.Q. W. Comd., Canada. |
| Captain J. E. Shirley | Q.W. (K.R.R.C.) T.A. |
| T./Major N. J. Warry, M.C. | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| Captain G. R. Seymour | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, T. E. St. Aubyn | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, E. M. M. Kenney-Herbert | H.Q. 70 Inf. Bde., E. Africa. |
| T./Major E. N. W. Bramall, M.C. | H.Q. 3rd Inf. Div. M.E.L.F. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Captain | J. G. Harrison | R.M.A. Sandhurst. |
| ,, | J. R. Tillard | Staff College. |
| ,, | E. B. Taylor | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | H. R. M. Porter, M.B.E. | 11th Armd. Div., B.A.O.R. |
| ,, | R. M. Parker | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | J. C. Slater | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | T. N. Thistlethwayte | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | S. J. Symington | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | J. A. Molesworth-St. Aubyn | Green Jackets Depot. |
| ,, | M. M. V. W. Beak | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | M. J. H. Walsh | Para. Regiment. |
| ,, | R. L. S. Mather | 4th K.A.R. |
| ,, | R. R. Cornell | Kenya Regiment. |
| ,, | R. K. Guy | Kenya Regiment. |
| T./Captain | R. S. Ferrand | Q.V.R. (K.R.R.C.) T.A. |
| ,, | R. H. Underhill | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | C. G. N. Campbell | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | J. E. Oxley | Green Jackets Depot. |
| ,, | R. F. Cavendish | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| Lieut. | P. M. Welsh | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | M. J. Calvert | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | J. R. T. Eve | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | P. E. Willis-Fleming | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | D. W. R. Bedford | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | C. J. Adami | Green Jackets Depot. |
| 2nd/Lieut. | J. W. G. Pirie | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | V. F. West | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | C. J. Holroyd | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | A. T. R. Shelley | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | E. C. Winter | 1st K.R.R.C. |

### NATIONAL SERVICE COMMISSIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2nd/Lieut. | J. B. de Salis | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | J. R. S. Maclure | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | R. T. C. Whatmore | Green Jackets Depot. |
| ,, | R. D. Carver | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | T. E. C. Hoare | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | L. W. Aylen | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | E. P. Coulman | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | A. G. Hines | 2nd Nigeria Regt. |
| ,, | J. R. Leon | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | P. A. Irby | Green Jackets Depot. |
| ,, | Hon. J. P. F. St. L. Grenfell | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | M. J. K. Miller | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | P. S. Fea | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | C. E. R. Benson | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | P. S. Curtis | 1st K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | H. C. Cairns | 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| ,, | D. I. Mitchell-Innes | 1st K.R.R.C. |



# THE GREEN JACKETS DEPOT

## OFFICERS, WARRANT OFFICERS AND COLOUR SERGEANTS

### December, 1954

DEPOT H.Q.

**Commanding Officer, Brigade Colonel:** Colonel The Hon. M. F. Douglas-Pennant, D.S.O., M.B.E., K.R.R.C. **Second-in-Command, 60th C.C.'s Rep.:** Major J. F. C. Mellor, D.S.O., K.R.R.C. **Brigade Adjutant, R.B., C.C.'s Rep.:** Major A. G. D. Palmer, M.C., R.B. **Depot Adjutant:** Captain T. G. H. Jackson, R.B. **Depot Assistant Adjutant:** Lieut.-Colonel R. A. Anderson, M.C. (Cameronians, retd.). **Quartermaster:** Lieut. (Q.M.) H. Andrews, R.B. **P.R.I.:** Colonel R. A. Macgeorge (R.B., retd.). **R.S.M.:** W.O. I G. Routledge, R.B. **R.Q.M.S.:** W.O. II P. Newell, R.B. **O.R.S.:** W.O. II W. G. Hutchison, K.R.R.C.

H.Q. COMPANY

**O.C. Coy.:** Major T. J. Wallis, R.B. **Second-in-Command:** Captain M. F. Whiteley, R.B. **Second-in-Command (designate):** Captain C. G. Wemyss, R.B. **M.T.O.:** Lieut. C. J. Adami, K.R.R.C. **Central Pay Officer:** Major C. J. Wilson (K.R.R.C., retd.). **C.S.M.:** W.O. II E. W. S. Reilly, R.B. **C./Sgt.:** C./Sgt. N. Birdsell, K.R.R.C.

TRAINING COMPANY

**O.C. Coy.:** Major C. H. Liddell, M.C., R.B. **Second-in-Command:** Captain J. E. Oxley, K.R.R.C. **W.T.O.:** Captain J. A. Molesworth-St. Aubyn, K.R.R.C. **Platoon Comdrs.:** 2nd/Lieut. R. H. Petley, R.B.; 2nd/Lieut. T. Burnett-Stuart, R.B.; 2nd/Lieut. P. A. Irby, K.R.R.C.; 2nd/Lieut. R. T. C. Whatmore, K.R.R.C. **C.S.M.:** W.O. II T. Thomas, K.R.R.C. **C./Sgt.:** C./Sgt. R. McKue, K.R.R.C.

It has been a busy year for the Depot with Training Company, staffed to train 250 recruits, having a normal strength of over 500. These large numbers have been due to the requirement to build up 1 R.B. for service in Korea and to the success of our regular recruiting drive. Now our numbers are falling rapidly as 1 R.B. have left for their new destination, Kenya, and have to revert to lower establishment, and both our Battalions are well in excess of their establishment. Our last two intakes of National Servicemen have been only 39 and 28 instead of the normal 100, and in 1955 we shall only be taking intakes every six weeks instead of monthly as at present.

### Change of Command

In July we said goodbye to Colonel D. R. C. Boileau, our first Brigade Colonel, who has retired after 33 years' service. In his place we welcomed Colonel The Hon. M. F. Douglas-Pennant who had been commanding the 2nd Battalion up to September, 1953.

**Visits and Inspections**

As usual we have had many visitors. Amongst them we have had the pleasure of welcoming three officers who have either served or are serving with the Sydney University Regiment—His Honour Judge Stacey, a former C.O., Lieut.-Colonel Campbell, now in the Royal Australian Engineers, and Major Barratt who is still serving with the Regiment.

On the 10th June, the Queen's Official Birthday, a contingent from the Depot took part in the Garrison Parade in front of the Guildhall, where the salute was taken by the Mayor.

In June, Capt. Harrison brought over a party of 30 cadets from West Point who were visiting the R.M.A. After a short talk from the Brigade Colonel, they visited the Museum, watched recruits practising for their passing out parade, and stayed for a buffet lunch in the Mess.

In August, Lieut.-General Mohamed Azam Khan, commanding 10 Pakistan Division, came down for the day and lunched in the Mess. We were able to collect two old friends to meet him as he had done a year's attachment to 2 R.B. in India in 1929.

On 2nd September, Lieut.-General Sir Euan Miller paid his first visit to the Depot since his appointment as Colonel Commandant of the 1st Battalion.

On Remembrance Sunday, 7th November, a contingent of 4 officers and 50 O.Rs. paraded with members of the Winchester Branch of the Association at the Regimental War Memorial for a short wreath-laying ceremony, and afterwards attended the service in the Cathedral. Wreaths were also laid on the two Regimental Books of Remembrance.

On 18th November, the Annual Inspection was carried out by the District Commander, Major-General Campbell. One intake successfully avoided the inspection by being away on their end of training leave, but some 350 all ranks were on parade including the junior intake with two weeks' training.

In addition we have, of course, welcomed the usual visits from the Territorial and Cadet Battalions for training.

**Officers' Mess**

At last the long recognised subsidence of the Mess has raised anxieties amongst the experts and every form of buttress and support has been used to stop it collapsing altogether. The War Office allows us to hold cocktail parties but dances have been strictly forbidden as it is feared that the rhythmic stamping of our feet might easily be the final straw that would bring the building crashing down.



**Regular Recruiting**

The sponsor scheme whereby retired officers in the Regiment have sponsored the various Recruiting Offices has been a great success, in fact rather embarrassingly so. The figures for each period and our placing in the Infantry for the total number of recruits in each period are given below:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4th February, 1954 | .. | 64 | .. 4th |
| 18th March, 1954 | .. | 43 | .. 4th |
| 6th May, 1954 | .. | 68 | .. 3rd |
| 17th June, 1954 | .. | 57 | .. 3rd |
| 5th August, 1954 | .. | 58 | .. 3rd |
| 16th September, 1954 | .. | 40 | .. 3rd |

Note: Only beaten by Para. Regiment, Coldstream Guards and Grenadier Guards (once).

We have now got to the position where both Battalions are almost up to Establishment with Regulars alone. We must of course continue to take in National Servicemen in order to keep up the flow of men to our Territorial Battalions, and the Brigade Colonel has reluctantly had to write to sponsors and Recruiting Officers in the North of England to ask them to stop sending us Regulars unless of course they have a family connection with the Regiment.

The London area from where most of our Regulars are drawn is not affected and we still need as many boys as we can for the Infantry Boys' Battalion, Plymouth, as these are in most cases our future N.C.Os. Naturally we will still accept a really good man, who looks as if he will make an N.C.O., from any part of the country and those with family connections with the Regiment will always be welcome.

## SERGEANTS' MESS

Activities in the Sergeants' Mess have continued on the same lines as reported for the last News Letter. The high spot of these activities was the reinstitution of the Mess Rifle Meeting. This was held at Chilcombe Range on 25th September, 1954, under admirable arrangements devised by Q.M.S.I. Timblick and his Committee. Unfortunately the meeting clashed with the wedding of Major Le Coq and one potential wooden spoon winner was absent with leave from the meeting.

The eventual winner of the treasured "spoon" was Sgt. Mansfield, R.B., although quite a few members had a shake on.

The Cup for the meeting was won by Sgt. Young, R.B., chased by Sgt. Solomons, K.R.R.C.

In the evening a Social was held in the Mess and the various winners presented with their respective trophies. Sgt. Mansfield carried off his "treasure" in grand style.

In July, before his retirement, Colonel D. R. C. Boileau was invited to the Mess to have his health drunk. At the same time the Mess welcomed his successor, Colonel The Hon. M. F. Douglas-Pennant.

In August, 1954, R.S.M. Starkey, K.R.R.C., handed over his duties as R.S.M. at the Depot to R.S.M. G. Routledge, R.B. R.S.M. Starkey has been posted to Ships Staff and is now sailing the High Seas to Hong Kong, where he will spend Christmas. The Mess wish him well at his new job and hope that he will visit them when he has his feet on dry land.

Faces have, of course, changed during the last six months. Amongst the Mess members who have left or are about to leave for the Battalions are:

Sgt. Koorlander, K.R.R.C., to 2nd K.R.R.C.
Sgt. Manchester, K.R.R.C., to 1st K.R.R.C.
C./Sgt. Hough, K.R.R.C., to 1st K.R.R.C.
Sgt. Johnson (Swabby) to civvy street.

Amongst those who have joined are:

Sgt. Atkins, R.B., from 2nd K.R.R.C.
Sgt. Chapman from 2nd K.R.R.C.
Sgt. Coram from 1st K.R.R.C.

The Rifle Brigade Band have, of course, left for Kenya with 1 R.B. and carry the best wishes of the Mess for an enjoyable tour of duty in that Colony.

The Old Comrades have recently figured in the Mess entertainment.

On Saturday, 6th November, 1954, both K.R.R.C. and R.B. Associations held their Annual Dinners in Winchester, and after having been thrown out of the places of eating and drinking, adjourned to the Mess. A good evening was had by all.

On the following day, Sunday, 7th November, 1954, the 60th Association attended the Memorial Service at Winchester Cathedral.



## CORPORALS' CLUB

The Corporals' Club has had another successful year and has been particularly successful in Table Tennis Competitions where Cpls. Green, Wardle-Fisk and Wyard were the star performers. All of them have now left but we are sure that suitable successors will be found for them.

Unfortunately, we still have not had the Corporals' Club redecorated, although the N.A.A.F.I. next door is looking very smart. There is apparently some delay over getting the painters, but we hope that something will have been accomplished before our next report.

In the social world, we had a successful Christmas Draw in 1953, and a very good dance in July, 1954. This was the first dance we have had for some time, and it was such a success that we hope to have another at Christmas.

We had a Club Outing to London in October when a coach was taken and 35 members went to see "The Folies Bergeres".

We should like to wish the best of luck to R.S.M. Starkey on leaving the Depot, and thank him for all the helpful advice which he has given us during the past years.

## TRAINING COMPANY

This year has been much the same as the past. National Servicemen come in every four weeks and do their ten weeks basic training before departing to their battalions. We have had about 350 regulars into the Depot. Naturally the majority come from the London area, but the Channel Isles, Hull, Carlisle and Scarborough have sent us a good many.

There have been several staff changes, notably C.S.M. Thomas replacing C.S.M. Croft (R.B.) and C./Sgt. McKue replacing C./Sgt. Hough. Sgts. Airey and Golding have returned to the Battalions.

One new feature has been the invitation of parents to the "Passing-Out Parades"; at one Parade we had 114 visitors. Coaches are arranged to bring them down from London before lunch and return them after tea. Major-General H. O. Curtis took the salute at the June parade, his last parade before retiring from being Colonel Commandant of the 1st Battalion. General Sir Evelyn Barker took the parade in July; Brigadier K. H. Collen, late 60th and now Commander 50 Independent Brigade, Tidworth, in August; Brigadier F. Stephens, late R.B., in October; and Brigadier R. A. T. Eve, late 60th, in November.

Colonel the Hon. M. F. Douglas-Pennant, D.S.O., M.B.E. commanding The Green Jackets' Brigade. Brigadier R. A. T. Eve, C.B.E. (*seated*) who took the November "passing out" parade. Behind the microphone, Captain Jackson, R.B., Depot Adjutant

PASSING OUT INSPECTION
*Behind left to right:* 2/Lt. Dawson and Captain Kenney-Herbert

## SHOOTING

This has been an extremely successful year for the Depot Shooting Team, who went from strength to strength throughout the season. We improved on last year's results at Aldershot in the face of steadily increasing competition, and reached our peak at Bisley. Here we won the Britannia Trophy, the Small Arms Cup, and the Worcester Cup—a feat certainly never achieved by a Depot, and indeed can any Battalion claim to have equalled this? The whole team shot extremely well throughout, admirably coached by Q.S.M.I. Timblick, S.A.S.C., and thoroughly deserved their victories.

### Aldershot District Small Arms Meeting

The season started with the Depot Rifle Meeting held during the weekend April 3rd-4th. This went well in fine weather. We then sent a normal team to Aldershot where we were successful in the main team events. The L.M.G. matches proved profitable as we

nearly swept the board in all classes, and Corporal Gore distinguished himself by winning the Young Soldiers' Rifle Match outright with a very high score indeed.

TEAM EVENTS

*Training Unit Rifle and L.M.G. Match:* Winners
*Company Shield Match:* Winners (Trg. Coy.)
*Aggregate L.M.G. Trophy (Roberts Cup):* Winners
*Aggregate Rifle Trophy (Farnborough Chamber of Commerce Shield):* Winners
*Unit Grand Aggregate (Coronation Cup):* Second
*Inter Unit Rifle Match:* Second
*Recruits Rifle Match:* Third

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

*Class "C" Rifle Match:*
Winner: Cpl. Gore, R.B.
*Class "B" L.M.G. Pairs Match:*
Winners: Cpl. Gridley, K.R.R.C., Cpl. Harper, K.R.R.C.
*Class "C" L.M.G. Pairs Match:*
Winners: Cpl. Gore, R.B., Rfn. Attwell, K.R.R.C.
*Class "A" L.M.G. Pairs Match:*
Second: Sgt. Airey, K.R.R.C., Sgt. McQuaid, R.B.

ALDERSHOT "30"

Cpl. Gore, R.B. Sgt. McQuaid, R.B. C./Sgt. Wood, K.R.R.C.

## Central Meeting, Bisley

In spite of poor weather conditions, the Depot team settled down and shot really well. Cpls. Gridley and Harper won the Worcester Cup for the Depot a second time with a very fine score 20 points for a post-war record with 738, and went on to win the Small Arms Cup the following day with another huge score.

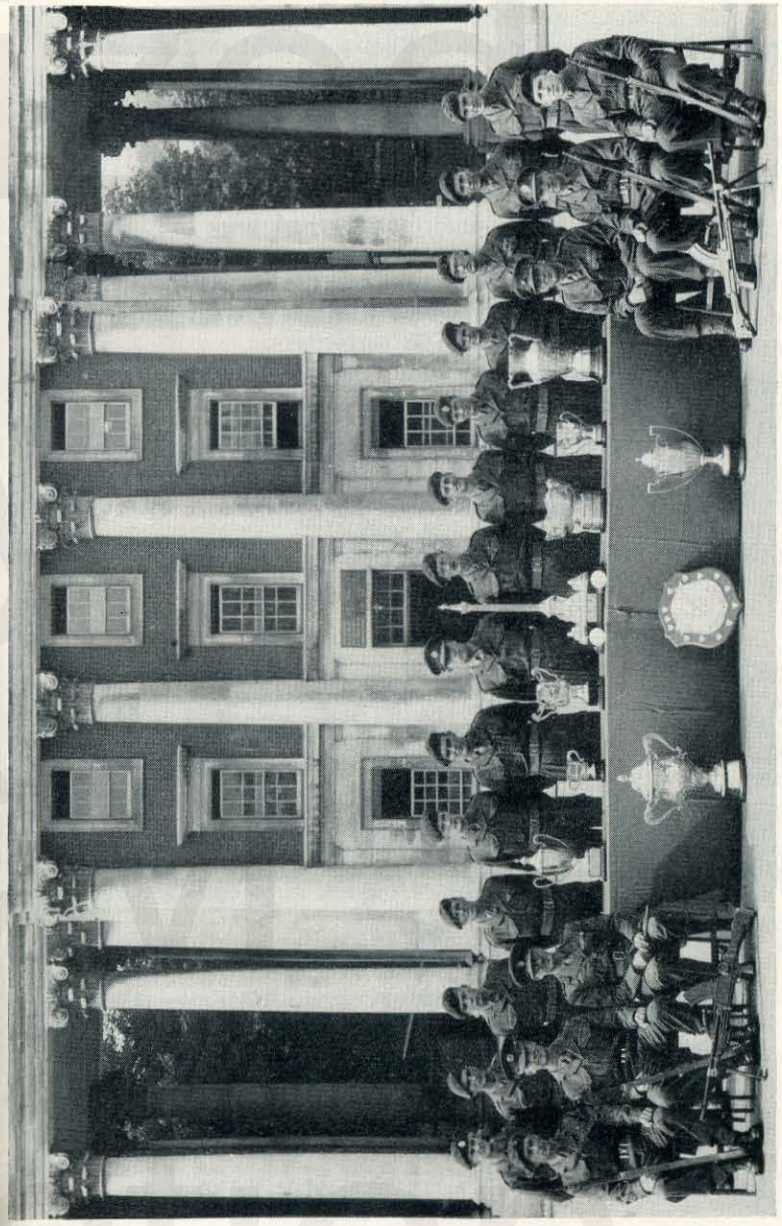
Finally, the full Green Jackets team, under the captaincy of Major Keeling, K.R.R.C., nearly succeeded in carrying off the Methuen Cup—last won by the Green Jackets in 1937—eventually coming 4th with a fine score of 1,312 behind two naval teams and the S.A.S.C.

TEAM EVENTS

*Britannia Trophy:* Winners
Team: Q.M.S.I. Timblick (Capt.), 2nd/Lieut. Petley, Sgt. Airey, Sgt. Solomon, Cpl. Gridley, Cpl. Adey, Cpl. Gore
*Small Arms Cup:* Winners
Team: Q.M.S.I. Timblick (Capt.), C./Sgt. Wood, Sgt. Airey, Sgt. Solomon, Sgt. McQuaid, Cpl. Gridley, Cpl. Harper, Cpl. Adey, Cpl. Gore
*Worcester Cup:* Winners: Cpl. Gridley, Cpl. Harper
*K.R.R.C. Cup:* Sixth
*Northampton Cup (Unit Rifle aggregate):* Fifth
*Eastern Command Cup (Unit L.M.G. aggregate):* Sixth
*Parachute Regiment Cup (S.M.C.):* Sixth

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

*Young Officers' Cup:* Second: 2nd/Lieut. Petley
*Roberts Cup Class "A":* Third: Sgt. Airey
*Army Championship:* Eleventh: Sgt. Airey



GREEN JACKETS DEPOT RIFLE TEAM
L/Cpl. Glazier, Cpl. Harper, L/Cpl. Balmer, Sgt. Solomon, Rfn. Attwell, Sgt. Cherry, 2/Lt. Wilson-Stephens, Cpl. Adye, Sgt. Sanderson
Cpl. Gore, Cpl. Lerwill, L/Cpl. Gooden, Cpl. Gridley, L/Cpl. Woodcock, C.S.M. Wood, Q.M.S. I. Timblick, Col. the Hon. M. F. Douglas.
Pennant, Capt. Molesworth St. Aubyn, 2/Lt. Petley, Sgt. Airey

## CRICKET

The cricket at the Depot was quite successful this season and we won 7, lost 4 and drew 1. It was such a wet season that there were not any outstanding scores, either by individuals or by the team as a whole. In the batting world, Cairns played well whenever he had an innings and Perrett had one or two good scores. Pettitt developed into a very useful all-rounder and Lawrence bowled well on occasions. Wardle-Fisk unfortunately had to leave half-way through the season.

We had several officers playing during the season and they all made useful contributions from time to time. Gerald Carter and James Antrobus were the steadiest performers.

In the Army Cup we were unfortunate to come up against a strong R.A.S.C. side at Aldershot and we were convincingly defeated by 75 runs.

The last match of the season was the most enjoyable of all, as it was played against the Dawson family side on Nick and Tim Dawson's 21st birthday. There was a convivial haze over the ground, but the Depot just managed to scrape home with a draw which was really a very satisfactory result and a delightful close to the season.

## BOXING

The Boxing at the Depot this season has been limited to one novices competition, and the District unit novices competitions. The interest in this sport seems to have increased greatly, and one or two very promising boxers have emerged. It is hoped that a competition will be run for every intake during the season.

The results of the two competitions are given below, and our thanks are due to S.S.I. Holyland and Cpl. Stevenson, R.B., for all their work and encouragement. (Figures in parentheses indicate platoons.)

1st Novices Competition

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bantam Weight: | Rfn. Step (4) | beat | Rfn. Mole (3). |
| Feather Weight: | Rfn. Phelps (3) | beat | Rfn. Knight (7). |
| Light Weight: | Rfn. Lowe (7) | beat | Rfn. Sliney (4). |
| Light Welter Weight: | Rfn. Willis (8) | beat | Rfn. Cotte (5). |
| Welter Weight: | Rfn. Thomas (8) | beat | Rfn. Hicks (2). |
| Light Middle Weight: | Rfn. Campling (7) | beat | Rfn. Bullock (1). |
| Middle Weight: | Rfn. Richardson (4) | beat | Rfn. Thorne (4). |
| Light Heavy Weight: | Rfn. Eadon (6) | beat | Rfn. Forbes (1). |
| Special Bout: | Rfn. Dodd (2) | beat | Rfn. Bartlett (R.B.). |
| Best Loser: | Rfn. Barber (5). | | |
| Winning Platoon: | No. 4 Platoon: Sgt. Marley, M.M., K.R.R.C.<br>2nd/Lieut. Antrobus, K.R.R.C. | | |



Aldershot District Inter-Unit Novices Boxing Competition

**Green Jackets Depot: 5—4 Trg. Bn. R.E.M.E.: 6**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bantam Weight: | Rfn. Williams | beat | L./Cpl. Hawkins. |
| Feather Weight: | Rfn. Rodgers | lost to | Pte. Hill. |
| Light Weight: | Rfn. Sliney | lost to | Pte. Walsh. |
| Light Welter Weight: | Rfn. Diggins | lost to | Cpl. Smylie. |
| | Rfn. Berwick | beat | Pte. McClymont. |
| Welter Weight: | Rfn. Belshaw | beat | Cpl. James. |
| | A./Cpl. Andrew | beat | Pte. Williams. |
| Light Middle Weight: | L./Cpl. Robinson | lost to | Cpl. Wilby. |
| Middle Weight: | Rfn. Della | beat | Cpl. Lumsden. |
| Light Heavy Weight: | Rfn. Cox | lost to | Cpl. Chadd. |
| Heavy Weight: | Rfn. Gorman | lost to | Cpl. James. |

## RUGBY

It is always difficult to raise a Depot fifteen but a number of matches were played last season. 2nd/Lieut. Antrobus was Rugby Officer from whom the Garrison Chaplain has nobly taken over for this present season. Reinforced with E. A. J. Fergusson, capped for Oxford and Scotland, the keenness of the team should be rewarded with more victories than in the past.

## SOCCER

The difficulty of fielding the same side each week has been to a great extent overcome by not drawing on Training Company at all, and so the Depot Football Team is made up entirely of Permanent Staff and the few who come through the Depot on draft or pending posting.

In the Army Cup, after winning the preliminary round, we lost 4-2 to 5th Trg. Company, R.E.M.E. Also we are playing in the Southampton Wednesday League, the Hants. Midweek Cup, and the Travers Cup.

League results so far are promising, and if we can find good replacements for players leaving in the New Year, we may find ourselves in the running for first place at the end of the season. Results to date show that, out of the 7 games played, we have won 6 and drawn 1, scoring 53 goals against 12—a very high average, but we have not yet met one of the leading teams.

Our strength has been in the forward line, ably backed by sound halves.

Rfn. Hoy is with us again this year on the left wing, and is high among the goal scorers. Cpl. Graham (R.B. Band) has now gone,

but his and Pte. Perrott's (A.C.C.) places are well filled by A./Cpl. Bailey and Rfn. Brown. A./Cpl. Bennett, whose head always seems to be in the right place, leads the attack with Cpl. Graybourn on his left. L./Cpl. Cook and Sgt. Solomons share the captaincy and the latter is now playing more often and holds the team together well. Rfn. Britton is a strong half-back and has played some good games. L./Cpl. Wilkinson, keeping goal for the first time this season, improves with every game.

The first round of the Hants. Midweek Cup has just been played —the Depot winning 12-0!

Much credit goes to C.S.M. Reilly, whose hard work is bringing deserved reward—perhaps he was right on learning that the Depot one week had won 15-0 when he said we should have had 7 more!

## ATHLETICS

Both Headquarters and Training Companies held their own Company Athletics Meeting before the Depot Meeting on Sunday, 30th May.

The Depot was divided into six teams—four from Training Company, two from Headquarter Company. The weather was kind and an amusing day was had by all—a Training Company team narrowly defeating another Training Company team for first place.

The high-light of the afternoon was when R.S.M. Starkey won the Old Soldiers' Race against a strong field, narrowly defeating Colonel Boileau. This was a hard and gruelling race, as a result of which, we are sorry to relate, Major J. F. C. Mellor retired to hospital for an operation, and at least one other officer and two C.S.Ms. were quite unable to march at rifle pace for some considerable time.

The Depot entered a team for the Solent Garrison Sports Meeting on 29th and 30th June. Last year we did not compete with much distinction there, but this year we made up for it: the Depot finished third out of ten teams, and were runners up in the Tug-o'-war. We had strong sprinters and won both the 4 × 110 yds. and the 4 × 220 yds.—the latter by 50 yds. This was a most satisfying result, as very little training was feasible, due to the difficulty of making recruits available.



# 1st BATTALION THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS

## LIST OF OFFICERS

### 1st November, 1953, to 31st October, 1954

Lieut.-Col. R. F. L. Chance, M.C.
Major H. R. G. Howard (2nd in Command)
Major R. H. Keeling, M.B.E. (Quartermaster)
Major E. G. B. Davies-Scourfield, M.B.E., M.C.
Major H. R. W. Vernon, M.B.E.
Major H. A. Hope, M.C.
T./Major G. H. Mills
Major C. S. Madden
T./Major E. C. Phillips, M.C.
Major R. C. Gibbs, D.S.O., M.C.
Capt. R. M. Parker (Adjutant)
Capt. G. R. Seymour
Capt. F. N. Voysey (Quartermaster)
Capt. J. C. Slater
Capt. E. B. Taylor
Capt. T. N. Thistlethwayte
Capt. T. E. St. Aubyn
Capt. N. J. Warry, M.C.
T./Captain R. H. Underhill
Lieut. R. F. Cavendish
Lieut. M. J. Calvert
Lieut. C. G. N. Campbell
Lieut. M. B. L. Fuller
Lieut. P. E. Willis Fleming
2nd/Lieut. A. G. Tait*
2nd/Lieut. R. V. Buxton*
2nd/Lieut. J. B. Pirie
2nd/Lieut. P. F. Barbour
2nd/Lieut. J. B. DeSalis
2nd/Lieut. J. C. Seymour*
2nd/Lieut. R. M. A. Colman*
2nd/Lieut. M. D. Chataway*
2nd/Lieut. J. H. G. Lywood*
2nd/Lieut. J. W. B. Halsey*
2nd/Lieut. C. J. Holroyd
2nd/Lieut. R. D. Carver
2nd/Lieut. M. J. K. Miller
2nd/Lieut. The Hon. J. P. F. St. L. Grenfell

* National Service Officers released during the year.

ATTACHED OFFICERS

Lieut. C. I. Woolf . . . . . R.A.M.C.
Lieut. R. F. Heys . . . . . R.A.M.C.
Capt. C. D. Chadwick . . . . . R.E.M.E.

## THIRD YEAR IN SENNELAGER

This year brought a great number of changes, particularly among the Company Commanders who came out with the Battalion. There was in fact a one hundred per cent. change over during the year; perhaps the inevitable penalty with p.s.c. officers.

After many years as doyen of the Quartermasters, Bob Keeling went to the quieter atmosphere of the Q.V.R. and Fred Voysey arrived to take his place.

Giles Mills and Gris Davies-Scourfield exchanged one part of Germany for another on relinquishing Company Commander for staff jobs.

Hugh Hope and Dick Vernon were posted farther afield; the former to Kenya to reinforce the Green Jackets contingent already

hunting Mau Mau; the latter to the Middle East, thus adding one supporter to the policy of evacuating the Canal Zone.

Charles Madden, Roly Gibbs, Teddy Phillips and Nick Warry were welcomed to the fold of regimental soldiering from various staff or E.R.E. appointments.

After a mild early winter, the big freeze hit this part of Germany to the tune of degrees of frost in the twenties by night and only fewer degrees less by day.

A practice Alarm scheme starting at 4.0 a.m. unfortunately chose the coldest day of the lot which gave the M.T. staff a few problems on heat, light and power not normally covered by the school text books. The C.O. is still grumbling about having to pay for a thermometer which froze up in the anti-freeze mixture.

Over the year the strength of the Battalion steadily increased until it will by Christmas be over 800 strong. One wishes there could be an equal trend in the officer strength.

We have been fortunate in having both Colonels Commandant to visit us this year, Lieut.-General Euan Miller officially for the first time of which an account is given elsewhere, and General "Bubbles" Barker, who during the twenty-four hours he was with us played four chukkers of polo, dined in the Mess, lost at "liar dice", helped drink two bottles of champagne at 2.0 a.m. and visited the Sergeants' Mess.

**Training**

1954 was perhaps one of the busiest training years we have yet had in B.A.O.R. Schemes and exercises followed each other with bewildering rapidity. While we never in fact found ourselves taking part in two different schemes at the same time, the Orderly Room and Q.M. Staff dealing with the "paper" end nevertheless at times had their doubts. Plaintive cries were also heard from the "cabbage patch" where the wives reckoned that the Battalion was likely to be out of barracks for some ninety-four days in the five-month period from May to September. Two periods were spent at Reinsehlen this year, during the second of which the Colonel Commandant paid us a visit.

Companies trained with their affiliated armoured regiments:

"A" Company with 3 R. Tks.
"C" Company with IX Lancers.
"D" Company with 8 R. Tks.

culminating in an interesting Armd. Regt./Motor Company exercise for each group which was repeated three times against a scratch



force commanded by Battalion H.Q., who were allowed a considerable latitude in the matter of cheating and, to the surprise of the enemy, were always in the right place at the right time.

In such a wet year the training areas became morasses and the farmers suffered more than usual; there were, however, stories of carriers and tanks being invited by the shrewder farmers to churn up the worst looking fields as they hoped that the compensation value would enable them to recover some of their losses.

The visit of H.R.H. Princess Margaret kept us employed with practices for the parade in her honour during the short period before Divisional Exercises were due to start. These latter, however, had to be cancelled due to the late harvest and the liability for enormous damage claims that would have ensued. As we were due to be umpires we were not too heartbroken.

Then came Battle Royal, advertised in the Press with all the blurb usually associated with an epic film. The whole division was detailed to act as umpires, the Battalion umpiring the Guards Brigade in 2 Div. There were endless briefings and conferences before moving out to try and ensure suitable liaison between the umpires of the different nationalities.

Although we were unfortunately not able to take an "operational" roll in this exercise, we were able to gain considerable benefit by seeing how other units "did their stuff" and criticise from the touch line. Some of the Riflemen with the Battalion H.Q. umpire organisation were not best pleased, however, when they found themselves being constantly arrested and marched off for interrogation as suspected spies by the unit we were umpiring; one of them being the C.O.'s batman, complete with early morning tea and shaving water.

The "Continental" system of umpiring, employed by "Southland" (but not by "Northland") whereby local battles are decided mainly on a simple mathematical sum as to which side had the most men rather than the tactical manoeuvre employed caused a certain amount of controversy between opposing umpires (a mixture of Dutch, Flemish, French and English is not the best medium for linguistic argument), but in the end a suitable decision was reached either by the opposing troops coming to blows while the umpires argued or else by a chivalrous withdrawal of one force. The ideal was perhaps achieved by one continental unit who retired to sleep some miles away from their position leaving their umpire suitably briefed to represent them on the ground. In all a most

useful season's training. The value of the three-year engagement was particularly felt in that there were quite a large percentage of men doing their second season's training and, a few, their third. The provision of specialists is thereby considerably eased and the standard of training consequently improved. As one "old stager" (three-year engagement) was heard saying contemptuously to a National Serviceman: "I've spent more time waiting in N.A.A.F.I. queues than you've had in the Army."

**Visit of Colonel Commandant**

On 22nd July the Battalion was visited by their newly-appointed Colonel Commandant, Lieut.-General Sir Euan Miller. It was unfortunate that his visit could only be arranged at a time when we were out in camp at Reinsehlen, since very little could be laid on to welcome him. However, we were able to have the Battalion with their vehicles on parade together, which the Colonel Commandant inspected, followed by a "drive past". Fortunately the remainder of the Brigade were prepared to accept a complete disruption of the camp traffic circuit to enable us to do this.

The Colonel Commandant was able later to speak to a number of Riflemen individually, which was greatly appreciated. Following the taking of the usual group photographs the Colonel Commandant and Commanding officer took luncheon in the Sergeants' Mess, where the meal and entertainment were of the usual high standard.

In the afternoon, with the assistance of one of our affiliated R.T.R. Regiments, "C" Company under Major Vernon produced a simple demonstration of Infantry/Tank co-operation in the attack which the Colonel Commandant followed in one of the new Saracen vehicles which we have on trial. Considering that no Rifleman taking part had been able to rehearse the demonstration previously, it was satisfactory, from the C.O.'s point of view, to see how well they performed.

Following a small sherry party to which officers of affiliated units in the Brigade were asked, the day finished with dinner in the Mess to which those from Sennelager rear party had come up.

We were all most appreciative of this visit which the Colonel Commandant had arranged to fit in amongst his other numerous travels, especially his willingness to spend two nights in the camp with us. To those who know Reinsehlen in the rain it is hardly the spot where one is likely to see a Battalion at its smartest. However,

COLONEL COMMANDANT'S INSPECTION, REINSEHLEN CAMP, 22nd JULY, 1954
Infantry/Tank Assault

COLONEL COMMANDANT'S INSPECTION
"O" Group for Company/Sqn. demonstration attack
"C" Coy 1 K.R.R.C.
"B" Sqn. 8 R.T.R.
*Left to right:* Major Vernon, C.S.M. Robbins, 2/Lts. Coulman, Carver, Willis-Fleming, Lt. Cavendish, Lt.-Col. Chance, Major Gibbs, Colonel Commandant Major Howard

Lt.-Gen. Sir Euan Miller, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Col. Commandant 1st K.R.R.C., on the Saluting Base at Reinsehlen Camp on his first inspection of the 1st Battalion

the weather was kind on the 22nd and we hoped that the Colonel Commandant had enjoyed his visit as much as we had.

**Social Events**

Christmas came with all its attendant festivities. All the children's parties had to be cancelled owing to an outbreak of one of the many childish plagues; instead Father Christmas went round on Christmas Eve with their presents. He proved so popular in this role that it will be done again this year, and the Pioneers are already fitting a jeep with reindeer.

The vehicle carnival was a great success and won by "D" Company who represented one of the booths at 'Appy 'Ampstead and as a side line managed to swell the coffers of their Company fund. That the Technical Adjutant should go on leave over Christmas has now



become an institution, as what the Eye doesn't see the heart won't grieve over.

Christmas dinners came and went and, like all other sporting events, records are made only to be broken; there is always some gallant fellow who will improve on the previous year's best in the number of helpings he can consume.

Colin Campbell organised and ran a most successful Christmas concert, even if the censor did have to work overtime before rehearsals could start.

The W.V.S., under the benevolent despotism of Miss Margaret Smith, who unfortunately left us later in the year, did their usual wonders in entertaining the men over this period. They are an indispensable adjunct to the life of a Battalion and we owe them a lot of thanks.

**H.R.H. Princess Margaret's Visit**

H.R.H. Princess Margaret inspected part of 11 Armoured Division on her visit to Germany. A composite Brigade Group paraded for her inspection. "A" and "C" Companies paraded with their respective Armoured Regiments. The parade was most impressive, particularly the drive past of the Armoured Brigade. Unfortunately the day was typical of this summer being cold and with driving rain, though it cleared up sufficiently for Princess Margaret to drive round the parade in an open jeep.

## GREEN JACKET RACE MEETING, 1954

April brought us round once again to the Green Jacket Race Meeting. Unfortunately the Rifle Brigade were no longer in Germany to make it a fully representative Green Jacket meeting. They were sadly missed.

The changing conditions of life in Germany had brought with it a ban on hunting. It was therefore decided by the B.A.O.R. Racing Committee that point-to-points could no longer be allowed, as with no hunting it was no longer possible to fulfil the conditions laid down for qualifications to race in point-to-point meetings.

For a period things looked black for the Green Jacket Meeting. Eventually a compromise was reached by which Regiments were allowed to sponsor certain B.A.O.R. Meetings and include in them their own regimental races.

The Green Jackets were allotted the first meeting at Lippspringe on 10th April. We had been the original constructors of the course for the 1953 Point-to-Point.

We were lucky with the weather and, though it was not summery as the previous year, it was bright and fine. There were large crowds attending and the two Battalions entertained over 500 people for lunch in the Green Jacket tent. Many thanks are due to Edward Taylor and the staff from both Battalions who worked so hard to make the tent such a success.

In order to make a better race of it the Regimental Race was restricted to Class III racehorses and below. It being the intention to run another race later in the season for the Lightweight Cup. This materialised and was run at Lippspringe on 5th September as part of the Mounted Infantry Race; it was a Handicap Hurdle and was won by Peter Parker on Village King.

For the Green Jacket Race on 10th April, however, ten runners went down to the start. For a regimental race, when so often the well-known star performers finish a distance in front of the rest of the field, this can truly be said to have been a thrilling race. Raymond Seymour's King Harold, ridden by Tommy St. Aubyn, finished a length in front of Tony Hunter's Squirt (owner up) with, third, the 1st Battalion's Jimmy, ridden by Noel Thistlethwayte, 3 lengths behind. Jeremy Lywood was fourth on the 1st Battalion's Sandy and so won the Kennedy Cup for the first subaltern past the post. It was a popular victory as Raymond Seymour has done much for the Battalion riding in every way and devoted all his time and energy to furthering this sport, running classes in the evening for beginners and growing mushrooms in the Mess cellars to help finance the equitation fund.

There was an amusing little comedy in the betting on King Harold. Mike Fuller found himself in the wrong queue at the Tote and to his horror found himself committed to a large bet on King Harold. For once in his life he was overcome by bashfulness and was too shy to beat a retreat under the eyes of the beautiful girl he was escorting. Some people have ALL the luck.

We followed up the Race Meeting with a dance in the Mess on the following night.

## SHOOTING

The Non Central Matches for the year ending 30th November, 1953, were not an unqualified success, the only cup which the Battalion won being the Sniper's Cup. Results were as follows:



| | |
|---|---|
| Queen Victoria Trophy | 3rd |
| King George V Cup | 4th |
| The Royal Irish | 3rd |
| The Young Soldiers | 4th |
| The Hopton Cup | 6th (10 pl.) |
| 1st Army Cup | 7th |
| The Company Shield | 2nd: A Coy.<br>5th: H.Q. Coy.<br>6th: D Coy. |

"C" Company would have been 4th but were disqualified through no fault of their own. This year we are hoping for much better things from the Non-Central Matches.

During the winter the Battalion were 2nd in the divisional ·22 league and so qualified for the second stage of the Rhine Army Championship.

The Battalion classified in March, with a further period for Casuals in October. This resulted in:

| | *Fired* | *Marksmen* | *1st Class* | *2nd Class* | *Failed* | *Average* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rifle | 470 | 26 | 133 | 232 | 79 | 95.3 |
| L.M.G. | 454 | 10 | 115 | 231 | 98 | 147.2 |

### The Rhine Army Meeting

We were third in the Rhine Army Shield, which the 2nd Battalion won easily. The teams with their placings are given below:

| | |
|---|---|
| *Officers Team Match* | 3rd |
| *W.Os. and Sgts.* | 1st |
| *Young Soldiers* | 4th |
| *Cpls. Team* | 8th |
| *Sten Gun Match* | 14th |
| *Bren Gun Pairs* | 8th |

This was a bitter disappointment as our best pair were forced to reshoot owing to their neighbours firing on their target. In the re-shoot they had a bad stoppage which cost us first place.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Inter Unit Tile Shoot* | 1st |

Rfn. Batt won the Individual Young Soldiers Championship after a tie with Rfn. Goswell, 2nd Battalion K.R.R.C. He had to shoot off watched by large crowds of Generals and competitors. After a poor start with both competitors rather nervous the shooting improved and a really fine snap by Batt secured him the Championship.

### Bisley

We took a good all round team to Bisley this year but, with no one outstanding and our Class A consisting of steady rather than brilliant shots, we expected nothing more than moderate success. We knew the Rifle Brigade would be exceptionally good and R.E.M.E., with

most of their big guns concentrated in their 4 Training Battalion, were quite confident.

The meeting started with the Falling Plates, the R.U.R. Cup. Our "A" team unluckily drew 4 Training R.E.M.E. in the first round but just beat them in by far the fastest time and most exciting match of the round. Possibly too confident we then had a bad run and were beaten. The Rifle Brigade, however, carried on the Green Jackets flag, beating Pendine in the semi final and Hythe in the final with quite exceptionally fast times. The meeting continued in much the same trend and except for L./Cpl. Lyon and Rfn. Phipps, a most reliable pair who became the Champion Young Soldiers L.M.G. pair, we had to be content with seconds and thirds. Major Madden, C.S.M. Price and L./Cpl. Blades reached the Army 100, but our main strength undoubtedly lay with the Corporals and Young Soldiers. Cpl. Osbaldeston, L./Cpl. Blades and L./Cpl. Foster being a fine spearhead for the former, while L./Cpl. Lyon, Rfn. Batt and Bevies were the best of the latter. In the Unit Championship we came 4th, just two points behind the 2nd Battalion and three behind 4 Training Battalion R.E.M.E.

The meeting was essentially a Green Jackets success; our teams winning every team match on the Rifle and the L.M.G. for which we could enter and also filling 2nd and 3rd places in the majority.

**"Strafer" Gott Memorial Trophy**

The balance of the "Strafer" Gott Memorial Fund was given to the Battalion to provide a suitable trophy. It was decided to institute a Trophy named after "Strafer" for the best shot in the Battalion. This will be competed for at the Battalion Rifle Meeting whenever it is possible to hold one. This year it was shot off on October 30th, 1954, under the following conditions:

> "Classification Scores on the Rifle and L.M.G. to which were added the scores of three practices based on the King George and Royal Irish conditions. No one could compete who had not been at least a first-class shot on Rifle and Bren during classification."

The first winner was C.S.M. G. Hallett, the Weapon Training W.O. Second was Rfn. Cooney of "A" Company. The shoot off under King George conditions soon developed into a duel between Hallett and Cooney. Hallett started with a lead of 14 points on the classification scores. This was gradually whittled down, but though Cooney scored the really magnificent score of 135, he was unable to shake such an experienced competitor as the Weapon Training W.O.

THE "STRAFER" GOTT MEMORIAL TROPHY
Presented to 1st Bn. in memory of Lt.Gen. "Strafer" Gott

C.S.M. G. HALLETT
First Winner of the "Strafer" Gott Trophy, 1954

## SPORTS

The Champion Company Shield was re-introduced this year. The favourites, "C" Company, were always slightly in the lead and towards the end of the year pulled away to win by 9½ points.

"H.Q." and "D" Company battled hard for second place, which eventually went to "D" Company by 1½ points. A lot of interest has been raised in the Shield and its re-introduction has done much to foster a greater sporting rivalry between the companies.

**Boxing**

The Boxing season opened in October with an individual novices competition. This produced an entry of 75 contestants, varying from skilful, with some civilian experience, down through the enthusiastic to the Company Sergeant Major's volunteer ("You'll be worth a point to the Company, me boy"). As it so happened the fights turned out to be very evenly matched throughout and produced not only some very good boxing but also a good proportion of talent.

Although run as a straightforward individual competition, points were also scored for entries, and wins by Companies, which resulted in a narrow win for "D" Company over "C" Company.

Following the Novices the inter-company team championship was held in November. This resulted in a win for "C" Company who defeated "D" Company in the final by 7 fights to 4.

"C" Company team was comprised as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Bantam | Rfn. Stevens |
| Feather | L./Cpl. Burroughs |
| Light | Rfn. Anderson |
| Light Welter—1st String | Rfn. Davies |
| —2nd String | Rfn. Ward |
| Welter—1st String | Rfn. Russel |
| —2nd String | Rfn. McKay |
| Light Middle | Rfn. Barnes |
| Middle | L./Cpl. Rouse |
| Light Heavy | Rfn. Osborne |
| Heavy | L./Cpl. Brookes |

From the above matches we were then able to pick and begin training under C./Sgt. Day and Sgt. Mitchell our team for the Inter Unit Championship.

Having drawn a bye in the first round our first match in the Brigade championships was against 8 R. Tks. whom we defeated by 7 fights to 4.

This brought us to the Brigade finals and on 17th December we fought and beat the IX Lancers by 8 fights to 3.

In the semi finals of the 11 Armd. Div. Championship we had a hard struggle to defeat 53 L.A.A. Regt. Our team seemed to be off form on that night and it was only by the convincing win by Rfn. Russell ("C" Company) the first string Welter in the deciding fight of the evening that we managed to pull it off—each side having gained 15 points.

Our team, however, found its form again on the night of the Divisional finals against 1st Battalion South Wales Borderers and in a very close and exciting match we won six fights to their five and took away with us the shield as Divisional Champions.

It is felt that a great contributing factor to these successes was the large turn out of supporters for the Battalion, who on "away" matches by both constitutional and unconstitutional means managed to get themselves to the appropriate rendezvous at the right moment. It was fortunate indeed that the activities of various driving cadres, signal exercises and so forth appeared to coincide in time and space with the "venue" of the boxing, though various officers of high rank were sometimes a little surprised to find themselves arriving at the gymnasium escorted apparently by half tracks and scout carriers crammed to capacity, occupied, so they were told, "on night driving instruction, sir".

Having heard that the 2nd Battalion (whom we had defeated in a friendly last year) had won the 6 Armd. Divisional Championships we were hoping that with the luck of the draw we might avoid meeting



them until both teams reached the B.A.O.R. finals. Unfortunately this was not to be, since we were drawn against them in the quarter finals. This match took place in the 1st Battalion barracks at Sennelager on 25th February, 1954, amid scenes of great vocal enthusiasm since the 2nd Battalion had also managed to bring down a vast contingent of supporters.

After a great evening's fighting (which fortunately did not continue in the N.A.A.F.I. afterwards) the 2nd Battalion proved too good a team for us and they won by seven fights to four.

This year both teams were considerably stronger than in 1953 and in addition the 2nd Battalion were very fortunate in having an experienced and skilled trainer on their staff from the A.P.T.C. Both teams were extremely fit, and it was very apparent that the winners would stand a good chance of reaching the B.A.O.R. and Army Finals.

Although the 2nd Battalion gained their revenge and avenged their defeat in 1953, by winning the 1954 contest by 7 fights to 4, they were not allowed an easy victory. Throughout the evening we saw many hard fought and extremely clean fights, and the 2nd Battalion are to be congratulated on their victory and also in reaching the Army Finals.

Our Battalion team was as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Bantam | Rfn. Jayes |
| Feather | Rfn. Anderson |
| Light | Rfn. Bradstreet |
| Light Welter | Rfn. Ward (1st string) |
| | Rfn. Faunch (2nd string) |
| Welter | Rfn. Russel (1st string) |
| | Cpl. Hicks (2nd string) |
| Light Middle | Rfn. Rawlings |
| Middle | L./Cpl. Rouse |
| Light Heavy | L./Cpl. Willis |
| Heavy | Rfn. Brooks |

It is impossible to single out the merits of individual boxers, but what can be said is that both teams fought extremely hard and well, and where, in a few cases, experience and skill was lacking, this was adequately overcome by guts and determination.

Amongst the others who boxed for the Battalion during the season were:

Rfn. Yearly, Rfn. Rawling, Cpl. McCarthy, Rfn. Osborne and Rfn. Hawes, who did much to contribute toward the success of the team.

Special mention must be made of Rfn. Russel, who throughout the season proved to be the mainstay and inspiration of the team. He entered for the B.A.O.R. Individuals as a Light Welter, and became

B.A.O.R. champion with apparently little difficulty. In the Army Individuals contest which was held in U.K., he fought his way into the Finals, only to be narrowly beaten on points by a boxer of far greater experience. He was, however, selected to represent the I.S.B.A. as a reserve, which, for so young a boxer, was a high and well-deserved honour.

In conclusion, it has been a season of great success, the Battalion Team having won the Brigade and Divisional Shields. It was a shame that we should have been drawn against the 2nd Battalion so early in the contest. It was secretly hoped that the B.A.O.R. Finals might have been a 60th benefit!

Many thanks must be expressed for the hard work put in by C./Sgt. Day and Sgt. Mitchell in training the team, and Q.M.S.I. Lumley for organising and ensuring the smooth running of all the contests.

**Football**

The 1953/54 season could not be described as a success. It was realised early on that it was better to concentrate on team building. R.S.M. Garside took over the team and under his management a great improvement was noticed. The final record of 6 wins, 3 draws and 8 losses was not impressive, but in view of the late season improvement it gave us hope for the future.

The Company league resulted in a tie between "A" and "H.Q." Companies; "C" Company 3rd; "D" Company 4th.

The 1954/55 season opened with great hopes and with some good talent in the new drafts including a young professional, Rfn. Pope, from Crystal Palace. We entered for the Army Cup after a lapse of two years. Unfortunately we drew IX L. in the first round who were last year's B.A.O.R. Champions. They defeated us 5-1, but it was not until half way through the second half that they proved themselves without doubt the better team. A half time score of 1-1 had given us hopes of indulging in a little giant-killing.

**Athletics**

The Battalion meeting was held early in May, luckily for once a fine sunny day. Individual times were not very good due to the track being grass and in some parts rather rough.

The final company placings and individual results were:

COY SHIELD

| | |
|---|---|
| H.Q. Company | 1st |
| "A" Company | 2nd |
| "C" Company | 3rd |
| "D" Company | 4th |
| "B" Company | 5th |

1ST BN. ATHLETICS MEETING
200 Metres. Winner: L/Cpl. Howe (also Victor Ludorum)

1ST BN. ATHLETICS MEETING
400 Metres Relay. *Left to right:* Rfn. Ward, Lt. Campbell, 2nd/Lt. Pirie

This was a very sporting effort by "B" Company, the Training Company, who at the time of the Athletics meeting had a total strength of only about 20 all ranks.

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 100 metres | 2nd/Lieut. Pirie | "A" |
| 200 metres | L./Cpl. Howe | "H.Q." |
| 400 metres | Rfn. Ward | "C" |
| 800 metres | Capt. Thistlethwayte | "H.Q." |
| 1,500 metres | Cpl. Mills | "H.Q." |
| 800 metres | Rfn. Lainsbury | "H.Q." |
| 100 metres Hurdles | Rfn. Harris | "A" |
| Long Jump | Cpl. Newton | "H.Q." |
| High Jump | T.Q.M.S. Harvey | "H.Q." |
| Javelin | Rfn. McTear | "D" |
| Pole Vault | 2nd/Lieut. Carver | "C" |
| Discus | L./Cpl. Howe | "H.Q." |
| Hammer | Rfn. Hutchinson | "A" |
| Shot | Rfn. Hutchinson | "A" |

L./Cpl. Howe was Victor Ludorum, beating Cpl. Newman, last year's winner, by 2 points. Unfortunately he was away on a Band tour for the Brigade meeting and the Divisional Individual competition.

There were a number of other events. The veterans' race was won by the Q.M., Captain Voysey. In future years it has been decided to have a photo-start as opposed to a photo-finish for this event. Despite a yard start for each year's service, the older the competitor is the more he considers he is entitled to beat the gun and gain a further start over the less elderly runners.

The children's race was divided into two parts—over and under 8. The over 8s have already been inculcated with the British sporting spirit of losing generously and ran like little ladies and gentlemen. The under 8s, however, lured on by Cpl. Mills standing behind a table laden with sweets, showed a will to win which would have delighted the hearts of all the sporting writers who decry our national lack of this spirit.

The Cook Sgt. provided tea for all the families, which was much appreciated and came up to his usual high standard at such functions.

In the Brigade Athletics meeting the Battalion came second to 3 R. Tks. by a considerable margin. We did best in the Field Events, particularly the pole-vault with 2nd/Lieut. Carver as first string and in putting the shot where Rfn. Hutchinson excelled himself.



The following entered for the Divisional Individual Athletics:

| | |
|---|---|
| 400 metres | Rfn. Ward, "C", who came 3rd |
| 800 metres | Rfn. Howard, "H.Q.", who came 2nd |
| 1,500 metres | Cpl. Mills, unplaced |
| Pole Vault | 2nd/Lieut. Carver, who came 3rd |
| Putting the Shot | Rfn. Hutchinson, who came 3rd |
| Throwing the Javelin | Rfn. McTear and Hutson |

The standard of the winners at this meeting was high and our representatives did well in face of strong opposition.

## Swimming

The weather this summer was as unfavourable for swimming as for other summer sports. In B.A.O.R. time for training is hard to find in between exercises, camps, etc.

This was the first year the Battalion made a serious attempt in the swimming world and can look back with satisfaction on a good start. There was a lot of keenness and enthusiasm shown by Sgt. Prickett and Rfn. Cantwell.

The Battalion Swimming Gala eventually took place in spite of the setback of finding the bath we had booked empty. It had developed a fault and drained out overnight. This caused a postponement, but in view of the cold of the original day the swimmers were not sorry.

INTER COMPANY RESULTS:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st | "D" Company |
| 2nd | "C" Company |
| 3rd | "B" Company |
| 4th | "H.Q." Company |
| 5th | "A" Company |

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1,500 metres | Rfn. Cantwell |
| 400 metres | Rfn. Cantwell |
| 200 metres | Rfn. Daniels |
| 100 metres Free Style | Rfn. Barnes |
| 100 metres Butterfly | Rfn. Gibson |
| 100 metres Breast | Capt. Parker |
| 100 metres Backstroke | Rfn. Reynolds |
| 50 metres Free Style | Rfn. Cantwell |
| Diving: 1 metre | Sgt. Prickett |
| 3 metres | Sgt. Prickett |

We were equal second with 3 R. Tks. in the Brigade Swimming but gained the place to go forward to the Divisional level as we beat them in the $6 \times 50$ metres free style. This was a good effort as several of our best swimmers were away.

Sgt. Prickett won the diving and Rfn. Alsop was 2nd. Rfn. Alsop, due to a head accident, was unable to compete in the divisional diving.

We were again beaten in the Divisional Swimming by 8 R. Tks. who had won the Brigade meeting and, but for an unfortunate disqualification, would have pushed them very hard. In the long medley relay race, which we won by over 2 lengths, we were disqualified because one swimmer took off a foot too soon at the hand-over. Unfortunate, but understandable in the excitement, as it dropped us from 2nd to 3rd place.

In the divisional individual meeting Rfn. Cantwell won the 1,500 and 400 metres free style and was second in the back stroke. Sgt. Prickett was second in the diving and so they both qualified for the B.A.O.R. Championship; in this Cantwell won the 1,500 and 400 metres easily and Prickett was 3rd in the 1 metre and 4th in the 5 metre diving.

Rfn. Cantwell went to England to swim in the Army Championships and came 3rd in the mile and 4th in the 440 yards.

**Cross Country Running**

In spite of a late start this year the Battalion Team did well to take 3rd place in the Brigade Championships against fierce competition including the 9th Lancers who had an outstandingly good team.

The Inter-Company competition was closely contested and eventually won by "C" Company, largely due to the excellent coaching of Sgt. Coram who later took on the training of the Battalion Team.

Rfn. Lansbury, "H.Q." Company, was selected to run in the Brigade Team at Berlin but was unfortunately away for the Brigade Championships in February. Other individuals who ran consistently well this season were 2nd/Lieut. Barbour who was the individual winner of the Battalion Championships and 4th in the Brigade run, and Rfn. Nolan of "A" Company who was well to the fore in all the major events. All the races were run in appallingly cold weather.

**Polo**

For the first time since 1939 the Battalion was able to get together a Regimental Polo Team and to take part in the Inter-Regimental. We were lucky in that the local Polo Club moved to Bad Lippspringe, virtually on our doorstep, and the club ponies were stabled alongside our own stables. Some eleven officers started off the season, but except for five regular players, the remainder, all beginners, gave up for the rival (and considerably less expensive) attractions of show jumping and racing. Indeed, the amount of soldiering that intervenes to disrupt more congenial occupations in modern days makes it virtually impracticable to find time to concentrate on more than one activity,

1ST BN. POLO TEAM

*Left to right:* Lt.-Col. Ronnie Chance (Back), Roly Gibbs (3), Teddy Phillips (2), Tommy St. Aubyn (1)

certainly for the young officer with limited means, especially when polo, racing and show jumping—due to the constricted time available, are often liable to take place on the same days.

However we were lucky to have five players in Chance, Gibbs, Phillips, Vernon and St. Aubyn in the Battalion, all of whom had played before—though none by any means expert.

Nevertheless our Battalion team of Chance at back, Gibbs No. 3, Phillips No. 2 and St. Aubyn No. 1 showed sufficient form in practice to make the Cavalry Regiments uneasy as to the outcome of the Inter-Regimental in B.A.O.R. That we did not do better is entirely our own fault, tempered perhaps by lack of experience in tournament play. We should have, at least, reached the final—if not won.

A resume of the two matches played is given below:

1st round *versus* 3rd Hussars—K.R.R.C.: 11 goals
3 H.: 0 goals

This was a scrappy game, due mainly to the weakness of 3rd Hussars team which slowed the game down and resulted in a lot of bunching and melees in the first two chukkers. Equally our own lack of accuracy in front of their goal resulted in too many hits out from behind. However the game opened up in the last two chukkers, when we settled

down and started scoring the majority of our goals. Although the game was so much in our favour, it was of great value to us as a team and showed that proper marking and less "ball-chasing" pays dividends.

2nd round *versus* 9 Lancers—K.R.R.C.: 4 goals
9 L.: 6 goals

This was a most excellent match, fast and open, and one that we should have won. From the throw in 9 Lancers scored a good goal immediately, but almost straight away Chance equalised following a run up by Gibbs. We continued to press strongly and two more goals were added by Phillips and St. Aubyn. Thus, at the end of the first chukker, we were leading 3-1 and playing well together as a team, St. Aubyn marking particularly well on his small pony against the 9 Lancers "heavyweight" at back.

The second chukker was very fast and even, though we still pressed and had the best of the game. We were unlucky in this chukker in that a good long shot by Gibbs just went wide, and we failed to score from a 60 penalty, whereas a weak shot at our goal by our opponents lodged right under the post and could not be cleared before it was forced through.

In the third chukker the 9 Lancers suddenly came on to form and started to press, and scored two good goals early on. It was here that our lack of experience told since we became ragged in marking and individuals too much concerned with hitting at the ball to the detriment of tactics. The end of this chukker thus left us one goal down with the score 4-3 in their favour.

The fourth chukker was a repetition of the third. Over keenness, particularly by Phillips, to get possession of the ball and start an attacking movement left their No. 3 unmarked too often and this resulted in another goal against us from a good long shot 80 yards out at an angle. Gibbs retaliated with a goal soon afterwards, but by then we had lost our co-ordination and did not follow up our attacking movements. Just before the final bell we again let their forwards through and Chance was not in position to prevent another goal which gave them the victory at 6-4. This result was a great disappointment to us all since we had the measure of them but let ourselves be panicked out of it. As a game, however, it was one of the best that anyone could have wished.

In August, during the short break between training, the Regimental team went to Deauville as part of a B.A.O.R. contingent of players invited by the Casino to play in a series of tournaments held as a highlight during their "Grand Quinzaine".

Although not entered as a Regimental team, we did in fact play as



such when possible, though shown on the French programme as representing "Rhine Army". As, however, the confusion the French organisers managed to provide in the way of times of play, composition of teams, handicaps and so forth had to be experienced to be believed, this caused no comment. At one time indeed Chance found himself playing in a so-called Spanish team, somewhat inappropriately named "Biarritz", consisting of one Spaniard, one South African, and two British. It was then discovered that in any case this team had nominally scratched in order that the South African could play in another team later in the same tournament.

Unfortunately Gibbs was put out of action by a blow on the arm and could not play in the Battalion team which reached the final of the small tournament after beating a French team from the Paris "Bagatelle" Club. We were subsequently beaten by the other B.A.O.R. side in the final who had beaten a French Army Team.

Although the weather was not fine and the grounds consequently liable to cut up badly, the experience of fast match play against really good ponies and the opportunity of seeing and getting the advice of top-class players like Guiness, Hanut Singh and others was invaluable to us as a team. It is perhaps needless to add that a certain amount of experience of a different nature was also gained gambling at the Casino in the evenings, though any lack of success was mitigated by the fact that the Casino had in fact paid all our expenses during our visit (including a considerable reduction in hotel bills for the wives who came too) and had also given us two or three champagne dinners into the bargain.

Owing to the probable "exigencies of the service", it is a pity that we may not be able to accept similar invitations extended to us during this visit to bring our team to play in tournaments next year at Vitelle and Rome. Apart from the enjoyment, there is no doubt that the presence of a British Regimental team abroad is welcomed with pleasure by the organisers and appears to lend distinction to a foreign tournament.

**Cricket**

Both the weather and military commitments have seriously interfered with this season's cricket.

The Battalion got through two rounds of the B.A.O.R. cricket before succumbing to 8 R. Tks. This is played on a basis of 33 overs per side and we suffered from having no good free-scoring batsmen, who are so essential in a time limited match. Rfn. Osborne bowled

particularly well in all the battalion matches; the fielding also reached a gratifyingly high standard.

The final placings in the Company league were:

| | *Played* | *Won* | *Lost* |
|---|---|---|---|
| "H.Q." Company . . . . | 8 | 7 | 1 |
| "C" Company . . . . | 8 | 6 | 2 |
| "D" Company . . . . | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| "B" Company . . . . | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| "A" Company . . . . | 8 | 1 | 7 |

The Battalion contributed a good proportion of the players who went to Berlin for the Green Jackets match; a party which was much enjoyed, even by Mike Fuller, who went as a spectator and ended umpiring right through both days' cricket.

**Basket Ball**

Last season a lot of enthusiasm was raised for basket ball. This is an excellent game and a great standby when outside pitches are frozen or snowbound as they so often are in this part of Germany.

We had good material in the Battalion but other commitments prevented the team getting together.

For the 1954/55 season the prospects are bright and we started the season well, beating last year's runners-up by 1 point.

**Squash**

After winning the B.A.O.R. Squash in 1952/53 only one member of that winning team was available and the poor chap, verging on the age of retirement, was promoted from 4th to 1st string. As may be expected we were defeated in the first round by 10 Fd. Regt. R.A. and were only saved from a blank score sheet by Patrick Barbour coming straight from the Brigade cross-country race in which he was 4th to win our one and only point.

Prospects are brighter this year, as we now have two over forties and one over thirty to form a strong tail.

**Golf**

This year the Battalion entered a team in the B.A.O.R. golf. Quite a large number of prospective players volunteered when it was heard that the rigours of Reinsehlen could be exchanged for the delights of a week-end in Hamburg. It was a different story when it came to collecting four players on the first tee; whether it was a natural modesty or over indulgence in the delights which made them so reluctant to appear, was not disclosed. Whatever the reason we lost comfortably to the 3 R. Tks., by a margin it would be indelicate to disclose.



## BAND NOTES

Early in the year we were sorry to lose Sgts. Wallace and Silver after 25 years with the Regiment. Sgt. Wallace reluctantly exchanged his "oompah" for a regimental cane to go as Provost Sgt. to Barton Stacey; Sgt. Silver has gone on release and is now working in Winchester.

In April we joined forces with the 2nd Battalion Band for a Marching Display at the Green Jackets Point-to-Point here. After many hours' rehearsal, the display was much appreciated on the day.

In May the Band returned to the U.K. for a short tour. We started with a week in Hyde Park, London, where we saw many former Bandsmen and other past members of the Regiment, including ex-B./Sgt. L. Frogley. Other engagements included a few days at Leamington Spa, Brighton, Walthamstow, and a broadcast for the B.B.C.

After the tour we lost a few more Bandsmen to release and the Guards, but we are now building up our strength again with Regular soldiers replacing our few N.S. men.

We had a good season of sport last year, winning the H.Q. Company inter-dept. cup. This year we have a hockey team, for the first time for many years, led by Sgt. Grimwood.

## SERGEANTS' MESS

The social year in the Sergeants' Mess ran true to form. Christmas came and went with a football match against the officers, parties in the Mess, and the Christmas draw which seemed even more lavish than usual, some members almost requiring the assistance of the M.T. Section to take home their prizes.

The social side was enlivened by a "Tramps' Dance" in February with decorations to match, furniture of crates and straw and lighting of candles in bottles to complete the picture. We had never realised just how good a tramp's life could be, although the members of the Mess who returned to civilian life assured us it was not to sample the delights of taking to the "road".

We entertained a large party from the 2nd Battalion for the Green Jackets Race Meeting, which was followed by a dance in the Mess the same evening.

In spite of the wet and wind we managed to organise a comfortable mess for the two periods spent at Reinsehlen. During the second period the Colonel Commandant, Lieut.-General Sir Euan Miller,

accompanied by the Colonel, honoured us by lunching with us during his visit to the Battalion. This gesture was much appreciated by all members and we were delighted he managed to find the time to be with us during such a short visit.

The Rifle Meeting, a most important affair, was held on 23rd October, just in time to ensure the results getting in this year's chronicle.

Sgt. Airey, who had only recently returned to the Battalion, won the coveted Kennedy Trophy for the second time, with the astonishingly good score of 149, dropping only 11 points in four practices. C.S.M. Price was second. Sgt. Wolland had gone on a course to Hythe, but in view of Sgt. Airey's score it is doubtful if he could have changed the order much.

Poor Sgt. Proctor, he collected the wooden spoon. He had only been a Sergeant three weeks and, being in the Band, had not fired his rifle for some years. His promotion, we regret to say, caused a certain amount of satisfaction among certain members such as Sgt. McDermott and O.R.Q.M.S. Newman, who have on previous occasions narrowly escaped this honour. Perhaps after all it was unnecessary for C./Sgt. Lennox to have gone on leave and missed the Rifle Ball the same evening.

Other winners were "A" Company Sergeants who won the inter-company Tile Shoot. I need hardly add that the Officers and Sergeants Tile Shoot Cup returned to its rightful place with a smashing 2-0 victory to atone for our momentary lapse in 1953.

The Rifle Ball followed in the evening and was attended by 400 guests. Mrs. Garside presented the prizes to the winners and Sgt. Proctor carried away the spoon in a smart and riflemanlike manner.

During H.R.H. Princess Margaret's visit to B.A.O.R. in July, R.S.M. Garside, along with the other R.S.Ms. of 33 Armoured Brigade, had the honour of being presented to Her Royal Highness when she visited 11 Armoured Division.

The annual cricket match against the Officers was played on 12th September and as usual resulted in a victory for the Officers by 34 runs. Major Phillips and Lieut. Fuller made fine scores and had the Sergeants really chasing around, but the Sergeants' Mess then produced their secret weapon in the form of Sgt. Potter who had the fine bowling figures of 4 wickets for 13 runs. A very brave effort by Q.M.S.I. Lumley, who made 37, helped the Sergeants' Mess to a fairly respectable score.

The Mess have entered a basket ball team in the Company League and are looking forward to a very successful season.



There have, as always, been a lot of changes during the year; we have lost old friends and welcomed others back to the Mess. A list of those who have gone and where is added to the list of W.Os. and Sergeants.

## LIST OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS

| | |
|---|---|
| R.S.M. | W.O. I J. Garside |
| Bandmaster | W.O. I E. Jeanes |
| R.Q.M.S. | W.O. II W. Wright |
| O.R.Q.M.S. | W.O. II H. Newman |
| T.Q.M.S. | W.O. II G. Harvey |
| W.T. Sgt. Major | W.O. II G. Hallett |
| C.S.Ms.: | W.O. II T. Newton, W.O. II W. Price, W.O. II R. Robbins, W.O. II T. Byrne, W.O. II A. Lyttle. |
| C./Sgts.: | R. Silver (Bugle Major), W. Ballard, F. Smith, K. Evans, J. Lennox, E. Rich, A. Day. |
| Sgts.: | D. Brian, J. Eyre, J. Murton, R. Wolland, R. Hough, R. Prickett, T. Fowley, W. Weldon, L. Coram, G. Moat, G. Rimmer, J. Parker, D. Bridge, L. Airey, F. McDermot, R. Kent, R. Jackson, W. Potter, B. Skelton, G. Herbert, E. Mitchell, P. Ashworth-Kirkham, D. Cromarty (D.F.C.), S. Blanchard, E. Fowler, A. Hickey, L. Cheshire, H. Chapman, H. Howard, J. Procter, G. Grimwood. |

## W.Os. AND SERGEANTS WHO HAVE LEFT THE BATTALION DURING THE YEAR

| | |
|---|---|
| W.O. II R. Hinett | To G.J. Depot, 30th October, 1954 |
| C./Sgt. R. McKue | To G.J. Depot, 10th January, 1954 |
| Sgt. J. Richards | Released, 15th January, 1954 |
| T.Q.M.S. A. Lamb | To Q.V.R., 3rd February, 1954, as R.S.M. |
| Sgt. B. Silver | Released, 15th February, 1954 |
| ,, L. Jones | To Kenya Regiment, 6th April, 1954 |
| ,, J. Wallace | To Barton Stacey, w.e.f. 6th May, 1954 |
| ,, J. Barwick | To Green Jackets Depot, w.e.f. 22nd May, 1954, for 1 Rifle Brigade |
| ,, J. Smith | Transfer to R.E.M.E., 25th May, 1954 |
| ,, R. Balls | To Q.W., w.e.f. 28th June, 1954, as C./Sgt. |
| ,, A. Strange | To Green Jackets Depot, 30th June, 1954 |
| ,, D. Harrison | Released, 6th July, 1954 |
| ,, R. Rogers | To Q.V.R., 16th October, 1954 |
| ,, M. Tidmarsh | To Q.V.R., 16th October, 1954 |

## CORPORALS' CLUB

Owing to a very busy training season we have not had much time for social activities, but we have done our best to enjoy ourselves with the time available.

We have had three dances held in the W.V.S. rooms, and at the time of going to press we are just getting over our Annual Ball in the

Robertson Hall. This was attended by many guests from other units and it was voted a great success.

In May the Sergeants' Mess invited us to a games evening; this was thoroughly enjoyed by all members, particularly as we beat the Sergeants in most of the games.

Our club has been decorated throughout and almost completely refurnished, so we are now feeling very smart. The Entertainments Committee has really got going this year and have promised to provide us with a first-class Christmas Draw.

We have lost what was thought was one of the permanent members of the Club, namely Cpl. Herbert, who along with Cpls. Howard, Ashworth-Kirkham, Grimwood and Proctor, have joined the Sergeants' Mess. Since becoming a member of the elite Sgt. Proctor won the Wooden Spoon at the Sergeants' Mess Rifle Meeting. That will teach him a thing or two; we hear that he is going to practice hard before next year's shoot.

This year we had a great triumph. With a little assistance from the Riflemen we defeated the Officers and Sergeants at cricket. We made 120, thanks to a fine 50 by Pope and, after a poor start, the Officers managed to worry us a little by reaching 110.

We are pleased to say that Joe Pickering is the President of the Club and hope he remains with us for a long time; without Joe the Corporals' Club would miss the steadying influence required.

It is with regret that we have to report the loss by drowning on 25th October of Cpl. Barlow's seven-years-old daughter Valerie. To Cpl. and Mrs. Barlow and family, all members of the Club extend their deepest sympathy.

## EQUITATION

In all we have had a very satisfactory year in B.A.O.R., where we have certainly had our share of success in the Racing, Polo and Show Jumping activities for which we have entered.

In spite of a considerable number of difficulties—not the least being the removal of W.D. patronage in the supply of free forage, civilian grooms and horses—we have been able to maintain a stable of six Battalion "pool" horses (formerly W.D. owned and "bought in" by us) whose average age is fifteen, in addition to five other privately-owned animals.

The groom situation was overcome with the help of the 9th Lancers,



who kindly gave our five complete novice volunteers a groom's course in their stables. In spite of their lack of knowledge and experience these have come on well and though they (and more particularly the horses!) had to learn the hard way, their enthusiasm and efforts have in no small measure been responsible for the results achieved in all our activities.

### Racing

Apart from the Regimental races for the Heavyweight and Lightweight cups which are described separately, we were able to enter for a number of outside races at Hannover and Bad Lippspringe. In these we had varying successes as the following results show.

Great credit must go to the young officers, particularly 2nd/Lieut. Barbour, who, having never ridden before over fences, and, indeed, judging by their performance in the riding school during the winter, could hardly be said to ride at all, were more than prepared to "have a go" on our ex-W.D. horses whose performance over fences, while liable to vary according to a variety of circumstances, seldom took account of the wishes of the jockey.

| *Horse* | *Course* | *Race* | *Place* | *Jockey* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| King Harold | Lippspringe | Greenjacket Race | 1 | Capt. St. Aubyn |
| King Harold | Hannover (Grand Military) | 3 Mile 'Chase | 1 | Capt. St. Aubyn |
| King Harold | Lippspringe | 2½ Mile 'Chase | 1 | Capt. St. Aubyn |
| Jimmy | Lippspringe | Greenjacket Race | 3 | Capt. Thistlethwayte |
| Beresine | Lippspringe | 2½ Mile 'Chase (Heavyweight portion) | 1 | Capt. Thistlethwayte |
| Beresine | Hannover | 2½ Mile' Chase | 4 | Major Phillips |
| Beresine | Hannover | 2½ Mile 'Chase | 3 | Capt. St. Aubyn |
| Beresine | Hannover | 2 Mile 'Chase | 4 | 2nd/Lieut. Barbour |
| Squirt | Hannover | 2 Mile Hurdle | 1 | 2nd/Lieut. Barbour |

### Show Jumping and Hunter Trials

Show Jumping and Hunter Trials in B.A.O.R. give, probably, the most scope to all classes of horses and riders that anyone can desire in these days of high costs, varying from the highest open international classes down to those confined solely to novices in the true sense of the word. Entries are usually very big and competition keen. A win or place, no matter the class, is therefore well earned.

By dint of various exchanges and purchases we started the season with five (four ex-W.D. and one private) Show-Jumper-cum-Hunter-Trial horses of a fairly reasonable standard. Unfortunately we were severely handicapped by the loss of one of these, Jimmy, through

lameness for three months during the height of the season. However the four survivors got down to it and, as accompanying table of results shows, did not do so badly. If they achieved nothing else they probably travelled farther than most other horses in Germany in that they competed in every Horse Show and Hunter Trial in the British Zone of Germany, except for one when we were on training. Credit here must go to Rfn. Robinson, one of the grooms who "doubles" as the driver of our somewhat unreliable horsebox, and drove the horses some 2,500 miles during the season.

One of the difficulties of having a limited number of horses is that it is seldom if ever possible to allot a permanent rider to each horse, as otherwise only a select few would ever ride the better horses and some would get no competition riding at all. We have always taken the line of giving everybody a "go" on all the horses, or in any case all of those which they are considered capable of riding, a policy which inevitably brings home fewer wins, but one which gives more fun and experience to everybody.

Before going on to some short notes on some of the shows which we attended, mention must be made again of some of the younger officers, particularly Pirie, Barbour and Colman. All of them except for the latter had little or no riding experience before they came out here and all of them achieved some very remarkable results during the season, on which they are to be congratulated.

In the H.Q. Northern Army Group Horse Show, Pirie did very well to get a 3rd place on Bob, in a strong class in the Class A Jumping in his first show out here.

The Rhine Army Horse Show was rather disappointing for us as we looked like doing fairly well in the Regimental Teams, but it was not to be. However we had a small consolation prize with a 3rd place in the Lightweight Hunters for King Harold.

The Munster Garrison Hunter Trial was held in pouring rain throughout. Barbour, riding in his first Hunter Trial, did a very good round on Sandy and got a 3rd place in the Class A and L.

The Berlin Garrison Horse Show was held in the Equitation part of the Olympic Stadium in somewhat overawing surroundings. We were even more alarmed when we found we were the only representatives from the British Zone. However we did not completely disgrace ourselves or, we hope, the Zone, and Colman on Sandy got a 4th in the Class L and King Harold ridden by Capt. Seymour got a 3rd in the Class A, against fairly strong competition from the German



Mounted Police and the Americans, who, for some obscure reason, have a large mounted Unit in Berlin.

To mention things other than horses for a moment, our team had the unique experience, for them, of lunching in Spandau Prison (where the top German war criminals are confined) with that enthusiastic ex-Rfn. Lieut.-Colonel Vickers, now British Governor of the prison.

The 3rd Hussar Horse Show and Hunter Trials was probably our most successful outing in that we scooped the Class A and L Hunter Trials, getting 1st and 2nd with Bob, ridden by Pirie, and King Harold, ridden by Capt. Seymour, respectively, and we then went on to win the Regimental Team with the same two horses and Beresine ridden by Barbour.

22 L.A.A. Horse Show and Hunter Trials calls for a special mention for Mrs. Warry, who, riding in her first Hunter Trial, was only just out of the money on Sandy. It was thought until the last moment that we had won the A and L Regimental Team, when it was discovered that the Team Captain (who is still hiding his head in shame!) had made a mistake in the declarations which relegated us to 3rd place.

Unfortunately we only managed to get two horses to the Luneburg Garrison Horse Show and Hunter Trials, owing to the horse box having temporarily given up the ghost. However, both did well, and Jimmy, ridden by Colman, particularly well to win the A and L Hunter Trials. We were all very pleased to see this rider winning, as this was his last show with us before his release from the Army.

The last Hunter Trial of the season was the Army Championship Hunter Trials with an entry of over two hundred horses. King Harold, ridden by Capt. Seymour, did very well to make 4th place in the Army Novices, out of 103 starters, with a score of 307 out of 320. However our greatest triumph undoubtedly was winning the Dismounted Unit Team with our "A" team, a prize which had to date eluded us. Our team, Jimmy, ridden by Major Gibbs, Sandy, ridden by Major Phillips, and King Harold, ridden by Captain Seymour, did a good round and beat by 10 points the Northern Army Group Team, amongst whom—we can hardly speak of it!—was that Traitor Major Davies-Scourfield, who had ridden in our team last year when it was beaten by the Northern Army Group Team into second place.

Now our horses are starting a well-earned rest for the winter and we hope that the spring will bring opportunities for them once

again to show that youth and breeding is not everything when it comes to bringing home the occasional rosette. Our thanks to them and their grooms for all the fun they have given us during this season and particularly to Capt. Seymour, our "stud" manager, whose personal efforts and example was the main spring for such successes as we had.

1954 RESULTS (HORSE SHOWS AND HUNTER TRIALS)

| *Horse* | *Show* | *Class* | *Place* | *Rider* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bob | H.Q. Northag | Class A Jumping | 3 | Lieut. Pirie |
| | 3rd Hussars | Class A & L Hunter Trials | 1 | Lieut. Pirie |
| | 3rd Hussars | Class A & L Hunter Trial Team | 1 | Lieut. Pirie |
| | 22 L.A.A. Regt. | Class A & L Hunter Trial Team | 3 | Capt. Taylor |
| | Detmold Garrison | Class A Jumping | 4 | 2nd/Lieut. Barbour |
| King Harold | Rhine Army | Lightweight Hunter | 3 | Capt. Seymour |
| | Munster Garrison | Class A & L Hunter Trials | 4 | Capt. Seymour |
| | Berlin | Class A Jumping | 3 | Capt. Seymour |
| | 3rd Hussars | Class A Jumping | 3 | Capt. Seymour |
| | 3rd Hussars | Class A & L Hunter Trials | 2 | Capt. Seymour |
| | 3rd Hussars | Class A & L Hunter Trial Team | 1 | Capt. Seymour |
| | 22 L.A.A. Regt. | Class A & L Hunter Trial Team | 3 | Capt. Seymour |
| | Army Championship | Army Novices | 4 | Capt. Seymour |
| | Army Championship | Dismounted Unit Team | 1 | Capt. Seymour |
| Jimmy | 22 L.A.A. Regt. | Class A & L Hunter Trial Team | 3 | 2nd/Lieut. Colman |
| | Luneberg Garrison | Class A & L Hunter Trials | 1 | 2nd/Lieut. Colman |
| | Army Championship | Dismounted Unit Team | 1 | Major Gibbs |
| Sandy | Munster Garrison | Class A & L Hunter Trials | 3 | 2nd/Lieut. Barbour |
| | Army Championship | Dismounted Unit Team | 1 | Major Phillips |
| | Berlin | Class L Jumping | 4 | 2nd/Lieut. Colman |
| Beresine | 3rd Hussars | Class A & L Hunter Trial Team | 1 | 2nd/Lieut. Barbour |

## OBITUARY

We much regret to report that the undermentioned Riflemen died during the year:

No. 22530760 Rfn. KEITH EDWARD GRAHAM STOREY, on 4th November, 1953.

No. 22994761 Rfn. ERIC EDWARD TAYLOR, on 6th August, 1954.



# 2nd BATTALION THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS

## LIST OF OFFICERS

### 31st October, 1954

**Lieut.-Colonel** E. A. W. Williams, O.B.E., M.C. **Majors** R. T. Bassett, M.B.E., M.C.,* O. H. J. Foster,* P. H. Parker, R. F. Nixon, M.B.E., A. R. Faulconbridge, M.C.,* H. P. Edwards. **Captains** J. H. Hanscombe,* S. J. Symington, G. W. R. Carter,* M. M. V. W. Beak, M. J. H. Walsh, T. C. Gore,* T. R. Riley,* F. E. Hughes-Onslow,*.**Lieutenants** J. E. Oxley, P. M. Welsh, J. R. T. Eve, D. W. R. Bedford. **2nd/Lieutenants** V. F. West, A. T. R. Shelley, J. R. S. Maclure, T. E. C. Hoare, B. C. Stevens,* L. W. Aylen, E. P. Coulman, J. R. Leon.

**Officers who left the Battalion during the year to 31st October, 1954** **Majors** J. H. P. Curtis, M.C., C. A. Humphreys, M.C., R. J. A. Darwin, B. C. Ryan, M.B.E. **Captains** P. L. Mackie-Campbell,* J. R. Tillard, D. J. D. Purdon,* **2nd/Lieutenants** Sir J. C. Buchanan-Riddell, Bt.,* R. P. Nicolson, C. J. Adami, T. W. Leggett,* D. C. Thomas,* J. F. Hurley,* R. T. C. Whatmore, R. P. Liston,* R. M. Hooper.*

* *Denotes Officers of the Rifle Brigade serving with the 2nd Battalion K.R.R.C.*

## THE SECOND CYCLE

The theme of our contribution to the Chronicle last year was that the first cycle of this Battalion's new career had been completed and that the composite Battalion was now a fully grown-up entity. We like to feel that this prophesy has been adequately fulfilled, since we have won one Army and three B.A.O.R. Championships during the year and also, by the time this article is in print, our strength will be in the nature of 850. Our thanks are due, not only to those within the Battalion during the year who by their hard work and enthusiasm achieved this record, but also to those who laid the foundations for this success during the first three years of the Battalion's new exsistence.

### Winter Period

The Winter up to March was, as usual, an intensive period of courses and cadres to find replacements for the steady drain of N.C.Os. and specialists. It always appears at the beginning of each winter that it will be a reasonably quiet period after the rush and excitements of summer training and large-scale exercises and, officers particularly, look forward to taking their rather overdue leave. However, in practice, the winter period always proves to be extremely strenuous with the steady requirements for instructors for courses, battalion, brigade and divisional study periods and, finally, the bane of the Young Officer's existence, The Young Officers Annual Test. However, a

full programme of training was successfully carried out with the help of some skilled juggling and some rapid last-minute telephoning and the result was the Battalion could face the summer training season with a full complement of N.C.Os., Signallers, Drivers, etc.

### Inspections

As always the winter produced its usual crop of inspections. Our first being a full-scale board of Officers that inspected and counted every bit of equipment and accommodation stores on charge to the Battalion. This was a three-phased operation and the phase dealing with Companies' equipment and the Battalion accommodation stores took five boards three full days to complete. In fact one board was still at work in the cookhouse well after 8 p.m. trying to sort out knives cooking from knives carving. A sixth board was also much in evidence; this board, composed of Dick Basset, Ben Ryan and R.Q.M.S. Eveson, had a floating role, i.e. it searched all those unlikely places where "buckshee" kit might be stored. Needless to say it was far from popular and its descent on the Young Officers' quarters produced a rare haul and had repercussions for many days afterwards.

Our next inspection was the administrative inspection, which was carried out again by Brigadier Timmis and his staff from 20 Armd. Bde. It was preceded by an immense amount of painting both of rooms and vehicles and practise parades. The double-past was re-introduced into the parade and all went well on the day and the final report showed that we had been successful in defeating the examiners.

Our other large-scale inspection was immediately after Christmas and was the C.I.V. inspection of all "B" vehicles. This was a major victory for the "Gamesmanship" of Ronald Bunting, our L.A.D. Officer, since we achieved an "Excellent". This result had great repercussions, since it had always been maintained that it was impossible to get more than a "Very Fair" on these inspections and it was believed that, as a result, the authorities were about to reduce the severity with which they had been carried out in the past.

### Guy Fawkes' Night

As usual Guy Fawkes' Night was celebrated with much noise and a very large bonfire. The guy this year was the image of Sgt. Craven, our Cook-Sgt., and he was led to the burning by the Klu Klux Klan ably directed by Bugle Major Hotston. That the Guy burnt well is obvious from his trade and, in fact, the fire blazed up to such an extent some of the spectators got slightly roasted. The



fireworks were controlled by Stuart Symington and C.S.M. Pope and were an excellent display, though the commentator, Paul Nicholson, seemed on occasions at a loss for words to describe the beauty of the scene; this may have been due to the rum punch produced by Sgt. Pierce and his Mess staff.

### Christmas Activities

Christmas entertainment started with the Annual Carol Service on 20th December and there followed a very full week for everybody. The Carol Singers (mostly the Band but reinforced by one or two choral members from the Officers' Mess), led most ably by the Bandmaster, toured families' quarters and the various Messers demanding food and drink in exchange for peace and quiet. The Christmas Eve pantomime, a most successful affair, entitled "Cinders in Münsterland" (she retained her honour miraculously throughout) was staged in the "Palladium" under the most competent direction of Paul Nicholson and a lively and most amusing performance of the heroine by Sgt. Howard.

There were numerous sporting events, including an Officers *v.* Sergeants hockey match on Christmas Day, brought to a rather damp but explosive conclusion by the introduction of fireworks and a fire-hose into the contest. The Corporals *v.* Riflemen hockey was, in spite of the previous day's activities, a most spirited affair.

Christmas dinners were served in the Dining Hall in traditional fashion by the Officers and Sergeants. A simply vast and quite excellent meal being produced by Sgt. Craven and his cooks. At the conclusion of the meal toasts were drunk, the Colonel proposing the toast to the Battalion and having his own health proposed by Rfn. Challis, B.E.M.

Private parties were held by each Company during the week and two very successful children's parties were arranged by the Ladies' Club and the P.R.I. The Battalion returned to work exhausted and satiated on Monday, 27th December, and had four blissful days of peace before plunging into a further round of gaiety to greet the New Year.

## SPRING PERIOD

### Classification

At the end of the first week in March, classification commenced. As so often happens in Germany the weather was lovely and springlike for "A" Company who had a fortnight at Sennelager. However, when

"B" and "C" Companies followed them at Haltern, winter returned again. The camp area became a sea of mud and eventually they had to return to barracks with only their rifle classification completed. The scores obtained by the three companies were as diverse as the weather and so, unluckily, a new competition which had been worked out for champion shooting company had to be abandoned.

### Reinsehlen Camp

On 17th April the Battalion left for the Soltau Training Area to carry out section, platoon and company training. The Arctic conditions at Reinsehlen Camp have been mentioned in previous articles and this year was no exception. Charcoal burners appeared everywhere and it was a wonder no one suffered from gas poisoning. One day it snowed hard and the temperature was such that it lay for a good hour. Stuart Symington, the Adjutant, took up the habits of the Eskimo and had an oil heater permanently working in his tent. Vivian Beak, as usual, had everything the complete camper could require and was the envy of all, except the Colonel, who had had the foresight to instal himself in the permanent Officers' Mess from which Olympian height he surveyed the frozen plain stretched before him.

### Platoon Test Exercises

In order to save Company Commanders carrying too big an instructional load, the three carrier platoons carried out centralised training under Battalion H.Q. A strong team, consisting of Tony Faulconbridge, John Hanscombe and Toby Gore, ran this training with great success. The final test exercise, "Little Swan", will be remembered by all who took part and there were some very tired men at the end of it. Val West, commanding "A" Company carrier platoon, completely lost his voice during the exercise. The L.A.D. as usual produced a most active and resourceful enemy and "B" Company are still wondering how they managed to remove one of their carriers from the harbour area.

The turn of the motor platoons came next and their test exercise was nick-named "Grub-Mah". This exercise could not have been better named since it certainly was the reverse of the delights of Hamburg. Company Commanders were removed from the scene for these exercises to enable us to see how platoon commanders fared on their own. However, Peter Curtis commanding "A" Company still managed to keep an eye on his and other officers by persuading the Gunners to take him round the scene of action in one of their



Air Op. Austers. The final dive by the Auster over Control Headquarters certainly worried those on the spot, as the pilot did not appear to notice our 36 ft. aerial till it was nearly too late. The exercise itself went off well considering the difficulties of trying to control six separate motor platoons each of which was carrying out a similar task at the same time. It entailed therefore six separate defensive positions, six separate patrol tasks, six separate routes to recce and finally separate routes for the cross-country march and final attacks. The illusive prize was Madame Petrov and no less than three had to be produced in the final phase. Bugle Major Hotston, Sgt. Robinson and Sgt. Standen, though scarcely recognisable as Madame Petrovs, were duly rescued from their abductors. The late General Mitchell, G.O.C. 6 Armd. Div., and Brigadier Hackett, Commanding 20 Armd. Bde., both visited the exercise to the consternation, particularly, of Robin Hooper, who had selected his defence position in a virtual bog. The water not only came up through the bottom of his weapon pits, but at one stage was streaming in over the top. His platoon never recovered from this experience and, even under its new platoon commander, John Leon, it continued throughout the training season to have a predilection for digging in in waterlogged ground. The enemy on this occasion were chiefly from the L.A.D. assisted by "H.Q." Company and were most adequately led by Harry Edwards, our new Quartermaster, and Keith Fagerlund, our new L.A.D. Officer.

### Departure of Major Ben Ryan

During our time at Reinsehlen we said good-bye to Ben Ryan, who had been Quartermaster since the Battalion reformed. It was a sad moment for us since Ben had been Q.M. with either one of our Regular Battalions, a T.A. Battalion or the Depot for thirteen years. He is now serving as Quartermaster to the Royal Engineers Regimental Pay Office at Whitchurch and we wish him every success in his new appointment and thank him for all he did towards successfully reforming this Battalion.

### Departure of R.S.M. Grout

The relief of Ben Ryan by Harry Edwards produced a vacancy for Quartermaster with the Queen's Westminsters. Although we were loth to hear that R.S.M. Grout was to leave us for this appointment, we were delighted that he should get this promotion which he had so rightly earned. The loss of himself and his family was felt by all particularly as Mrs. Grout had been a tower of strength in

the Ladies' Club. The Officers' Mess held a farewell dinner in honour of Leslie Grout, and his conducting of the Band in the Regimental March after dinner was most spirited, though it was noted by some of those present that the Band took charge of him rather than he of the Band.

## SUMMER PERIOD

For two weeks after our return from Reinsehlen the authorities allowed us to remain in Barracks. This period, however, was spent by many practising on the Haltern Ranges for the B.A.O.R. Rifle Meeting. On Sunday, 23rd April, the Battalion team, plus many assistants, departed for Sennelager and we are most grateful to the 1st Battalion for putting us up for the period of the meeting. The meeting took place in glorious weather and, since we emerged as B.A.O.R. Champions, it was enjoyed by all.

### Field Firing at Sennelager

The weekend following the B.A.O.R. Rifle Meeting the remainder of the Battalion commenced its move to Sennelager for Field Firing. They arrived a company at a time since the ranges were allocated on a sausage machine principle, i.e. each company followed its predecessor on a set selection of the ranges. As is so often the case in Field Firing, many rounds were fired and few hits obtained. However, basic drills were practised and we hope they remain lodged in the Riflemen's memory. In any case Rodney Liston's scream of "Bullets, Bullets" is still probably echoing round the Sennelager Ranges.

For this period the Battalion bivouacked along a stream adjacent to the Ranges. It is fair to say that the fir woods in which we lived were very nice during fine weather but horrid when it rained. However, we were lucky on one eventful evening, when the Colonel gave a cocktail party in Battalion Headquarters' sylvan glade to celebrate both his birthday and the fourth of June. Most of the Officers' wives from Münster came over for the occasion, as also did the wives of the 1st Battalion who, of course, were on our doorstep and the husbands were away training at Soltau. Again Sgt. Pierce laid on an excellent show under difficult conditions and Stuart Symington enhanced the natural beauty of the glade by producing a delicate centre-piece composed of raked up pine needles and geraniums.



### Exercise Big Swan

Our second allocation of the Soltau training area was immediately after the Field Firing at Sennelager. It was decided, therefore, to take this opportunity to move the complete Battalion by road from Sennelager to Reinsehlen Camp and practise our movement and harbouring drills on the way. Thus Exercise "Big Swan" was born and it proved of great value to all. The first day was a Battalion drive along one route to a harbour area S.E. of Minden. At last light the Battalion was moved on to a second harbour area N.W. of Minden.

The arrival of the Battalion at the harbour area was enlivened by the Adjutant, Stuart Symington, demanding over the air that all "sunrays" should report to his "How Queen" immediately. When asked where this was he replied that it was at the location given at the Order Group. He was, therefore, surprised a few minutes later, when the Colonel, who had been following the column, opened the door of the command Saracen and informed Stuart that he was alone in his glory in the middle of a ploughed field and some distance from the correct location.

The next day the Battalion moved on again, but this time each Company was given three routes to recce and therefore all platoons had to be fanned out, and we covered a large slice of Western Germany.

### Harrier Exercises

Immediately on arrival at Reinsehlen we held a series of inter-Company exercises, which were nicknamed Harrier. Each exercise consisted of one Company advancing to contact along a specified route while the other Company carried out delaying actions. This entailed three separate exercises and it was most difficult trying to find three separate routes of sufficient length with ground of tactical interest in the very congested Soltau training area. The rivalry between Companies on these exercises was immense and the Umpire and control staff were the hardest worked of all. However, nobody came to actual blows and it is fair to say that there was little to choose between the performances of the three companies. The liveliest action of the three exercises occurred when "C" Company under Roger Nixon was advancing and "B" Company under Peter Parker were withdrawing. In this action Andrew Shelley's platoon from "B" Company fired on the leading "C" Company carriers and then withdrew unseen to a previously prepared position some 300 yards in rear. Rodney Liston's

platoon from "C" Company quickly debussed and carried out a flanking attack on where he thought Andrew's platoon was, as a result he attacked across the front of the defending platoon and was more or less decimated. Meanwhile Roger had dispatched Robin Hooper and his platoon on a wider encircling movement and this platoon found and attacked Andrew's vehicles, which, despite a spirited defence by Sgt. Tyrer and the drivers, were assumed to be destroyed and the umpires declared the whole action to be a draw with honours to both sides.

### Exercise Falcon

Interspersed with the Harrier Exercises were two exercises run by 61 Lorried Inf. Bde. and "B" and "C" Companies each took part in one of these and then carried on training with their affiliated armoured regiments. However, we did manage to get the whole Battalion together for a two-day Battalion exercise, and this was called Falcon. This exercise might be likened to a series of drills since the aim was to practice the mechanics of various motor battalion roles. The strictly controlled enemy came from the echelon and there were only two officers to do all control and umpiring. These two were Dick Basset and Tony Faulconbridge, and it is fair to say the former must have lost at least a stone in weight during the 48 hours of the exercise which, for about the only time this summer, was graced by the most gloriously hot weather. The exercise was roughly split into nine phases, including a river crossing, set-piece attack and pursuit through enemy rear areas.

"B" and "C" Companies led the advance on their respective routes to the river. "B" Company were held up on the river, but "C" Company managed, by a quick left flanking movement, to cross the river by wading and to establish a bridgehead. It was noticed by some that Dick Basset as umpire managed to keep his feet dry by persuading David Stileman (of the Rifle Brigade), who is Staff Captain at our Brigade H.Q. and was spectating, to join the umpire team and accompany the "C" Company flanking movement, but then, of course, as Dick had laid on the scheme, he knew where the bridge was.

"C" Company quickly found that the only bridge was blown, but they found a ford. This ford was recced personally by their company commander, Roger Nixon, who reported that, since he could wade it, it must be all right for vehicles. At this juncture our Brigadier arrived to watch, accompanied by the new Brigade Major, Geoffrey Armitage of the Royals. He saw all the vehicles of the



Battalion safely wade across and seemed impressed by the efficiency of the crossing as laid on by the Colonel and implemented by our Technical Adjutant, John Hanscombe.

The recce forward from the river line was carried out. "A" Company under Peter Curtis came on an enemy position of approximately double company strength, and an attack was ordered, supported by armour. It went successfully even though the heat in the valley we attacked across reminded some of us more of India than Germany and our greatest enemy was in fact midges and mosquitoes that dive-bombed us continuously.

Re-organisation, including a quick meal, followed; then we were off again on the night move, which, despite thick dust along the tracks used, was successfully completed. At first light next morning the pursuit was continued and the reports that came in of the rounding up of naked men in mobile bath units, the capturing of field cashiers and canteens with exotic waitresses proved we were well and truly in the enemy rear areas. The excitement was such that Roger Nixon in his dingo finished in the ditch, but whether this was due to an excess of zeal or anger at finding the canteen and exotic waitresses were represented by one Rifleman from the echelon, we shall never know, since the exercise closed and companies departed to join their armoured regiments.

### Boating—Minden

As Companies completed their training with their affiliated armoured regiments, they moved independently back to the Minden area for training in the use of assault and recce boats. We bivouacked in some pleasant woods and this training was carried out on the River Weser, which is a broad and very swift flowing river. We carried out a river crossing test for all officers and Platoon Sergeants and this was followed by individual instruction, and by the end of the second day each Company carried out a full-scale night crossing. Cpl. Moriarty was a tower of strength as N.C.O. in charge of all boating equipment, and it was chiefly due to his efficiency that our total loss for the period was only one paddle. This paddle was lost on the first day and it swiftly proved to the Riflemen how fast flowing the river was, since Cpl. Robbins, who tried running along the bank parallel with the paddle soon found himself outdistanced.

### Munster Weekend

On return from Minden all eyes were turned towards the festivities of the Munster weekend, though certain of us missed the hard pre-

liminary work, since we were required as a lower control on the Corps Signal exercise. The weekend was a very successful social occasion, arranged by Munster Garrison, to centre round the Hunter Trials held on 17th and 18th July.

The Hunter Trials, run over a first-rate course on the Dorbaum training area near Munster under the auspices of the 17/21 Lancers, were held on Saturday and Handy Hunter Trials, run over a very much shorter but more twisting, tricky course, were held under the auspices of 1 R.H.A. on Sunday. Unfortunately the weather was against us from the beginning and we endured torrential rain during both days. The inclement weather, however, did not in any way dampen the social activities. An excellent Hunter Trial Ball held in the White Horse Officers Club, run by ourselves on the Saturday night, was attended by the whole garrison, and we also had a private dance in our own Mess for ourselves and our friends on Sunday.

We did not distinguish ourselves in the horse events—our only entrant, who shall be nameless, arriving too late to compete! However, in social events we were more successful. A strong party of girls arrived from England on Friday and a large party came up from the 1st Battalion on Saturday morning, arriving in time for lunch, which we all ate together in the Mess before going on to the Hunter Trials in the afternoon.

On Saturday evening the Battalion Party, having been simply magnificently wined and dined in the various houses of our married members, went in force to the Ball getting to bed considerably after dawn. The weather on Sunday was so bad that some of us were able to lie in bed, with no loss of face. However, later we all put in an appearance at the Brigade tent where free drinks were being dispensed to all and sundry. In the evening Stuart Symington gave a Cocktail Party at which we were regaled with pate and champagne. Afterwards a Buffet Dinner was served in the Mess during which the Band played suitable background music. Later one took one's choice of dancing in a true Night Club atmosphere (dim lights (only one), carnations, Royal Blue wallpaper) or losing one's money in a fierce game of roulette run most competently and in true Casino fashion by Messrs. Nixon, Symington and Oxley; or simply sitting and talking. Altogether a most successful and memorable weekend.

**Exercise Battle Royal**

During the period from mid-July to mid-September we at least had a spell in barracks; this was chiefly due to the cancelling of our



divisional exercises which were to be held in an agricultural area South of Hameln and, because of the extremely wet summer, the damage to land and crops which would have resulted was unacceptable. However, we held a short two-day exercise of our own and also completed the shooting of our non-central A.R.A. matches and held such overdue events as Battalion Sports, Battalion Swimming, etc.

Just before departing on the Northern Army Group manoeuvres a very sad blow befell us all. This was the death of our Divisional Commander, General Neville Mitchell. General Neville, who died as a result of a riding accident without regaining consciousness, was only 49 years old and a true friend of all Green Jackets. During the war he had known various Green Jacket Battalions when G.S.O. I of 9 Armd. Div. and later as the Commander of 20 Armd. Bde. He had only been with us just over a year, but during that time he had shown us that he was in every way an ideal commander and his death was a grievous loss to us.

Exercise Battle Royal was the most ambitious exercise carried out since the war. Our old friends Northland and Southland were the protagonists. We were part of the Northland Forces comprising two corps. Our own Corps being 6 Armd. Div. and a Dutch Inf. Div., and the other Corps being 2 Inf. Div. and 7 Armd. Div. The opposition was a Belgian Corps plus the Independent Canadian Bde. The whole course of the Exercise was swayed by the use of the atomic weapon, which was available to both sides, though Southland were much superior in the number of atomic missiles on call.

Like all big exercises we moved to concentration areas days before battle commenced. All three companies were out with their armoured regiments so, as usual though most regrettably, it was "2 K.R.R.C. less Three". The weather was appalling throughout the exercise and, except for the wise virgins in farm buildings, we were all well and truly soaked before even a round was fired. On our front the battle started with an attack across the frontier by the Dutch Div. and during the night we moved 70 miles south with the idea of breaking out next day. This we successfully achieved and had a good swan down to the River Ems. Here we were held up and it was decided that 2nd 60th should try a bounce crossing that night. For this operation "B" and "C" Companies reverted to command at short notice. Due to some divergence of opinion over map reading, the selected launching site was not that which the umpires expected. There was, therefore, a last-minute flap, since the opposition was in fact only one platoon of Canadians and they were fast asleep. The result was, that

EXERCISE BATTLE ROYAL

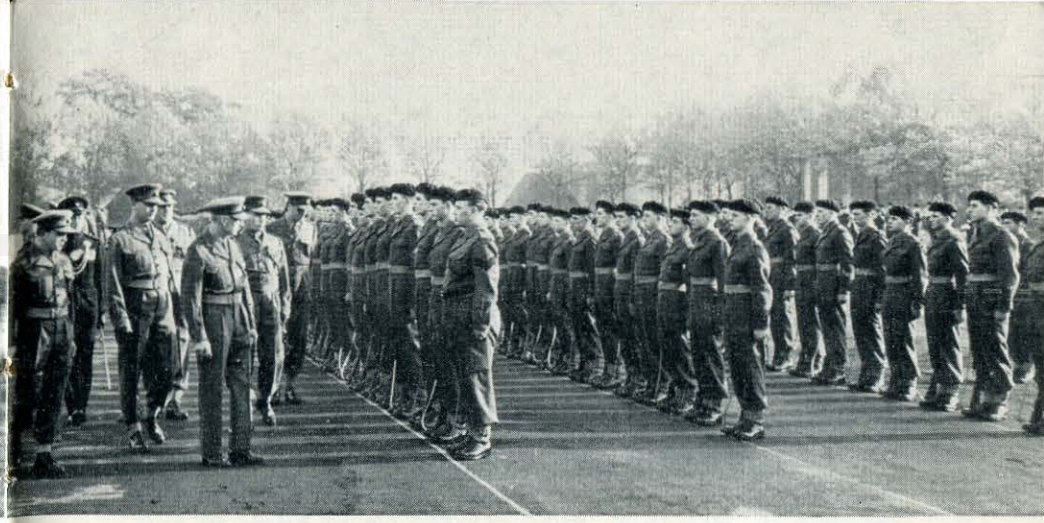
U.S. Army 280 mm. Heavy Artillery. *Right to left:* L/Cpl. Williams, Rfn, Hunt, L/Cpl. Humphreys

since 46 Para. Bde. T.A. were due to drop on the following Saturday, we had to be held up, so the umpires merely said "No boat is to enter the water" and our chance of producing a startling victory was frustrated.

**Visit of the Colonel Commandant**

The news that our Colonel Commandant, General Bubbles Barker, was to visit us from 15th to 19th October was received, as always, with delight by all ranks. The programme planned for him was arduous by any standards, and those who played billard fives against him on the last night of his visit will bear witness to his great physical fitness at the end of his strenuous tour. He arrived in time to see the Finals of the Novices Boxing; all fights were most spirited and we have obviously some good boxing material available. He presented the prizes to the winners and concluded by presenting the Ceylon Shield for 1953/54 to "A" Company. The Shield was received by Peter Curtis whose personal efforts had much to do with his company's success and it was most appropriate that he should receive it on his last night with us before departing to his new job with 91 Lorried Inf. Bde.

General Bubbles attended the Army Hunter Trials and the Hunter Trial Ball over the weekend. These were run this year by our division and Tony Hunter, as G.S.O. I, must be congratulated on the excellent organisation and success of both the Trials and the Ball, despite the awful weather he had to contend with. On Monday we held the Colonel Commandants parade and he was able to see our new streamlined form of drill. This consists of carrying out the parade in the



INSPECTION OF THE 2ND BN. BY THE COLONEL COMMANDANT, GENERAL SIR EVELYN BARKER, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

*Left to right:* Major Faulconbridge, Capt. Walsh (in green), Lt.-Col. E. A. Williams (C.O.), Major Basset, Col. Commandant, R.S.M. Abbott, Capt. Symington, C/Sgt. Massingham

traditional style, but from after the Advance in Review Order to the end of the parade no verbal orders are given and all movements are carried out to either bugle calls or the Band. The following Special Order of the Day was published by the Colonel Commandant:

"To: Lieut.-Colonel E. A. W. Williams, O.B.E., M.C.

Before leaving the Battalion to-morrow I would like to congratulate you and all ranks who took part, on the really excellent turn-out and drill shown on the parade this morning. I have not seen a better parade since I became Colonel Commandant of the Battalion; in fact, it was a standard comparable with the days I served in the Battalion when it was composed entirely of Regular Soldiers of long standing. The marching was at all times very good indeed and the methods used of giving commands by means of the Band enhanced the excellent effect. It does you and everyone the greatest credit and I was delighted with all I saw.

This parade and the successes of the Battalion in the last 12 months shows that the morale of the Battalion is very high.

I wish you many more successes and I shall, as always, look forward to my next visit next year. Good luck to you."

**The End of the Chronicle Year**

We are now back again where we started, that is to say in the period of inspections, courses and cadres, and cocktail parties, which can best be summed up in the words of our Divisional Commander when he said it was a period when one's brain and one's stomach were both in a permanent state of ferment.

## SERGEANTS' MESS

During the year there have been many changes amongst Mess members.

In February we welcomed R.S.M. Abbott and said goodbye to R.S.M. Grout who left us to take over as Quartermaster of the Queen's Westminsters. Other departures have included A.Q.M.S. Turner on promotion to A.S.M., Sgts. Wines, Chapman and Atkins to the Depot; Sgt. Wilds to the Army M.T. School at Borden; and Sgts. Hall, Van-Arkadie and Myall to civilian life.

Our social activities continue to flourish. The after effect of Christmas and our New Year's Ball had hardly left us before we were preparing for our Ladysmith Ball. Ladysmith was celebrated in magnificent style. A marvellous buffet was prepared by Sgt. Craven and the dance continued long after dawn.

Our next big evening was our tramps' ball in July. Some of the costumes had to be seen to be believed. Some members were completely unrecognisable under the grime and filth that they put on for the night.

Our team shooting was disappointing. The score obtained by the Royal Irish Team was poor and we dropped to third place in the B.A.O.R. Rifle Meeting.

On 8th October we held our own Rifle Meeting followed by our Rifle Ball on 9th October. T.Q.M.S. Greenaway won the Championship Cup after tieing with Sgt. Chapple and re-shooting the Snap. The Attached Members Cup was won by S.S.I. Collins, A.P.T.C. The Wooden Spoon went to Sgt. McAleer, who also qualified for it in 1952. The Team Match was won by the Officers by a comfortable margin. The Rifle Ball was the best so far held according to members who have been with the Battalion since it reformed.

A funeral march heralded the appearance of Sgt. McAleer under escort to receive the Wooden Spoon during the interval between dances.

We were honoured to have W.O. II Youck of the Queen's Own Canadian Rifles with us for five weeks. During his stay he entered all our activities with terrific enthusiasm. His tall stories kept us all amused and we only wished his stay could have been longer. On his departure, the Mess gave him a silver cup as a presentation to the Queen's Own Canadian Rifles Sergeants' Mess.

We are particularly proud of the fine achievement of C.S.M. Pope in winning the Army Hundred Cup at Bisley.



Christmas is again upon us and festive preparations are almost complete.

### Warrant Officers and Sergeants on strength at 31st October, 1954

**W.Os. I** T. Abbott, R. Rodgers. **W.Os. II** L. Eveson, W. Cooper,* A. Howson, * G. Slater, S. Doyle, G. Shreeve, J. Pope, A. Sullivan, M.M., S. Greenaway. **C./Sergeants** J. Kennedy,* C. Harthill, K. Churcher, A. Golding, F. Massingham, A. Taylor. **Sergeants** W. Smith, C. Hotston, P. Kehoe,* N. Birdsall, P. Pierce, S. Pope, W. Ruddock, W. Howard, P. Robinson, A. Robinson, F. Chapman, V. Sullivan, H. Smith,* J. Tyrer, M. McAleer,* W. Boustead,* A. Williams,* R. Standen, J. Gowings,* S. Skinner, B. Rimmer, L. Wilds,* J. Curzon, N. Wyard, D. Smith,* D. Chapple,* A. Barker, A. Baird, F. Williams, K. Myall, F. Beck,* R. Dunkley,* T. Pearson, J. McQuiad.*

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS WHO LEFT THE BATTALION DURING THE YEAR.
**W.O. II** A. Searle. **Sergeants** F. Smith, A. Atkins,* E. Fletcher,* P. Creaghbarry, R. Hall,* J. Butler, R. Mason, D. Von-Arkadie, W. Wines.*

**Denotes Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Rifle Brigade who are serving with the 2nd Battalion K.R.R.C.*

## CORPORALS' CLUB

During the past year the Corporals' Club has expanded rapidly, but not too rapidly to note with regret the departure of some very prominent members. Dent, Kempson, Markwick and Burrows were posted to the Depot and elsewhere; whilst Jones, Payne, Brown Olivier, McCatty and Bailey—to mention only a few—were demobilised.

At Christmas time a social was held, together with the draw of the Christmas raffle which produced some magnificent prizes. On New Year's Eve, Smith was given the well-earned crown of the King of the Tramps' Ball. The sawdust on the floor, the packing case tables and chairs, and the candle lighting all added an authentic touch to the proceedings, into which everyone entered with enthusiasm. In fact all who went to it said that it was one of the most successful dances that we have held and indeed some wondered if we did not always live like that.

Another social was held when R.S.M. L. Grout honoured us with his presence for the last time, before leaving shortly afterwards for the Queen's Westminsters, where many of us will meet him again.

High honours were won for the Club by McCatty and Wolfe when they fought for the Battalion in the Rhine Army inter-unit boxing championships; but Pope, unfortunately, was just unable to make the grade having been k.o.'d in the Novices. In the field of football, Ramswell, Nash and Jones were in the Battalion team, and in

the Battalion Athletics meeting the mighty Pearson, a very dark horse, surprised all and sundry by winning the hammer.

In January we suffered a serious loss when Paddy Beck left us for the Sergeants' Mess where we wish him every success. The latter part of the year saw the promotion of Baird to Sergeant. Congratulations, Dave!

## BAND ACTIVITIES

During the past year, life for the Band has been very peaceful. Our Christmas turned out to be as busy as ever, with small concerts to each Company culminating in the full-scale revue on Christmas Eve. With the aid of the "Gang" a good time was had by all.

The Highlight of the year was the Massed Retreat with the 1st Battalion at the Green Jackets Race Meeting. Despite many diplomatic wrangles regarding a suggested slow march, a good week was spent with what we are pleased to call the Other Band, and apparently the Retreat itself was enjoyed by all the spectators. It is many years since both 60th Bands were stationed close enough together to mass for any parade; the Retreat of 1954 will therefore go down in Band History. We also managed to fit in a game of football. Unluckily they won a well fought game 2-1.

Since "D" Company has been attached to us it has been quite a task fielding a representative "Company" team. Though extremely weak in numbers compared to the other Companies, we entered for everything and gained quite a few successes. Due to really great effort on the part of our sports captain, Cpl. Pearson, the Battalion athletics were our greatest success, "D" Company being second to "H.Q." Results of "D" Company entries:

| | |
|---|---|
| 5,000 Metres | 1st—Bdn. Lister |
| 1,500 Metres | 2nd—Bdn. Field |
| 800 Metres | 2nd—Bdn. Porter |
| 400 Metres | 1st—Bdn. Field |
| | 2nd—Lieut. Welsh (2 i/c of "D" Coy). |
| Long Jump | 1st—Bdn. Field |
| Discus | L./Cpl. Townsend |
| Shot | 2nd—Major Darwin (Band President and Coy Commander) |
| Javelin | 3rd—Bdn. Lister |
| Hammer | 1st—Cpl. Pearson |

In the general field of sport we have had representatives from the Band in almost all the Battalion teams: cricket, hockey, basketball, crosscountry running and swimming. In the last named Bdn. Lister went forward to the B.A.O.R. individual championships. Perhaps the most crushing defeat of the year was the night the



Sergeants' Mess challenged the Band at basketball. Unfortunately they lost 49-9, though we lent them the services of our eleventh reserve, the Bandmaster! In the coming season we hope to build up our football and hockey teams, neither of which have had any striking success in the Company leagues.

The dance band has gone from strength to strength, but even as this goes to press we must bid farewell to two of our best members. Both have worked extremely hard for the Band, both will be sorely missed as musicians and as first-rate comrades. Cpl. Simpson of xylophone fame is returning to the wilds of New Zealand and Bdn. Hunt takes up a three-year scholarship at the Royal College of Music. The best wishes of all the band go with them and hopes for their success in civilian life.

Though these notes have gone in before the Administrative Inspection, a prophecy had been made that with the aid of a few more drum crashes, triangle beats and bugle calls, Battalion parades will soon start and finish with no word of command and consequently all that will be needed on the square is the O.R.'s, band and bugles. If only we could record our part, we too could lay back and listen to the Battalion on parade!! . . . More of this after the event and after the Christmas Concert.

## SHOOTING

### Non-Central Matches, 1953

During the shooting year 1953 there was a marked improvement in the all-round standard of competition shooting, which culminated in the Battalion winning two cups and coming 2nd to 1 R.B. in the Queen Victoria Trophy. The young soldiers, although well below their best form, won their match with a score that was especially creditable since twelve of the sixteen had never shot in a match before, "H.Q." Company won the Company Shield and "C" Company were 8th. The Officers were 2nd in the King George, the W.O.s and Sergeants 4th in the Royal Irish, and "H.Q." Company were 6th in the 1st Army Cup (S.M.C.). As a new venture we entered for the Sniper Club and came 2nd to 1 K.R.R.C.

This year our scores have been much better. (See "Good News from the A.R.A."—Editor).

### Small Bore

This was on the whole a successful season, although when it came to the test our nerves failed us.

We won the 6th Armd. Div. competition with a better score than last year, but only reached the semi-final stage of the B.A.O.R.

championship. This was disappointing because in the first round we made the highest score of the meeting.

We reached the final of the A.R.A. Inter-Unit Championship and recorded our highest score of the year, an average of 98·1 per firer, only to be beaten by the C.R.M.P. Depot with an average of 99.

Our most consistent firers throughout the season were L./Cpl. Blighton and Sgt.-Major Pope, who both averaged over 98 per card. In the A.R.A. individual championship Cpl. Colgan shot extremely well to come 14th with a score of 397 (100, 100, 100, 97) out of a possible 400. Peter Welsh was 19th with 396.

**B.A.O.R. Rifle Meeting**

This year we went to the B.A.O.R. Meeting with quiet confidence. We felt we could do well provided that we had no more than our fair share of bad luck.

The ammunition provided was bad, and no matter how it was cleaned, hard extractions were common occurrence. Nevertheless, we won the Rhine Army Shield, beating the 1st Battalion into 3rd place.

The Officers won their team match and the young soldiers retained the shield they won last year. We were 2nd in the L.M.G. match, having had two bad stoppages. Rfn. Goswell tied for first place for the champion young soldier with Rfn. Batt, 1st K.R.R.C., but lost the shoot off. C.S.M. Jack Pope shot well to finish 5th in the Rhine Army 100. Our overall high standard was shown by, out of 22 firers on the rifle, 12 finished in the Rhine Army 100.

We had a good run in the falling plate competition and were just beaten in the semi-final by 1st K.R.R.C.

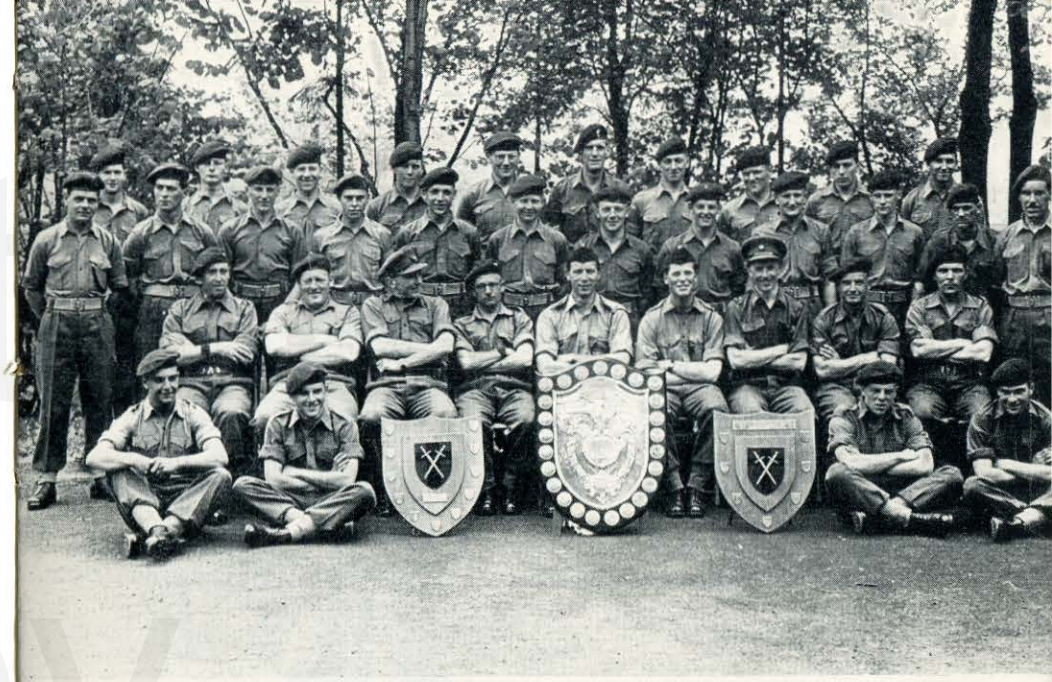
FINAL PLACINGS

| | |
|---|---|
| Rhine Army Inter Unit Championship | 1st |
| Officers team match | 1st |
| Young Soldiers team match | 1st |
| Corporals and Riflemen team match | 2nd |
| L.M.G. team match | 2nd |
| Warrant Officers and Sergeants team match | 3rd |
| Sten match | 7th |
| Falling Plate match | 3rd |

The following qualified for the Rhine Army 100:

C.S.M. Pope, Cpl. Baird, Capt. Purdon, Lieut. Welsh, Rfn. Goswell, Rfn. Whiting, Sgt. Howard, L./Cpl. Decca, 2nd/Lieut. Bedford, Cpl. Colgan, L./Cpl. Connoly and L./Cpl. Porter.

This year Dick Basset trained up some young soldiers on the pistol to shoot in the Wavell Cup. Although we were only 3rd in this Cup it was a great achievement for Rfn. Yeomans and Oakley, both young soldiers, and Dick himself to get into the Rhine Army Pistol twenty.



WINNERS B.A.O.R. INTER-UNIT RIFLE MEETING

*Back row (left to right):* Rfn. Parnell, L/Cpls. Porter, Blighton, Campen, Decca, Arm/Sgt. Potter, Rfn. Sorrell, Oakley, Yeomans, White

*2nd row (left to right):* Sjt. Chapple, Cpl. Baird, L/Cpl. Sharland, Rfn. Everitt, Rfn. Goswell, Wilkins, Bush, Munday, Furnee, L/Cpl. Connelly, Cpl. Mason, Sgt. Wyard

*3rd row (sitting):* W.O. II Greenaway, Sgt. Howard, Capt. Gore, W.O. II Pope, Lts. Welsh, Bedford, Capt. Walsh, Sgts. Smith, Pearson

*Front (sitting):* Rfn. Richardson, Rfn. Nastri, Whiting, Smith

**Bisley**

Although here again we improved on last year, we still just failed to strike the front. Our general standard on the rifle was not quite good enough, although the weather conditions did not make shooting easy. Our great improvement was on the L.M.G., which resulted in four pairs being placed in the Worcester Cup.

There were two great personal successes for us in the meeting. C.S.M. Pope shot magnificently to win the Army 100 Cup, probably the most difficult rifle shoot of the fortnight. This was a fine performance indeed and a just reward for all his hard work on the range this summer. The other success was Rfn. Goswell who was runner-up in the Young Soldiers' Cup, with a score which any other year would have won. He was 2nd in the Class "C" Roberts Cup and finished up by coming 12th in the Army 100. A wonderful performance for a Young Soldier, shooting at Bisley for the first time.

Our best team match was in the Parachute Regiment Cup (S.M.C.). Our team shot excellently to finish only one point behind the winners. This was their highest score ever, and they were beaten by the Air-

borne Forces Depot, who only entered for this one match. We were unfortunate in the Small Arms Cup, since the only rain of the day fell as our team was doing the run-down. Our unfortunate bespectacled Riflemen could hardly see the target. This undoubtedly cost us two or three places and enabled the 4th Training Battalion R.E.M.E. to beat us by one point in the K.R.R.C. up.

We must congratulate the Depot on their wonderful results in winning both the Britannia Trophy and the Small Arms Cup.

Our thanks are again due to the Queen's Westminsters for allowing us to use their Lodge, and for looking after us so well.

C.S.M. POPE
Winner Army Hundred Cup, Bisley, 1954

## BISLEY RESULTS

THE HENRY WHITEHEAD CUP

*Class A*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 48th | Lieut. Welsh | 162 |

*Class C*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 18th | Cpl. Colgan | 151 |
| 20th | Rfn. Goswell | 150 |

THE ROBERTS CUP

*Class A*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 24th | Lieut. Welsh | 119 |
| 52nd | C.S.M. Pope | 115 |

*Class C*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2nd | Rfn. Goswell | 130 |

THE ARMY HUNDRED CUP

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1st | C.S.M. Pope | 176 |
| 6th | Lieut. Welsh | 172 |
| 13th | Rfn. Goswell | 168 |

ROUPELL CUP

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11th | L./Cpl. Decca | 95 |
| 31st | C.S.M. Pope | 92 |
| 90th | Rfn. Goswell | 90 |



WORCESTER CUP

*Class A*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4th | Capt. Purdon—Sgt. Howard | 331 |

*Class B*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4th | Cpl. Mason—Rfn. Whiting | 315 |
| 7th | Cpl. Baird—L./Cpl. Decca | 303 |

*Class C*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4th | L.C/pl. Campen—L./Cpl. Connoly | 315 |

TEAM EVENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Britannia Trophy | 3rd |
| Small Arms Cup | 6th |
| Eastern Command Cup | 2nd |
| Northamptonshire Cup | 2nd |
| R.U.R. Cup | 8th |
| K.R.R.C. Cup | 2rd |

ARMY CHAMPIONSHIP

| | |
|---|---|
| 10th | Lieut. Welsh |
| 12th | Rfn. Goswell |
| 17th | C.S.M. Pope |

## BOXING

The season started in October, 1953, with a Novices Competition, which produced some excellent fights. "A" Company eventually won, for the third year running, by one point from "B" Company and "C" Company, who tied for second place.

A week later the Inter-Company Boxing was held, and after two very close semi-Finals, "H.Q." Company beat "B" Company by 6-5 fights in an exciting final. The next event was the Open Individual Competition for the Battalion Boxing Belts, and after this the Battalion went into hard training for the Inter-Unit Competition.

In the first round we defeated the 17/21 Lancers by 9-2 fights and a week later we defeated 2nd R.T.R. by the same margin. In the Brigade Final we succeeded in defeating our old rivals 6 R.T.R. by 7-4 fights, after perhaps the best and certainly the most exciting evening's boxing of the whole competition. Rfn. Wolfe deserved special congratulations for winning his fight after being knocked down three times in the first two rounds, and Rfn. Parry boxed better than ever to beat L./Cpl. Moore (6 R.T.R.) in the featherweight.

In the Divisional Final we defeated 27th Field Engineer Regiment by 6-5 fights, the result depending on the first string welterweight, in which Cpl. McCatty gained a narrow victory for us.

In February, 1954, we defeated the 1st Battalion in the B.A.O.R. Quarter-Finals at Sennelager by 7-4 fights.

A fortnight later we met the 17th Vehicle Battalion R.A.O.C. in the B.A.O.R. Semi-Finals. This evening produced some excellent

WINNERS B.A.O.R INTER-UNIT BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP
*Standing (left to right):* Cpl. G. McCatty, Rfn. D. Flinn, B. Channing, Lt. P. Welsh, Rfn. A. Gorman, Bugler S. Curtis, Rfn. R. Marchant
*Sitting (left to right):* S.S.I. J. Collins, A.P.T.C., Rfn. R. Wolfe, B. Sanders, Lt. J. Oxley, Cfn. P. Kent, Rfn. F. Parry, Sgt. T. Wilds
*Sitting in front (left to right):* Rfn. T. Moore, T. Stephenson, J. Cosgrove

boxing with some very close fights. The final result was 2nd K.R.R.C. 18 points, 17 Veh. Bn. R.A.O.C. 14 points. In this match, our lighter weights, Rfn. Sanders, Parry, Cfn. Kent and Bugler Curtis, who were always our main strength, again boxed very well and won their fights.

The B.A.O.R. Final was fought at Hohne against the 2nd Bn. The Royal Welch Fusiliers. In the Bantam and Featherweight, Rfn. Sanders and Parry both won their fights very easily. Cfn. Kent (Light) boxed well and won, in spite of having his eye cut in the second round. Rfn. Moore (Light Welter) was beaten after a close fight, but Bgr. Curtis (Light Welter) won, after being knocked down in the second round. Cpl. McCatty (Welter) lost a very close fight, which he would have won if he had been a little more aggressive in the first round. At the interval we led by 4-2 fights. Rfn. Marchant (Light Middle) lost the next fight on points. In the Middleweight, Rfn. Gorman won on a very unfortunate disqualification. Gorman, who was slightly ahead on points, was hit very low and the referee had no alternative but to disqualify his opponent. In the next fight Channing (Light



Heavy) was stopped in the second round, making the score 5-4 fights in our favour. In the Heavy Weight, Peter Welsh boxed very well and won a fairly comfortable decision, to make us B.A.O.R. Champions.

In the Army Final in England we ran up against a very strong R.A.O.C. team and were beaten by 9-2 fights. Cfn. Kent, however, deserves congratulations for decisively beating Pte. Flack, who was runner-up in the 1954 Army Championship.

However, the Battalion team had won the B.A.O.R. Boxing. Rfn. Parry and Cfn. Kent were the outstanding boxers and they were well backed up by Rfn. Sanders, Bgr. Curtis, and all the other members of the team and the reserves.

S.S.I. Collins deserves a special mention for all the hard work he put into training and instructing the team throughout a very long season.

## FOOTBALL

We started the season with high hopes, based on Rob Tillard outlining for us in some detail the Pegasus Plan, but the combination of weather, injuries and not being able to settle on a permanent forward line, eventually proved too much for us. However, in the Army Cup we beat the 122 Company R.A.S.C. 7-3 in extra time in the preliminary round, and 16 L.A.A. Regt. by 4-1 in the first round, and fell to the 38 Corps Engineer Regiment 0-1 with Sgt. Chapman hobbling on the wing for three-quarters of the game. On the whole a creditable performance and with the majority of the side present next year we have got something on which to build.

We had a very good half back line in Rfn. Nolan, Cfn. Rogers (L.A.D.) and Rfn. Fiddies who worked like blacks throughout the season in their efforts to preserve our honour. Rfn. Fiddies must have covered more ground than anyone else by several miles per game, and with Sgt. Chapman, until his injury, prompting and leading the forward line, no one ever gave up until the very end of the game. Our style (we hoped) was based on the Arsenal one of breakaways for goals, as our defence was stronger than our attack, and for the first half of the season, anyway, we had fewer goals scored against us than anyone else in the Garrison League.

Although we did not win this league, we played some very hard and close fought games (against the stones, on some grounds, as well as our opponents), and by the end of the season, with the return of Cpl. Ramswell and the arrival of Ian Maclure, we were giving as good as we got, while Oakley in goal grew in confidence with every match.

The 2nd XI in the minor league did excellently and so we never had to fix things so that both teams were not playing on the same day. Unfortunately, we were pipped on the post through being unable to finish our fixture list due to the Ceylon Shield, the weather and training commitments.

"H.Q." Company, quite rightly, were hot favourites for the Ceylon Shield competitions though in fact they did not always get as much of their own way as they expected; "C" Company in particular gave them a nasty shock, but the ever-faithful Rfn. Thompson had words with them at half time and they pulled it off by the skin of their teeth. Due to the time problem the competition was rather hurried but justice was done in the end with "H.Q." as champions and "A" "C", "D", "B" following in that order close behind.

## CRICKET

The now proverbially wet German summer and an extensive training programme, made drastic cuts into the cricket season. Time was well on the way out before cricket was remotely possible.

The Battalion when at full strength had a strong side, many of the tried professionals from last year still remained; these included such well-known players as Bobby Darwin, Stewart Symington, Peter Curtis, David Bedford, Peter Welsh, Cpl. Coward, L./Cpl. Prote, L./Cpl. Farmer and Rfn. Chance, Baker, Bagnall and Williams.

The arrival of the Colonel, Toby Gore, Ian Maclure, Richard Whatmore and John Leon helped to offset the sad loss of Rob Tillard, Mike Coulman and L./Cpl. Harvey.

The first round of the B.A.O.R. 33-over competition was faced with certain misgivings. We were drawn to meet 1 R.H.A. who had knocked us out in an early round in the competition the year before. However, due to some fine bowling by Trueman (Bobby Darwin) and Bedser (Stuart Symington) the R.H.A. were removed for the total of 56 runs. Our opening bats, David Bedford and Stuart Symington, left nothing to chance, scoring the runs between them. The side went on to defeat the 21st Field Engineer Regiment in the Final.

Greenjacket cricket proved almost impossible this year with the departure of 1 R.B. to England. One match in the best possible traditions, however, was run in Berlin. A Free Forester touring side captained by David Clive and including Tom Jackson, Gerald Carter and John Abell, visited Munster in August. An entertaining one-day match was played on the Battalion ground against a predominantly Green Jacket Munster Garrison side.



The Inter-Company cricket provided spectators with some entertaining agricultural cricket on the square. "A" Company were the easy winners due to some very fast accurate bowling by Rfn. Travallion and Peter Curtis's impressively steady batting. In conclusion the Battalion had a short but most enjoyable and successful season.

RESULTS OF THE B.A.O.R. COMPETITION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1st Round | *v.* | 1 R.H.A. Won by 10 wickets.<br>Darwin 5 for 32. Symington 26 not out, Bedford 30 not out |
| 2nd Round | *v.* | R.A.S.C. 6 Armd. Div. Column. Won by 41 runs.<br>Darwin 6 for 45. Symington 52. |
| 3rd Round | *v.* | H.Q. 6 Amd. Div. Won by 156 runs.<br>Cpl. Coward 4 for 14. Symington 113 not out, Gore 50 |
| 4th Round | *v.* | 10th Armd. Workshops. Won by 104 runs.<br>Cpl. Coward 4 for 17. Gore 82. |
| Quarter Final | *v.* | H.Q. NORTHAG. Won by 35 runs.<br>Gore 5 for 48, Symington 4 for 53, Maclure 81, Bedford 42. |
| Semi-Final | *v.* | 35 L.A.A. Regt. Won by 74 runs.<br>Symington 7 for 20. |
| Final | *v.* | 21st Fd. Engineer Regt. Won.<br>Symington 67, Watmore 53. |

## SWIMMING

The weather could hardly have been worse this summer from the swimming point of view. In fact hardly anyone swam at all except the hardy individuals who had to train for the various sports. We were so busy with training and the weather was such, that we were unable to hold our Battalion Sports before the Divisional Championships. However, we held a Battalion trial and from this we chose our team, which included some of the stars from last year like Fernie ("C"), Gosgrove ("A"), Edney ("A") and Brennan ("H.Q."). We were very lucky also to find new talent in Cfn. Lawrence (L.A.D.) and Oakley ("B"). After ten days training and shivering in the Blue Pool, we went to the Divisional Championships on 21st July where we won the Brigade Cup, though we only came 2nd by a small margin to 5 R.H.A. in the Divisional Competition.

We led until the last event, the Medley Relay, when Oakley ("B") swam very fast to diminish a large lead, but he was just beaten into 3rd place by 5 R.H.A. and so into 2nd place for the competition. Bdsm. Lister swam very well in the 100 metres Backstroke and so did Cpl. Pearson (Band) in the Breaststroke.

At the B.A.O.R. Individual Championships, Cfn. Lawrence came 2nd in the 100 metres Breaststroke, Rfn. Jackson 3rd in the 1,500

metres Freestyle and Bdn. Lister 5th in the 100 metres Backstroke. Lawrence then represented B.A.O.R. in the Army Championships at Aldershot.

We held our Battalion Sports on 28th August and fortunately the swimming came in a warm and sunny spell between two cloudbursts. From the start it was obvious that the Sports would be a very close fight between "H.Q.", "A" and "C" Companies. There were never more than three points separating the three Companies. The score was "A" 38 pts., "C" 37 pts. and "H.Q." 36 pts., with one event to go, the 6×50 metres Freestyle, which is always an exciting event, but this race was doubly so and "A" beat "H.Q." by only a foot and so won the championship. "C" were 3rd and were followed by "D" and "B" Companies. Sgt. Sharman (Vtp.) won the plunge with 89 ft. 8 in. and Bdn. Lister won the Plate Dive with the amazing number of nineteen plates.

The Band could not play as most of them were swimming, but the announcer, Rodney Liston, tried his hand as a disc jockey and kept us amused in the intervals with a selection of "hot" music played over a very scratchy gramophone.

## MOTOR CYCLING

In November 1953 two Battalion teams were entered for 6 Armd. Div. trial. The trial was composed of two major sections, one being a night run of 150 miles and the other a day run of 25 miles, including 12 observed sections in the Osnabrueck Area. Our "A" team won the trial, and our "B" team were 6th. The winning team was made up of Sgt. Rimmer, Rfn. Tiffin, Rfn. Fields. Individual placings on this trial were Sgt. Rimmer 2nd and Rfn. Fields 4th out of a field of 113 competitors.

In April, 1953, 53 L.A.A. Regiment held a trial at Lippstadt. This was an extremely difficult trial over a course of 40 miles with 20 observed sections. We entered two teams, but did not fare as well as in previous trials. The "A" team however gained 4th place out of 39 teams entered.

7 Armd. Div. held a trial at Hohne in September, which consisted of two major circuits of approximately 40 miles with 6 observed sections in each circuit. Again we entered two teams and L./Cpl. Varey of the L.A.D. gained 3rd individual place, whilst the "A" team managed to gain 4th place with only two of its three members' score being allowed to count towards the team total.



## ATHLETICS

The Battalion Meeting was held on 13th and 14th September. The weather was kind, and apart from a rather strong wind on the first day, the conditions were excellent. From the start it was apparent that the battle for the Inter-Company Shield would be between "H.Q." Company (the holders) and "D" Company. The highlight of the first day was the performance of Cpl. Pearson of "D" Company in the Hammer. To win he threw a distance of 91 ft. 6 in., a very creditable performance. The three-mile was won by Bdn. Lister in a time of 17 mins. 17·5 secs., Rfn. Walking being a close second.

The final day was a Regimental Holiday. Besides the more serious events there were a number of "funnies". The children's races—a box of sweets for every entrant—were very popular. For the ladies' Egg and Spoon Race fifteen ladies came under starter's orders. Five furlongs from home Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Fagerlund were going well, but, alas, the pace proved too much; Mrs. Rogers, closely followed by Mrs. Abbot, came through to win. How many pairs of nylons were ruined history does not relate.

The 800 metres was won by L./Cpl. Langridge ("C" Company) with Lionel Aylen second. It was a very well run race and a pleasure to watch. "B" Company supporters had their revenge when Lionel came in to win the 1,500 metres, in a time of 4 mins. 22 secs. Mike Walsh scored a double by winning both the 100 and 200 metres, Roy Eve chasing him home in both events. David Stileman's figure thundering round the track was sadly missed this year. Bdsm. Fields ran a very hard quarter to win from Peter Welsh, the latter having just arrived back from the Eastern Zone (Berlin Cricket Weekend!!).

An excellent tea for all ranks was produced by Cpl. Cecil, whose masterpiece, a Regimental cake, was much admired.

The Officers *v.* Sergeants Relay was a hotly contested race. The first leg of the course started out in the country, the R.S.M. in his official capacity as Chief Whip, walked the course, took a short cut, and arrived at the hand-over box three yards ahead of Dick Basset. Peter Curtis in braces could make no impression on C.S.M. Cooper; though Peter Parker closed up on C.S.M. Howson. The Technical Staff fought it out over a hard section of the course, the T.Q.M.S. hanging on to the inside lane for grim death. Harry Edwards, who, rumour had it, had been practising up and down Muckermannweg for the last fortnight, overtook the R.Q.M.S. The latter badly needed a gym shoe exchange for on handing over to the A.Q.M.S. he slipped

and dropped the baton. At the final hand-over Keith Fagerland and Stuart Symington were blown off course by thunder flashes, laid by Sgt. Hotston. Suffering from shell shock and burst ear drums, Stuart passed the O.R.Q.M.S. and flung himself across the line to win for the Officers.

To everyone's delight Bert Challis again won the Veterans' Race. The Inter-Company Shield was won by "H.Q." Company with 75 points, "D" Company being 2nd with 56 points.

## HOCKEY

The Battalion team again competed with fair success in the Garrison League, eventually finishing 3rd. The team was well served by the inside trio of Rfn. Walsh and Charles Humphreys and Bobby Darwin, who between them scored 33 of the 36 goals. Rfn. Stephenson was fearless in goal and Sgt. Lunn, R.E.M.E., an untiring worker at centre half. David Bedford found it very dangerous after soccer and was not allowed to play as often as we would have wished. Towards the end of the season the defence was strengthened by the arrival of Dick Basset at left back, where he struck the ball hard and cleanly and was a hard man to get round.

It was encouraging to see more young soldiers playing the game in the Companies and the Ceylon Shield Competition won by "A" Company produced some good hard games, although "H.Q.' Company found one of the motor Companies too rough and limped around for days afterwards sporting a splendid collection of wounds and bruises.

## HORSE SPORTS

Owing to the increased cost of keeping horses it was reluctantly decided last winter that the patrol horses would have to be disposed of. This left "Molly", who belongs to the Battalion, as the sole remaining saddle club horse.

The Battalion racing stable has had a reasonably successful season. "Village King", with John Oxley up, obtained two seconds and a third in chases and a hurdle race at Hannover, and, with Lieut.-Colonel Holman, R.A., up, came second in a German meeting at Bremen on 22nd August. With Peter Parker riding he won the Mounted Infantry Cup at Lippspringe on 5th September. The Green Jackets Lightweight Cup was also awarded to the winner of this race. The previous year's winner of both cups, Phil Pardoe's "Mr. Price", had a big handicap to compete with and finished fourth.



"Stardust" had a disappointing season and never really came on form. "Albatross" leased by John Oxley started her racing career well, being placed third in the first race (7 furlongs) at Hannover on 8th August.

A Munster Polo Club has just been started, and it is planned to start slow to medium chukkers next summer. This will give an added interest in riding to those who, owing to weight and other reasons, have been unable to take part in B.A.O.R. racing.

## DUTCH MARCH

It was decided in May to enter teams for the Netherlands League of Physical Culture four-day International Marches at Nijmegen held from 27th to 30th July, 1954.

Val West was selected to train a team from "A" Company to march 40 kms. a day carrying 10 kilograms. Andrew Shelley and Rodney Liston were selected to train teams from "B" and "C" Companies to march 50 kms. a day carrying 1 kilogram.

Each Company nominated approximately twenty Riflemen, who were largely volunteers, to train for the marches.

Training was made a company responsibility until after the Battalion returned from Reinsehlen at the end of June. John Hanscombe was persuaded to volunteer to co-ordinate training for the three weeks prior to teams leaving for Holland.

"B" COY. TEAM MARCHING IN HOLLAND
L/Cpl. Martin, Rfn. Poole, Rutter, Hollingshead, Knight, L/Cpl. Mann, Rfn. Garni, Cpl. Ward, Rfn. Tully, Bush, Murfitt, Walker, Tilcock, L/Cpl. Bailey, Rfn. Atkinson, 2/Lt. Shelley (L/Cpls. Cosker and Lusha, also in the team, cannot be seen in the photograph)

During June very little hardening training was possible owing to a large proportion of the marchers being drivers and signallers who were required to take part in Company and Battalion training.

On 7th July training started in earnest with a two-day march over the same daily distances to be covered in Holland. The lack of preliminary training soon became apparent, and blisters, swollen ankles and strained muscles claimed their victims. A three-day march followed by a four-day march further reduced the field, including Rodney Liston whose leg muscles seized up on him.

During training the weather was terrible; however, morale seemed to be at its highest when it was pouring with rain. At night we always had a roof over our heads. Accommodation included barns, belonging to both a prince and a baron, a monastery and an empty barracks. An important part of the training was to have plenty to eat. At the end of a day after ten hours' marching everyone was ready for a large meal.

Owing to casualties it was necessary to modify the original intention of entering a team from each Company and "C" Company marchers were integrated into "A" and "B" Company teams, making up numbers to eighteen in each team.

On 26th July, teams left Münster for Nijmegen accompanied by Rodney Liston, who had sufficiently recovered from his strained muscles to be appointed team manager. An appointment which allowed him to assist the teams on a bicycle.

The Dutch March surpassed everyone's expectations. There were approximately ten thousand men and women entered, including London policemen and policewomen. The route was different each day and the local population turned out to watch the teamsgo past. Every small town had its band which would play the teams on their way.

On the last day of the march all teams made a triumphal entry into Nijmegen. For three miles teams marched past crowds which were in places ten deep. The reception given to the teams was fantastic. The local custom is for girls to give bouquets to their boy friends who complete the march. Four Riflemen received a bunch of carnations, Val West was presented with a bottle of wine by a civilian, on holiday from London, who had marched with his team at the end of one of the previous day's marches. The other officers were out of luck.

Thirty-four soldiers completed the march and were presented with medals and each team received a medallion.

A most enjoyable day was spent in Nijmegen after the march was completed and when it came to returning to Germany the hospitality of the Dutch people had left its impression on everyone.



## MINDEN REGATTA

Although rather taken aback at first, having had no experience in shooting rapids or crossing rivers in spate, but having found a few Riflemen who had been shipwrecked in the merchant navy or spent their lives in tugs, Peter Coulman managed to raise an assault boat crew from each Motor Company to compete in a Regatta organised by 27 Field Engineer Regiment at Minden.

We went to Minden on a Monday and spent Tuesday and Wednesday practising crossing the Weser on the regatta side. The river was flowing very fast and had overflowed the banks by about 4 ft. in depth, which caused some difficulty and made life a trifle damp as the crews had to wade through the water before the boats could be launched.

The regatta started at 2 p.m. on Thursday, with Cpl. Robbins with the "A" Company team beating two Green Howard teams by a large margin. This victory was gained by L./Cpl. Box and Cpl. Robbins up to their necks in the river towing the boat to the bank to save it from being swept downstream. The "C" Company team led by L./Cpl. Peek beat the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry team who were last seen shooting the Minden bridge some three-quarters of a mile downstream. To make it an all 60th final "C" Company beat another team from the same Regiment who joined their friends downstream. In the final "C" Company got away to a very good start under Cpl. Jones with L./Cpl. Bloore shouting encouragement from the bows and were nobly steered across by Rfn. Smith. In the meantime "A" Company and "B" Company seemed to have difficulty with the current and so "C" Company came in easy winners. Great enthusiasm and enjoyment were shown by all the teams despite being permanently wet and we were all very grateful for the hospitality given to us by our hosts, both during our stay at St. George's Barracks and at the Regatta itself.

THE DRAW

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Green Howards<br>2 K.R.R.C. "A" Coy.<br>1 Green Howards | "A" Coy. 2nd K.R.R.C. | "C" Coy. 2nd K.R.R.C. |
| 2 K.R.R.C. "B" Coy.<br>1 Oxford & Bucks. | "B" Coy. 2nd K.R.R.C. | |
| 2 K.R.R.C. "C" Coy.<br>1 Oxford & Bucks.<br>1 Green Howards | "C" Coy. 2nd K.R.R.C. | |

## GOLF

Full advantage was taken of the glorious weather last autumn by the numerous golf enthusiasts in the Battalion. Every Sunday one or more car loads would rush off to Holland, where there is an excellent nine-hole course just across the frontier. Our Dutch hosts were more than hospitable and even invited us to take part in their competitions with the result that Lorne Mackie-Campbell came triumphantly home one evening the proud victor of a very small cup. A few of us also managed to get in the odd round at Hamburg, which has, amongst many other attractions, a first-class golf course. Unfortunately a very hectic training programme curtailed more frequent visits!

In the Inter-Unit Championships we had a walkover in the first round against the Divisional Column R.A.S.C., as one of their team succumbed to Hamburg night life and passed clean out when given a large glass of brandy by Dick Basset just before he was due to drive off. It was, perhaps, poetic justice that we were beaten by two holes in the next round by last year's runners-up—the 17/21st Lancers. For we appeared to be in a strong position when Roger Nixon slipped whilst jumping over a ditch at the eighth, which admittedly he should never have had to cross, and sprained his thumb so that he could only play with one hand for the remaining holes, with disastrous results.

## SKI-ING

The Battalion entered a team consisting of Peter Curtis, Peter Parker, David Bedford and Robin Hooper in the Alpine Combination in the B.A.O.R. Championships, held at Winterberg from 21st to 23rd January, 1954. The Alpine Combination consists of a downhill race and a Slalom. Although the team did not arrive until the evening before the races started, they finished second in the downhill and first in the Slalom, which gave a final position of second in the Combination. The snow was very icy and produced a large number of falls.

Inspired by the success at Winterberg, the Battalion Team, now consisting of Peter Curtis, David Bedford, Robin Hooper and Roy Eve, went to Bad Gastein to take part in the Army Championships. The team came first in both the downhill and the Slalom, thus winning the Alpine Combination. A wonderful effort, for which we most heartily congratulate them.

Robin Hooper is to be congratulated, not only for winning the Army Championship for the second year, but also for becoming British Ski Champion.



# VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS

### Foundation of their early training

*By* Lieut.-Colonel P. B. EARLE, M.C., Q.V.R.

In 1800 there was no connection whatever between the 60th and the Duke of Cumberland s Sharpshooters—now Queen Victoria's Rifles. A hundred years later they were affiliated and the appropriateness of this affiliation is born out by the extraordinary similar standards, tactical doctrines and dress which these two Regiments set out to introduce, the former into the Regular Army and the latter into the Volunteers.

Baron Francis de Rottenburg, who raised and commanded the 5th Battalion 60th Rifles, prepared for Field Marshal H.R.H. The Duke of York, then Commander-in-Chief, the "Regulations for the Exercise of Riflemen and Light Infantry, and Instructions for their Conduct in the Field," This book, published in 1798, became the manual on which not only the 60th was trained, but also the Rifle Brigade and all subsequent Light Infantry and Rifle Regiments.

In the 1840's a certain Captain Hans Busk, M.A., LL.D., Hon. D.C.L. Oxford, a barrister, commanded 4 Company of the Victoria Rifles, the only Volunteer Rifle Corps then in existence. In 1858 he published "The Rifle and How to Use It.", an erudite book which ran into many editions. This book probably did more than anything else to develop the volunteer force on up-to-date and scientific lines.

Following this he published "The Rifleman's Manual," "Rifle Volunteers and How to Organize and Drill Them," "Tabular Arrangement for Company Drill" and the "Handbook for Hythe".

It was in large measure due to these manuals and the training based on them that the Royal Victoria Rifle Corps is recorded in 1860 as being "A thoroughly efficient Regiment, the model for all later Rifle Corps".

Like all good Riflemen, Captain Busk had the elasticity of mind to turn to other things; he published "Steam Life Ships and How to Build Them," followed by "Navies of the World".

We are indebted to Mr. H. W. Fooks, a past member of our Regiment, for photographs and the full information recorded on the monument to Captain Busk in the Churchyard at Frant, near Tunbridge Wells, and to Captain J. Andrews, late Q.V.R., and the recently restored museum library of Queen Victoria's Rifles where a number of the above books are preserved. To this museum any member of the 60th is at any time welcome.

# QUEEN VICTORIA'S RIFLES
## K.R.R.C. (T.A.)

*Hon. Colonel:*

General Sir George Erskine, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O.

## ROLL OF OFFICERS

The following Officers were serving in the Regiment at 1st November, 1954.

BATTALION H.Q.

**Commanding Officer:** Lieut.-Colonel P. B. Earle, M.C. **2 i/c:** Major J. A. G. Le Coq. **Adjutant:** Captain R. S. Ferrand. **Asst./Adjutant:** Lieut. J. N. Abell. **Int./Officer:** Lieut. The Lord N. C. Gordon-Lennox. **M.O.:** Captain N. W. H. Young.

H.Q. COMPANY

**O.C.:** Major M. G. Turner, T.D. **Tech. Adjutant:** Captain A. G. Smith. **Signal Officer:** Captain J. M. Garratt. **M.T.O.:** Lieut. J. D. Eccles. **Q.M.:** Major R. H. Keeling, M.B.E. **Asst./Signal Officer:** Lieut. J. G. Curtis. **W.T.O.:** Lieut. R. M. Bankes-Jones. **Messing Officer:** Lieut. G. D. Hopkins.

"A" COMPANY

**O.C.:** Major E. Rose. **2/i.c.:** Captain A. R. Macneal. **Pl. Comds:** Lieut. E. J. Miller, Lieut. M. G. T. Shone, Lieut. M. B. A. Watney, Lieut. J. E. G. Stevens, Lieut. H. M. N. Noel.

"B" COMPANY

**O.C.:** Major G. P. Lincoln. **2/i.c.:** Captain M. C. Maude. **Pl. Comds.:** Lieut. The Hon. R. E. L. Johnstone, Lieut. T. R. Summers, Lieut. N. F. Althaus, Lieut. J. R. Rathbone, Lieut. P. L. Wroughton.

"C" COMPANY

**O.C.:** Major M. B. Ramage. **2/i.c.:** Captain K. N. Loudon-Shand. **Pl. Comds.:** Lieut. J. E. R. Wauchope, Lieut. T. E. Thornycroft, Lieut. M. R. Coulman, Lieut. J. S. Hollins, Lieut. M. R. Cornwall-Jones.

"D" COMPANY

**O.C.:** Major M. K. M. F. Egleston. **2/i.c.:** Captain G. Bowden. **Pl. Comds.:** Lieut. M. A. C. Drummond, Lieut. G. W. Morgan-Grenville, Lieut. N. Eden, Lieut. D. Waddington, Lieut. R. J. Scott, 2nd Lieut. A. G. Tait.

ATTACHED TO 22 ARMD. BDE.

**D.A.A. & Q.M.G.:** Major C. C. Gregory. **L.O.:** Lieut. A. M. Grant.

The following Officers left the Regiment during the year:

Captain A. Watson, Captain M. J. F. Morrison, Captain R. W. Snowden, Captain D. B. Goss (R.A.M.C.), Captain C. L. Tutty (R.A.M.C.), Captain (Q.M.) F. N. Voysey, Lieut. S. C. Gibbs, Lieut. Sir John Hoskyns, Bt., Lieut. A. F. Barr, Lieut. The Hon. T. R. J. Barnes, Lieut. R. Parker-Jervis.

## ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS

W. O.I A. Lamb. W.O. II's R. Murray, M.M., A. G. Searle, J. Shippe, R. Briscoe, R. Granger, R. Knell, H. Perry, T. Moore, M.M., N. Baldwin.



### Honorary Colonel

In July the five-year term of office of the Honorary Colonel, General Sir George Erskine, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., came to an end, and we were all delighted that, with his many important duties, General Erskine has seen his way to accepting a renewal of the appointment for a further five years.

### Strength

Since last year the Battalion has been brought up to an establishment of approximately 850, with intakes of National Service men from the 60th and the Rifle Brigade, and at the moment the establishment of Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants is complete.

### Training

Each motor company spent two week-ends at Crookham to cover the annual classification in Bren and rifle and instruction in the many other weapons (3-inch mortars, 3*5 inch rockets and Energa grenades) and the several types of wireless sets and vehciles. In shooting the Regiment was second in the Divisional ·22 Match and won the Benham Pairs (Bren) in the Divisional Rifle Meeting.

### Camp

For a fortnight in September the Regiment was in camp, 650 strong, on Salisbury Plain with the 56th London Armoured Division, which

FOOT-SLOGGERS—NOT A BIT OF IT!
By Volkswagen or Bus from Claridge's to Salisbury Plain

must be one of the only armoured divisions approaching full strength. This is the first occasion upon which the Battalion had performed as a battalion within the armoured division.

Following a week which covered everything from platoon to brigade training, and a little over-publicised 'tom-foolery' in Salisbury, the Battalion left on Sunday, 5th September for the Ogbourne St. George area, north of Marlborough; battalion headquarters being responsible for controlling the move north of the Armoured Brigade.

On Monday evening the Battalion led the Brigade south in a mildly opposed advance to the west bank of the River Avon. In this advance we lost one officer, John Wauchope, who concussed himself in an overturned "Champ" following a swift and illicit bath.

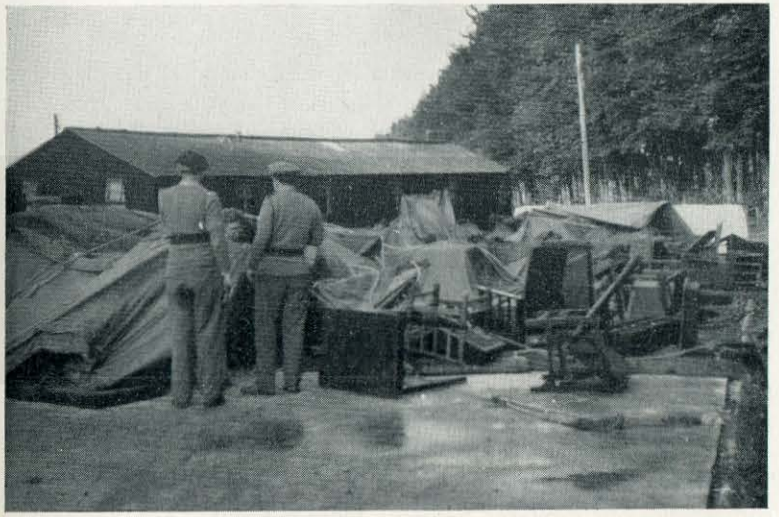
We then held a seven-mile line of the River Avon for two nights and a day, supported by one armoured regiment, two squadrons of armoured cars and any amount of guns. Considerable initiative was shown in crossing the river at many points during the night and one bridge was successfully captured. First light Wednesday morning motor companies reverted to their armoured regiments for crossing the Avon and for the advance across the Plain.

Ignoring the embarrassments of inadequate batteries and charging

BN. H.Q. Q.V.R.
*Left to right:* Neville Toung (R.A.M.C.), Jimmy Le Coq, Bob Ferrand, C.S.M. Murray, John Abell, John Curtis, John Garratt

"B" COY. Q.V.R. (CAPT. MAUDE) AND 42 R.T.R. IN EXERCISE "LONDON PRIDE"

Typical Salsibury Plain scenery in background



Q.V.R. OFFICERS' MESS, SALISBURY PLAIN, 1954

"How long will the sausages be?" "Difficult to say, Sir, they are mostly about three and a half inches!"

apparatus and the almost complete lack of tools, the Battalion moved with the desired speed and agility and we were all glad to have taken part in the first large scale operations conducted by the Territorial Army since the War. Food in the field was for the first time good, due largely to the intervention in the House of Lords on our behalf of Lord Derwent (late 60th).

### Visit of Honorary Colonel

The Honorary Colonel very kindly managed to spend a day with us between the C.I.G.S.'s Conference and his return to East Africa. He saw all the motor companies in the field and battalion headquarters and echelon before they left on a night exercise. In a special order of the day he commended the Regiment on "the tremendous progress" which it has made. The Battalion was also visited by the C.I.G.S., General Sir Francis Festing (late Rifle Brigade) mounted on a snow white horse, Colonel the Hon. Malcolm Douglas Pennant from Winchester, Archdeacon the Hon. Stephen Phillimore from St. George's, Hanover Square, and some 140 past members, friends and relations.

### Davies Street

Although there are few outward signs of change at the moment, considerable progress has been made during the year in refurbishing the collection of portraits, some of which had suffered badly and expensively during the War. A collection of framed photographs and paintings of all Commanding Officers from before 1900 is nearing completion. A Regimental Museum has been opened and a number of important documents have been bound.

We have got out designs for a new 1939-45 War Memorial which is to recognize in particular the Regiment's part in the Defence of Calais. This is to be built in the drill hall next to the First World War Memorial and the South African memorials. Drawings are also being prepared of a plaque for St. George's, Hanover Square, to commemorate the long association of the Regiment with the parish.

The entertainment field has been considerably widened this year. We had our first wedding reception—Maurice Maude—and our first christening—our caretaker Sergeant Johnson's son. The Sergeants' Mess dinner and dance was the best since the War. 140 people attended which included 32 serving members, nearly three times last year's number.

"C" COY. Q.V.R. AT WORK
Keith Loudon-Shand, Mark Ramage

Captains Bowden and Ferrand explain the "Saracen" to our 140 visitors in camp

### Obituary

The Regiment was represented by a number of past and serving members at the memorial service held in the St. Michael and St. George Chapel at St. Paul's Cathedral for Major-General Sir E. Northey, G.C.M.G., C.B., who was our Honorary Colonel from 1934 to 1938.

### Next Year's Camp

Next year the Regiment is going on its own to camp at Shorncliffe.

### Calais

On 31st May a wreath was laid on the Green Jackets Memorial by Mr. P. O. Crowhurst and a few days later another wreath was added by T.Q.M.S. Knell of the Queen Victoria's Rifles. Five serving officers visited Calais twice during the year by yacht. On both occasions local interest in the Regiment was found to be alive.

The same yacht manned by members of the Regiment and flying the Regimental flag was honoured by a salute from the Royal Yacht *Britannia* on Her Majesty's return to London in May.



# THE QUEEN'S WESTMINSTERS
## K.R.R.C. (T.A.)

## OFFICERS AND WARRANT OFFICERS
### 1st November 1953 to 31st October 1954

*Honorary Colonel:*
Rt. Hon. Sir Anthony Eden, K.G., P.C., M.C., M.P.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lieut.-Col. | F. L. Knight | Commanding Officer |
| Major | G. S. Palmer | 2nd in Command |
| ,, | R. K. Hedges | O.C. "S" Coy. |
| ,, | J. N. Butterwick | O.C. "C" Coy. |
| ,, | J. R. C. Radclyffe, M.B.E. | Training Officer. |
| ,, | F. H. Joyner, M.C., T.D. | Shooting Officer. |
| ,, | R. A. Lloyd | O.C. "B" Coy. |
| ,, | H. Grylls, R.A.M.C. | Medical Officer. |
| Capt. | J. E. Shirley | Adjutant. |
| ,, | C. H. Tidbury | O.C. "A" Coy. |
| ,, | P. H. Rothschild | O.C. "H.Q." Coy. |
| ,, | G. A. Kidner | Signal Officer. |
| ,, | J. W. M. Crisp | P.R.I. |
| ,, | J. Morgan-Grenville | 2 i/c "A" Coy. |
| ,, | G. M. Nissen | Intelligence Officer. |
| ,, | N. V. Naismith | O.C. M.M.G. Platoon. |
| ,, | The Rev. J. M. Courtenay, M.A., C.F. | Chaplain. |

Lieutenants

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lieut. | R. T. Bosanquet | Lieut. | W. E. Grenville-Grey |
| ,, | S. H. M. Bradley | ,, | J. H. Gibbs. |
| ,, | R. M. J. Burr | ,, | M. Mosley. |
| ,, | A. J. Butterwick. | ,, | J. N. Murray-Brown. |
| ,, | R. V. Buxton. | ,, | P. R. Nicolson. |
| ,, | C. J. Chataway. | ,, | H. G. R. Pickthorn. |
| ,, | G. R. Cornwall-Jones. | ,, | P. M. H. Pollen. |
| ,, | A. Drysdale. | ,, | M. K. O. Simpson. |
| ,, | H. C. S. Evill. | ,, | J. J. N. Wyatt. |
| ,, | A. G. Gater. | | |
| 2nd Lieut. | M. D. Chataway. | 2nd Lieut. | R. P. Liston. |
| ,, | R. M. Hooper. | ,, | J. C. Seymour. |
| ,, | J. F. Hurley. | | |

OFFICERS JOINING DURING THIS PERIOD.

Major J. R. C. Radclyffe, M.B.E. Captain N. V. Naismith. Lieuts. R. M. J. Burr, R. V. Buxton, A. G. Gater, P. R. Nicolson, 2nd Lieuts. R. M. Hooper, J. F. Hurley, R. P. Liston, J. C. Seymour, M. D. Chataway.

OFFICERS WHO HAVE LEFT DURING THE PERIOD.

Lieut.-Col. M. A. Johnson. Major The Hon. J. A. D. Woodhouse. Captains R. M. B. Tiddy, A. W. Kimberley. Lieuts. The Earl of March, R. E. Longrigg, A. C. Butler, R. T. Whiteley, F. M. Anderton.

ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS.

W.O. I—C. Millard—R.S.M.; L. Wolland—Bandmaster.
W.O. II—P. Richards, B.E.M.—R.Q.M.S.; E. Wood—W.T./C.S.M.
C.S.M. V. Kirby, C.S.M. S. Burton, C.S.M. W. Saville, C.S.M. F. Mossman, C.S.M. J. Barber.

### Change of Command

On 1st May, we bade farewell to Lieut.-Col. M. A. Johnson, who had completed his three year tenure of command and, in his place, welcomed Lieut.-Col. F. L. Knight, who had previously been Second-in-Command. Once again, we are commanded by a Territorial and we wish him every success in the future.

## ANNUAL CAMP

Having camped for the previous two years at Castlemartin in Wales, it was a most welcome change to find ourselves in an excellent Camp on Windmill Hill this year. However, if we had considered ourselves hard-worked at Castlemartin, we were very soon made to realize what hard work really meant, and that the emphasis was to be strictly on training this year.

EXERCISE "LONDON PRIDE"
"C" Coy. on Salisbury Plain. (*Photo by courtesy of the* "Daily Mail")

EXERCISE "LONDON PRIDE"
Lieut. C. J. Chataway (our Empire runner) and Serjeant KcMew

EXERCISE "LONDON PRIDE"
Lieut C. J. Chataway with his Mortar Platoon N.C.O.'s

(*Phots by courtesy of the* "Daily Mail")

The Battalion, over six hundred strong, played its part as a Lorried Infantry Battalion in 168 Lorried Infantry Brigade and, in a remarkably short space of time, was acquitting itself as if it has been doing this sort of thing every day of the year. The credit was due all round, but particularly to the young National Servicemen from the Green Jacket Battalions in Germany, who probably know more about living in the field than even life in London! Much valuable experience was gained from the big Divisional Exercise "London Pride," in particular that you cannot adhere to a move table on the main London-Southampton road on a Sunday summer afternoon!

We had a very welcome visit from our Honorary Colonel, The Right Honourable Sir Anthony Eden, K.G., P.C., M.C., M.P., who spent a whole afternoon and evening with us, watching training, visiting the Sergeants' Mess and attending the Officers' Mess Cocktail Party.

Next year we look forward to going to Camp at Shorncliffe, and concentrating on individual training and—we hope—some of the things the pre-war Territorials used to do.

## SHOOTING MATCH AGAINST AMERICANS

The Regiment has had an association with the 107th Infantry Regiment, New York National Guard, for over fifty years and, in pre-war days, shoulder-to-shoulder matches took place, either here or in America. As it is no longer possible for either ourselves or the Americans to send teams across the Atlantic, a shooting match by cable took place on October 24th, 1954.

Our team fired on the Century Range at Bisley and, within a very short time of starting, scores were being flashed to and fro, by arrangement with Cable and Wireless.

Among the distinguished people present were our Divisional-Commander, Major-General D. Dawnay, C.B.E., D.S.O., Brigadier-General Wade H. Hayes, C.B.E. and, not the least, A. G. Fulton, our chief coach, who was also a team coach in 1926, when the 107th last sent a team over here.

The Match was a great success and immense interest was shown in many quarters.

The scores were:

The Queen's Westminsters—1,098.
107th Infantry Regiment, N.Y.N.G.—982.



## SHOOTING

The Battalion has again had a most successful shooting season, and all credit is due to Major Freddie Joyner and his most enthusiastic team, who have hardly missed a week-end of practice at Bisley all summer. They are luckily a young team and we are looking forward to many more triumphs next year.

Some of the principal results this year were:

### Divisional Rifle Meeting

*Camrose Cup* (Aggregate Challenge Cup)
1st Queen's Westminsters
2nd L.R.B.R.
*City Lieutenants' Match*
1st L.R.B.R.
2nd Queen's Westminsters.
*Benham Pairs*
1st Queen Victoria's Rifles
2nd Queen's Westminsters
*Divisional Small Arms Cup*
1st Queen's Westminsters
2nd H.A.C. (Inf.)
*Divisional Young Soldiers' Match*
1st L.R.B.R.
2nd Queen's Westminsters
*Young Soldiers (Individual Championship)*
Runner-upRfn. Capel, Queen's Westminsters

"Sergeant-Major's compliments an' will y'take y'b—— tank off his b—— foot." (Stolen from the B.L. Journal—Ed.)

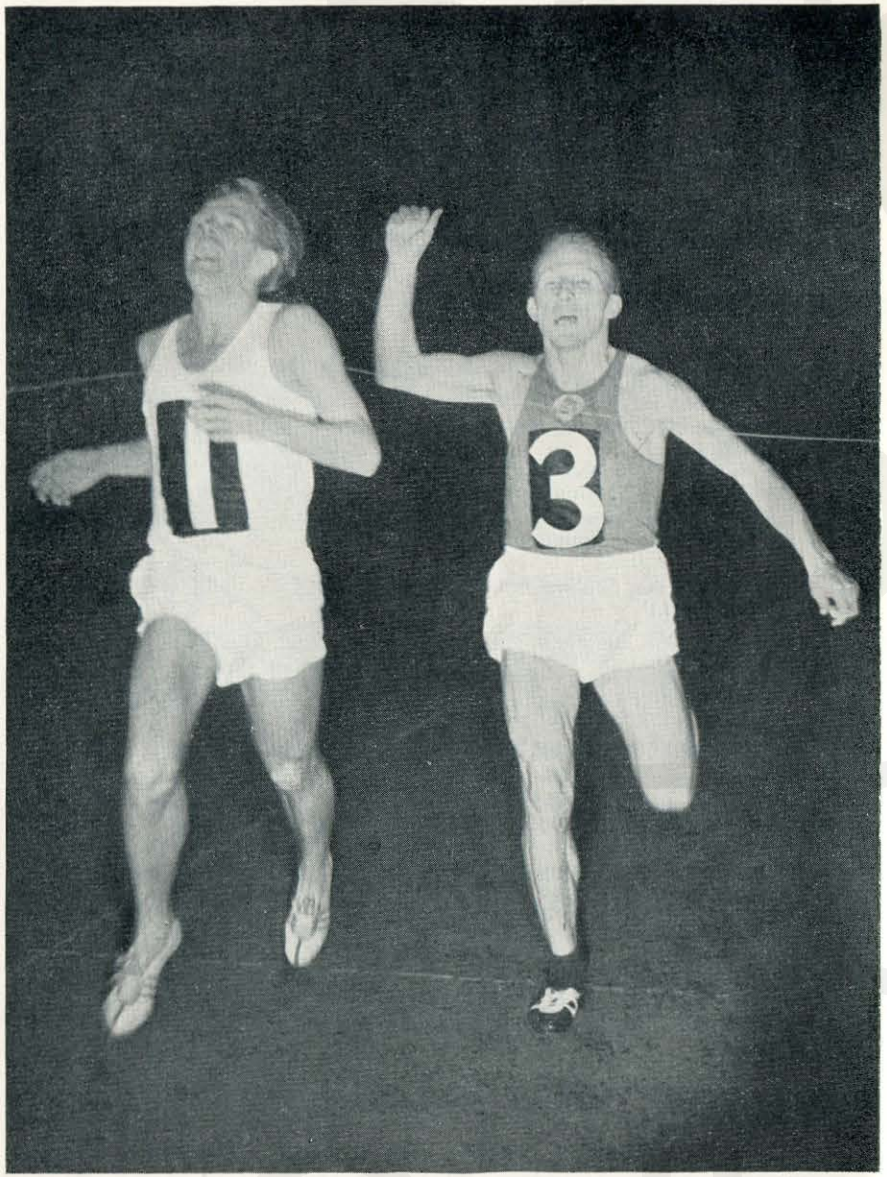
### London and Middlesex Rifle Association Meeting

*Battalion Match—The Middlesex Challenge Cup*
1st Queen's Westminsters
2nd 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards
*Parnell Challenge Cup*
1st 17th Battalion R.A.O.C.
2nd Queen's Westminsters
*Queen's Rifles Challenge Cup*
1st L.R.B.R.
2nd Queen's Westminsters
*H.M.S. President Challenge Cup*
4th Queen's Westminsters ("A" team)
7th Queen's Westminsters ("B" team)

## ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE—WESTMINSTER ABBEY 1954

On Sunday, November 1st, we had our Annual Regimental Church Parade at Westminster Abbey, by kind permission of the Dean of Westminster, Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment.

After the Service, unfortunately in pouring rain, we marched past the Mayor of Westminster.



Lt. C. J. Chataway beats the Russian runner Kutz and the world's record at the White City.
(*By courtesy of Associated Newspapers Ltd.*)



## ATHLETICS

If we started writing down the individual successes of Lieut. Chris Chataway, we should nearly be writing a book, so we can but mention a few of the team successes of the Regiment in this field.

We won the Inter-Regimental Relay Race at the T.A. Athletic Championships at Aldershot in July, and completely swept the board at the Divisional Athletic Championships in London. We have a really good, keen team and hope for many more successes next year.

## BAND NOTES

Even the writer, and others who have little or no ear for music, have not failed to appreciate the transformation which has taken place in the Band during the last year. Under our very able Bandmaster, L. Wolland, the Band is now very much of a going concern and it is a pleasure to march behind them, through the streets of London, at the regimental pace.

## SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES

The Sergeant's Mess at Buckingham Gate has now been completely redecorated, and certainly the new interior décor doubled the number of members at the first Social after Camp. It is, however, probably the new radiogram, which replaced the old billiard table, which proved the draw.

We have recently bade farewell to two very old members, 'Bo' Newman and Alf Lester, who had an aggregate of about sixty years' service in the Queen's Westminsters between them. The void they have left, however, will be partially filled by some of the young National Service Volunteer Sergeants, who are now signing on as ordinary Volunteers.

# 1st CADET BATTALION K.R.R.C.

**56 Davies Street, London, W.1.**

**Battle Honour: South Africa, 1900-02.**

## ROLL OF OFFICERS AND WARRANT OFFICERS

**serving with the Battalion on the 31st October, 1954**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Commanding | Lieut.-Col. R. G. H. Sutton | 1946 |
| 2nd in Command, P.M.C. and O.C. "B" Company | Major G. R. B. Hanson, R.A.R.O. | 1931* |
| | A Company | |
| Commanding | Capt. J. H. L. Burke | 1932* |
| 2nd in Command | Lieut. J. Holland | 1951 |
| | Lieut. D. M. Sutton, R.A.R.O. | 1952 |
| | B Company | |
| 2nd in Command | Capt. P. W. Bell, A.O.E.R. | 1950 |
| | Capt. N. Cutter | 1947 |
| | C Company | |
| Commanding | Capt. P. G. Newby Vincent | 1943* |
| 2nd in Command | Lieut. S. L. Johnson | 1953 |
| Medical Officer | Major P. Lissack, R.A.M.C. | 1945 |
| R.S.M. | W.O. I Edmed, A. H. | 1944* |
| R.Q.M.S. | W.O. II McCormack, J. H., B.E.M. | 1946* |
| C.S.M. | W.O. II Smeeton, W. R. C. | 1949* |
| C.S.M. | W.O. II Scott, D. M. | 1947 |
| Armourer | W.O. II Warner, J. | 1950 |
| Adult. Inst. | W.O. II Childs, G. | 1947 |
| Adult. Inst. | C./Sgt. Weterings, G. | 1950 |
| Officers' Mess Steward | C./Sgt. Holt, G. | 1942 |

* Service with K.R.R.C. or Associated T.A. Regiments 1914-1918 and/or 1939-1945.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE BATTALION

### Diamond Jubilee, 1894-1954

Sixty years as the second oldest Cadet Battalion in the Commonwealth! what a grand year in which to have served with the Unit! and what a memory to treasure for a serving Cadet Rifleman to have met Col./Sergt. Berry, Regimental No. 3, who enlisted in 1894 and attends the O.C.A. meetings regularly in addition to keeping an eye upon the latest arrivals.

It was in 1890 that the Rev. Freeman Croft Wills built a Church in a notorious London slum at the back of Liverpool Street station. His first attempts at social work were doomed to failure. Equipment

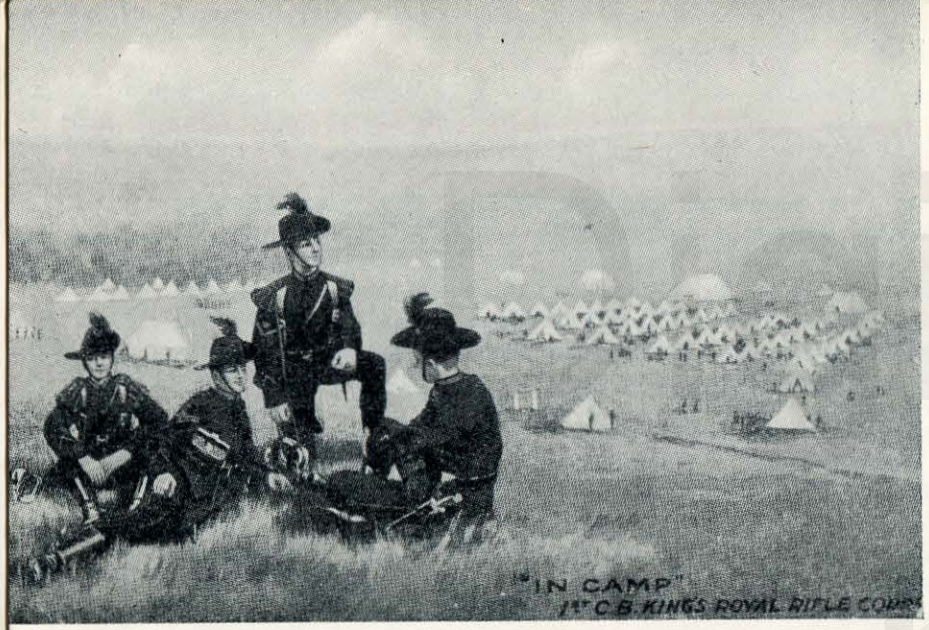


was destroyed and the members resorted to their former gambling habits. Undaunted Freeman Wills formed a Cadet Company on the lines of a South London Unit, the 1st Cadet Battalion the Queen's Royal Regiment, the oldest Cadet Unit still in existence. By 1894 the Unit had grown sufficiently to warrant a separate existence and permission to be affiliated to the 1st Battalion 60th Rifles, K.R.R.C. was given by the then Commander-in-Chief, the Duke of Cambridge. Headquarters were first at No. 2 Finsbury Square and later at the new Headquarters completed at 42 Sun Street, Finsbury Square.

A much fuller account of these early years was published in the Regimental Chronicle for 1948 to which some may like to turn.

On 13th November an Officers', A.W.O.'s and O.C.A. Social and Dance was held at Queen Victoria's Rifles. The building, with all its facilities, was placed at our disposal by Colonel P. Earle, M.C., the Commanding Officer and some 150 former members of the Battalion and their friends spent a very pleasant evening. Among

DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR
No. 3 Col. Sgt. Berry (1894)
No. 146876 Rfn. Rae, "B" Coy. (1954)




1ST CADET BN. K.R.R.C. "50 YEARS AGO"

the really old stalwarts, apart from Col./Sergt. Berry, were Major Cantlay, a former Adjutant of the nineteen hundreds, now in his eightieth year, several former Commanding Officers and a grand sprinkling of former members of the years from 1905-1914. We were able to put a few Cadet Riflemen in the full dress of those days—the moth miraculously kept out by a succession of wonderful quartermasters—and this gave great pleasure to the Old Comrades, though the remarks regarding the tightness of the fit, etc., made by the present wearers are best left unrecorded.

DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR, 1954
Rfn. Rae, Sanderberg and Footer are "caught" for Raffle Tickets

It is proposed to hold a Battalion Dinner for the serving members and the O.C.A. as soon as our present re-organisation is complete and under way and numbers have increased sufficiently to warrant a becoming ceremony.

## Battalion re-organisation

With effect from 1st October this year yet another re-organisation of the Battalion took place. This we met with, we hope, the adaptability particular and peculiar to Riflemen everywhere. The County of London Army Cadet Force is now re-organised along the lines of individual units, badged and quartered with their respective Territorial Regiments. For us this meant a very fortunate change since our three Territorial Regiments in the County of London allowed us to become a hundred per cent. Green Jacket. F Company with The Queen's Westminsters becomes A Company, B Company remains with the Queen Victoria's Rifles and C Company remains with the London Rifle Brigade (Rangers). We remain the only Cadet Battalion in the County of London to be completely badged to the K.R.R.C. The reduction to three companies has allowed our small Officer and A.W.O. strength to be better divided among the companies so allowing a greater opportunity to concentrate upon the general efficiency and company recruiting which inevitably suffered when we were so stretched over the former five or more companies.

The splendid co-operation we receive from Queen Victoria's Rifles has allowed the establishment of a small but effective Battalion Headquarters, consisting of a Battalion Office, Armoury and Q.M. Stores.

## General Notes

The Battalion strength as at 31st October, 1954, was rather below that at the same date in 1953, but the general standard of recruit has certainly improved during the latter part of the year. Numbers, although not as high as anyone would wish, compare very favourably with other units and are in excess of most.

The Commanding Officer has almost completed his second year of duty as Deputy Commandant for the County of London A.C.F., and has recently accepted the appointment of Training Officer for the County. His time is more than fully occupied and although the strain must be heavy in addition to his daily work, we enjoy his good humour on visits to Companies and are much helped by his appreciation of the difficulties of a Cadet Company Commander. Under his

general direction the Travelling Wing based on H.Q. London District has completed some very useful work. Visits were made to each Company in the County and so to the three Companies of the Battalion. A summary of the position regarding training within the Company, facilities afforded by the T.A. units, co-operation given, provision of training stores, etc. was made during the autumn months. For the 1st Cadet Battalion K.R.R.C. the result was:

| | |
|---|---|
| B (Q.V.R.) Coy. | Class "A" |
| C (Rangers) | Class "B" |
| A (Q.W.R.) Coy | Class "C" |

During the year Lieut. N. Powley, who joined us temporarily, left in October to take over the old Company at Albany Street, now badged to the R.A. Captain S. L. Johnson of the Trinidad A.C.F. was permanently posted to the Unit in the rank of Lieutenant. Bugle Major J. H. McCormack, B.E.M., so long known to many of us, took over the appointment of R.Q.M.S. and is about to settle in at Davies Street where he started soldiering so many years ago.

**Parades and Inspections**

The Annual Prize Distribution took place this year on Saturday, 13th February. Lieut.-Colonel P. Earle, M.C., Commanding Queen Victoria's Rifles, presented the awards. In a few well chosen words he showed again the interest that he and the Q.V.R.'s take in our welfare. There followed a gathering of serving and past members together with a Social and Dance to complete a pleasant evening.

The Annual Efficiency Inspection was held for the first time in recent years in the evening. This proved much more successful, and the turn-out and attendance was good. The Inspecting Officer, Major Carr-Gomm, Coldstream Guards, was well acquainted with Cadet Units and so was able to make a very accurate assessment of all that he saw. The Battalion, after a careful inspection and questioning of many Cadet N.C.O.'s and Riflemen, broke up into training groups to demonstrate the various phases of training taught. Each was visited and questioned. Major Carr-Gomm expressed himself more than satisfied with what he had seen and paid the Battalion the compliment of saying that he would now agree with all his brother, a recent serving Officer of the 60th, had to say about the King's Royal Rifle Corps and the high standard of its units. There is no doubt that the general standard of the Cadet Riflemen this year was very high, especially their steadiness on parade.

October saw the usual contingent of the Battalion parading for



the United Nations Day Parade in Trafalgar Square. The weather this year was fine for a change and did justice to the good turn-out upon which we were complimented as the representatives of the A.C.F.

Remembrance Day stretched us to the full. Two companies did two parades and all three companies were represented at the Q.V.R. Memorial Service in the afternoon.

**Week-end Camps and Annual Training**

At Easter we were once again the guests of the Depot. Seven Officers and 70 Cadets attended training from Friday morning until Monday evening, and thoroughly enjoyed the week-end. This has become so much a tradition that a report upon the visit becomes repetition. However, when we are asked, and we frequently are, what is done for us by our parent Regiment, the Depot can rest assured that their praises are sung lustily. Amongst our many tasks in the A.C.F. is that of producing Regular Army recruits. During the past year some 25 have joined H.M. forces. It is week-ends at the Depot, or with the Battalions when possible, that make the biggest impression upon the young Rifleman's mind. What he sees and experiences then is for him a picture of what army life will be. It is for this reason that we place so much value upon our reception at the Depot each year.

Annual Camp this year was held at Fort Landguard, Felixstowe. Some eight hundred Cadets from the County of London and three hundred odd from the County of Bedford went under canvas from 25th July until 8th August. Generally speaking, we had a pleasant time but the Camp was unsuited for Cadets with great distances between Officers' lines, A.W.O.'s and Cadets, whilst the Administrative blocks were again well beyond the general confines of the Camp. The weather too was quite unkind and the training areas too far away. Nevertheless there were brighter sides. This year units were organised into Training Companies so that each Company was composed of Cadets of about the same standard of training. This made for easier learning and prevented boredom for the seniors. Food was generally very good and the Royal Artillery, who were responsible for the Camp Administration did all they could to see that we lacked for nothing that they could produce.

On the middle Sunday we attended a combined Drumhead Service with Bedford A.C.F. on Felixstowe front. The service was well attended and amongst the distinguished guests we had an opportunity of seeing General Sir Evelyn Barker. Much useful work was put in on the open ranges and here Major C. Gregory, Q.V.R., gave us his usual unstinted help, spending four days with us.

Colonel Earle and Bob Ferrand managed to spend most of a day with us—one of the few that was fine.

**Certificate "A"**

Certificate "A" results for the 1953-54 were reasonably good. The new type of examination was tried out for the first time this November. It is far more searching, but provided the candidate has covered the syllabus he stands a very fair chance of success and the element of question luck has been greatly eliminated.

**Obituary**

Lieut.-Colonel P. G. Mortlock who commanded the 1st Cadet Battalion, K.R.R.C. from 1944-1949, passed away after a long illness on 23rd October.

He joined the Battalion as a Rifleman in 1903 and served with it until 1910 when he had reached the rank of Colour Sergeant.

Having a flair for horses he then joined the Hertfordshire Yeomanry as a Trooper serving with them from 1910 until 1918. He went overseas to the East with them in 1914 and was then a Squadron Sergt. Major. In 1915 he was Commissioned on the Field and stayed with the Regiment until their return in 1918 by which time he had reached the rank of Captain and was the Regiment's Machine Gun Officer.

He was then attached to Eastern Command Staff as Intelligence Officer until 1920 when he was demobilised.

Hearing that this Battalion was short of an experienced Machine Gun Officer in 1936 he offered his services in this capacity and re-joined. He saw the Battalion through the difficult days of the war, and commanded it until his failing health compelled him to resign. Even then his interest did not cease, as he then acted as one of the Trustees of the Battalion.

During his long stay in hospital nothing cheered him more than to talk of the Battalion and it was a great comfort to him that so many of the past and present members came to see him. Almost his last wish was that his regrets be expressed that it was impossible for him to attend the Diamond Jubilee Social and meet all his old friends.



## GREEN JACKET CRICKET, 1954

The last words of the account in the Chronclie about cricket for the season 1953 were "As the 1st Battalion of the Rifle Brigade will, we hope, be at home next season, we are looking foward to a very successful year". This was perhaps a rash thing to write for, although our hope that 1st R.B. would be at home was fulfilled, the "successful year" part did *not* materialise (at least as far as "matches won" was concerned) as may be seen from the following results:

| *Played* | *Won* | *Drawn* | *Lost* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 13 | 1 | 7 | 5 |

In addition to the matches shown above were two (*v.* Harrow Wanderers and the Royal Hampshire Regiment) which were completely washed out, not a ball being bowled in either. There was also a very amusing inter-family battle played at St. Cross between John Lowther's and Freddie Mellor's teams, both of which were composed entirely of Green Jackets. As on the same day the Green Jackets "1st XI" were also playing at Cowley *v.* the Light Infantry Club it meant that over 30 G.J. Club Members were disporting themselves on the cricket field at the same time. Thus many G.J. cricketers who normally perhaps feel that they are not quite good enough to write and ask Managers for a place in a Green Jacket side got a game at St. Cross in what might be termed—if an Eton phrase may be excused—a "second Upper Club" game.

Unfortunately the scores of this match appear to have been lost, but if memory serves aright Mellor's side won with about five minutes to spare after a very sporting game. The presence of many wives added to the gaiety of what was, luckily, one of the few nice Saturday's of the season, while all round the ground such remarks as "Hullo, old boy, I haven't seen you since '43" resounded!

Now for the other matches. First of all the Week. We were, I suppose, comparatively lucky in the weather, as play was not really held up by rain until the Saturday, although most of the other days appeared more suitable for Winter Sports than for cricket. This does not, however, apply to the Wednesday afternoon, which was really nice and sunny. This was very lucky, as an even larger number of Green Jacket Members and guests than usual turned up for tea and, ostensibly, to watch the Regimental Match, though in reality of course, to talk to their friends. The Band of the 1st Battalion The Rifle Brigade played all the week and gave much pleasure, but on the Wednesday, I am afraid, fought a losing battle with the noise of some 600 G.J's and Guests in full cry!

Actually the end of the Regimental Match was so exciting that several of the spectators stopped talking and actually spectated. Although we were in the end beaten by the R.B. yet it was a glorious defeat and very much better than many of the dull drawn games of the past, and the spectators certainly enjoyed it, I know, as I have heard several people comment favourably about it.

On paper there was not a lot in it in the batting line but the R.B. definitely had the better bowling side and got us out cheaply in the first innings. (The complete scores of the three matches in the Week are shown at the end of this account). Our bowlers did rather better than expected and the R.B. score of 238 was nothing out of the way. Our most successful bowlers were Geoffrey Shankerley (5 for 82) and our Captain, Stuart Symington (3 for 42).

We did better in our second innings but the bowling was very steady and we could not score as quickly as we should have liked. Symington after a very slow start played excellently and Ian Mclure made some very nice strokes. When there was just over an hour to go our captain (although if we had batted on we could almost certainly have made a dull draw of the match) took the bold course and declared leaving our opponents just about an hour to score 123 runs. They, of course, accepted the challenge which gave us just a chance of getting them out. However, they made rather too good a start, but were not really up to the clock until Tony Robinson came in and in a merry innings hit two sixes. This put the R.B. on top and helped by one or two missed catches they just got the runs with about three minutes to spare. A fine ending to a splendid match.

Against the Free Foresters neither the ending nor in fact the match was, from our point of view, at all fine or splendid. We started badly and finished worse, and we will let the score speak for itself only saying that our bowlers bowled better than appears from the score but were *not* helped by (to put it mildly) some very moderate catching.

Against I. Zingari we really were a bit unlucky as can be seen from the score. In fact before the rain came down in earnest and washed the game completely out it really looked as if we were going to win our second match of the season, but it was not to be.

The rest of the season must be dealt with shortly. Our first match against the School of Infantry at Warminster was quite an auspicious opening to the year as we scored 220 for 6 and got seven of them out for 140. John Davies-Scourfield (68) and Chris Cutforth (55) were our chief scorers.



The next game was *v.* The Hampshire Hogs at St. Cross and was ruined by rain. (Hogs 230 for 4; G.J. 39 for 3). Against the Old Wykehamists we did not bat well and were all out for a paltry 108. The wicket was not too easy and when we had five of them out for 20 we looked to be well placed. Unfortunately their captain, Bardsley, then took his life in his hands and went for the bowling and, aided by some luck and Guard won the match for the O.W.'s without our being able to get another wicket; a surprising and somewhat disconcerting defeat.

Against the R.M.A.S. 2nd XI either the batting (or the St. Cross wicket) was too good, or alternatively the bowling was too bad. Anyway our opponents made 217 for 2 wickets very slowly and we got 183 for 5 rather quicker. This, in spite of a good innings by Gerald Carter who made 65, was rather a dull match as we were not really left enough time to get the runs. In addition to Gerald, Simon Bradley scored a pleasant 51, it was a nice day for a change and the Sandhurst lads appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly, so it all ended happily if not excitingly.

We were a bit unlucky not to win our match *v.* The Household Brigade, which was played at St. Cross this year. We made 209 for 9 and had nine of them out for 122 with about a quarter of an hour left for play. However their last two players never looked like getting out; in fact they appeared to bat a good deal better than some of the earlier performers; so we had to be content with a draw. Maclean, Blake and Cutforth shared the wickets for us and the latter also played freely for 58, while John D-Scourfield and Tom Jackson made 42 and 35.

In our match *v.* The Light Infantry Club which was again played on the ground of the Depot at Cowley our batsmen did quite well for a change and we were able to declare at 214 for 9. (John D-S. 72, Malcolm Burr 44, Rob Tillard 32 and Tom Jackson 35.) Our bowlers could not get the enemy out in the time and in fact when stumps were drawn they were 209 for 7, the match thus ending in rather an exciting draw. Our most successful bowler was Carter with 4 for 39.

In our annual game with the Staff College at Camberley we were as usual beaten. It is a funny thing but I do not believe we have won a match there since the War. This time our batsmen did not excel themselves and only reached 150 (Nigel Blake 4, I. Evans 35). Our bowlers did not do anything like as well as this and only got four of our opponents out before they won the match.

Winchester College had a good side this year and although our

bowlers did well to get them out for 158 (Maclean 3 for 36, the Dawson twins 2 for 36 and 2 for 37—very twin-like performances!) our batsmen, with the exception of Peter Welsh (37) and Jim Wilson (31) did not face some good, fast bowling on rather a nasty wicket any too confidently and were all out for 113.

The only match played after the Week was the usual one *v.* the Eton Ramblers at the end of July and was, also as usual, lost. However good a side we get against the Ramblers, our players never seem to do themselves justice. This year our side was only a fair one and although we reached the reasonable total of 188, thanks very greatly to a brave and hard hitting (but not unlucky) innings from Peter Welsh (91), our bowlers could only get three of them out before they won.

The batting averages and the bowling analyses for the season are shown below:

BATTING AVERAGES

| *Name* | | *Total runs* | *No. of innings* | *Times not out* | *Highest score* | *Average* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J. Davies-Scourfield | R.B. | 306 | 10 | 0 | 72 | 30·6 |
| T. G. H. Jackson | R.B. | 177 | 10 | 3 | 35 | 25·29 |
| S. J. Symington | 60th | 98 | 4 | 0 | 65 | 24·5 |
| D. J. Hulbert | R.B. | 119 | 6 | 1 | 40 | 23·80 |
| P. M. Welsh | 60th | 138 | 6 | 0 | 91 | 23·00 |
| T. H. Acton | R.B. | 92 | 4 | 0 | 36 | 23·00 |
| T. N. S. Blake | R.B. | 101 | 6 | 1 | 42 | 20·20 |
| F. E. Hughes-Onslow | R.B. | 72 | 4 | 0 | 34 | 18·00 |
| A. J. Wilson | R.B. | 172 | 11 | 1 | 31 | 17·20 |
| T. M. E. Dawson | R.B. | 33 | 4 | 2 | 16· | 16·50 |
| G. R. W. Carter | R.B. | 147 | 12 | 0 | 65 | 12·25 |

BOWLING ANALYSIS

| *Name* | *Regt.* | *Overs* | *Maidens* | *Runs* | *Wickets* | *Average* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T. M. E. Dawson | R.B. | 24 | 2 | 79 | 5 | 15·80 |
| G. A. Shakerley | 60th | 21 | 1 | 82 | 5 | 16·50 |
| D. R. Maclean | R.B. | 83·3 | 12 | 295 | 17 | 17·35 |
| G. R. W. Carter | R.B. | 111 | 23 | 276 | 15 | 18·40 |
| P. M. Welsh | 60th | 29 | 4 | 112 | 6 | 18·16 |
| S. J. Symington | 60th | 46·4 | 12 | 164 | 8 | 20·50 |
| D. J. Hulbert | R.B. | 99·5 | 30 | 279 | 13 | 21·46 |
| A. J. N. Dawson | R.B. | 22 | 2 | 87 | 4 | 21·75 |
| T. N. S. Blake | R.B. | 55 | 9 | 201 | 9 | 22·30 |
| A. L. Robinson | R.B. | 69 | 14 | 256 | 10 | 25·60 |

The following also played:

60th: J. N. Antrobus, M. Burr, E. N. W. Bramall, R. H. Burton, M. R. Coulman, J. Calvert, R. S. Ferrand, C. F. G. Henshaw, T. E. C. Hoare, P. M. Hordern, J. R. S. Maclure, P. J. Oxley, E. H. Spooner, P. R. Tombling, M. B. A. Watney, R. T. C. Whatmore.

R.B.: J. N. Abell, J. D. Bendit, S. Bradley, D. G. Clive, C. A. Cutforth, I. Evans, J. R. R. Holmes, P. Hudson, A. D. Leslie-Melville, T. N. Hughes-Onslow, F. Stephens, G. M. D. Thomas, J. C. Walker, R. H. Wilson-Stephens, W. Wrixon-Becher.



## ARMY RACKETS, 1954

After winning the Inter-Regimental Doubles for the last couple of years, our effort this year was a comparatively poor one. This was due partly to the fact that Mike Coulman had finished his National Service and was therefore not eligible to compete but also to an unfortunate clash of interests on the part of his last year's partner, Peter Welsh.

The only pair we managed to enter this year was Peter Welsh and Richard Whatmore, both Old Wykehamists and both with the 2nd Battalion. The former was Weapon Training Officer and very unfortunately had to go back to B.A.O.R. to fire off the Final of the Inter-Unit Small-bore Match after the Army Rackets had actually started. This was extremely bad luck, but at this very last minute we managed to get hold of another Old Wykehamist, B. J. Gibbens, who had just joined the Depot as a Rifleman, and who most sportingly agreed to play though he had very little practice and had never played at Queens before. What is more this scratch pair managed to beat quite a good 17th Lancers pair (Neame and Hornby) in the first round, by 4 games to 3. In fact we should have won by 4 games to 2 as we got to 3-2 and match point when Gibbens, who up to then had played very soundly, served a most remarkable double fault which he managed to make bounce twice before it reached the front wall at all! Luckily Whatmore was playing a very good first string game and it says much for our pair that after losing this game which they ought to have won, they pulled themselves together and won the final game to 12.

The effort of this long match must, I think, have been too much for our pair as in the next round, the Semi-Final, against the R.M.A.S. (Mesquita and Bolton) they suffered a relapse and a pretty heavy beating into the bargain, losing 4 love. The R.M.A. were a good pair but our two certainly did not play their best.

In the Army Singles Richard Whatmore was drawn against Peter Welsh in the first round, but as Peter had to scratch this somewhat unfortunate draw did not matter. In the next round Whatmore had to play the ultimate winner, Neame, and did quite well to get a game against him. As Gibbens had not entered for the Singles this ended our effort as far as the Army Competition was concerned.

In the Past and Present Competition we had more players from the Regiment and did better. In the first round of the Doubles a very good match was that between Mike Coulman who was playing with Myrtle (K.O.S.B.) against Dick Bridgeman (late R.B.) and his partner

Neame. The standard in this match was pretty high (as in fact was the play in the whole Competition) and it was won by the former pair who were beaten in the Final after another good game by Bimbi Holt (late 60th) and Taylor who have in the past won the Amateur Championship together. Thus the Regiment was represented in the Final by two players.

Richard Whatmore paired up with Major Hedley for this event but this pair who had never played together before, were beaten in the first round by a well tried couple, Renny and Maclagan.

In the Singles Coulman repeated his success of last year, beating on the way after some very good games Neame, Maclagan and Brooks and in the Final, Myrtle.

For 1955 we must hope that we can enter more players and have better success in the Army Championships while continuing to do well in the Past and Present Competitions.

## THE GREEN JACKET GOLFING SOCIETY, 1954

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 8th May. Colonel C. E. Grenville-Grey was elected President in place of Brigadier T. Fairfax-Ross whose tenure of office expired. The resignation of Major H. Parkyn as Hon. Secretary was accepted, his place being taken by Captain F. Hughes-Onslow.

The duties of secretaryship are now carried out by Nigel Althaus and Fergus Hughes-Onslow, a very fine combination as proved by the success of the subsequent meeting, which all agreed could not have been better run.

On his retirement the late secretary was presented with a very nice statuette of himself playing golf as a young man in the last century and with a handsome cheque to enable him to get cabinets for his collection.

He very much regrets that he is unable to write and thank all those who so kindly subscribed but has been unable to get a list of the names. The gift is very much appreciated by the late secretary who wishes to thank all those who joined in giving him the presentation.

In the opinion of the Editor of the Rifle Brigade Chronicle the gifts were quite undeserved.



### The Annual Golf Meeting, 1954

The meeting was held at Littlestone on 8th and 9th May, when thirty-eight members took part, in weather which one has come to associate with Littlestone, cloudless skies and virtually no breeze, all of which should have made for record breaking scores. That no records were actually broken remains an unsolved mystery, but the lowest scratch scores on Saturday morning were 76 and 79 by Adrian Gore and Clinton Henshaw respectively, and they thus won their regimental scratch cups, and the latter from his handicap of seven was already being acclaimed as the medallist, and was nervously escaping the glances of importunate and thirsty would-be well-wishers at the bar, when Tony Robinson returned a nett card of 70 to put the question beyond doubt. He also won the T.A. cup with this excellent score. The Serving Officers' cup was won by Fergus Hughes-Onslow, with nett 75, by one stroke from Peter Tombling, who was thus narrowly thwarted by the handicap committee from winning at his first attempt. The Veteran's Cup was won by Tommy Fairfax-Ross, a triumph which was all the more fitting in his year of office as president. Six members scored a century, but Guy Earle who returned 101 nett, said that he would have been well in the hunt, but for a 13 and a 10 at the second and third holes respectively.

The match play competitions, for which the eight best scores from each regiment qualified, got under way in the afternoon, while the remainder drew partners for Bogey Foursomes. Dudley Trench failed to qualify for the match play for the first time for many years, but made up for the lapse by winning the Foursomes competition in partnership with Noel Bligh, thus striking a firm blow on behalf of seniority and sound pedigree which was warmly applauded.

The match play competitions produced a number of extremely close games and also two new winners. David Clive beat Tony Robinson in the Final of the Rifle Brigade Competition, while David Woodall, fortified at a crucial stage by his flask, was able to defeat the local hope, Matthew Harker, playing with great zest in his home course, thus won the 60th cup.

The Littlestone Cup was won, for the first time since the war, by a member of the club, but only by a small fraction from Peter Tombling. Basil Woodburn was third, and had a large audience spell-bound with tales of his process with his unique baffie, which has so often proved to be his undoing in the past. But, while we were undoubtedly sad to leave the cup behind us, the greater anguish was caused by the fact that the richest sweepstake of the week-end had also been lost.

The club gave us almost the complete freedom of the course and clubhouse, and provided us with excellent meals. The largest contingent ever accommodated in the Dormy House actually overflowed into the annexe, but although the party seemed quite as convivial as ever, enquiry revealed that the bar takings were slightly reduced from 1953. One can only marvel therefore, at the capacity of stalwarts like Stuart Symington, Roger Nixon, Edward Rose, Pat Hazlehurst and Jack Beswick, all of whom were unfortunately unable to come this year, and whose absence doubtless contributed substantially to this unhealthy statistic.

The week-end was enjoyed by us all, and none of the eight newcomers found the standard of golf too exacting. The weather, or course, could not have been better, but as the last stragglers left Littlestone on Monday with the sun still blazing, they could scarcely have expected to have witnessed the beginning and the end of our summer weather within those four delightful days.

RESULTS

*Scratch Cup*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| R.B. | A. C. Gore | 76 |
| 60th | C. F. A. Henshaw | 79 |

*Medal*

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | A. L. Robinson | 85 | — | 15 | = | 70 |
| | C. F. G. Henshaw | 79 | — | 7 | = | 70 |
| 2 | C. E. Grenville-Grey | 82 | — | 10 | = | 72 |

*Serving Officers' Cup*

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | F. E. Hughes-Onslow | 84 | — | 9 | = | 75 |

*Veterans' Cup*

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | T. Fairfax-Ross | 94 | — | 16 | = | 78 |

*T.A. Cup*

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | A. L. Robinson | 85 | — | 15 | = | 70 |

*Bogey Foursomes*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hon. D. O. Trench<br>Hon N. G. Bligh | 6 down |

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*Match Play*—Rifle Brigade Statuette:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st Round | A. C. Gore (scr.) bt P. A. D. Boden 2—1.<br>A. L. Robinson (15) bt. F. E. Hughes-Onslow (9) 1 up.<br>Sir C. E. McGregor (12) bt T. N. Hughes-Onslow (12) 4—2.<br>D. G. Clive (8) bt T. Fairfax-Ross (16) 3—2. |
| Semi-Final | Robinson bt Gore 3—2.<br>Clive bt McGregor 3—2. |
| Final | Clive bt Robinson 5—4. |

*60th Match Play*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st round | N. J. C. Hanbury (11) bt P. R. Tombling (8) 2 and 1.<br>J. D. C. Woodall (6) bt C. F. G. Henshaw (7) 4 and 2.<br>M. J. W. Harker (16) bt C. E. Grenville-Grey (10) 4 and 3.<br>H. R. James (15) bt A. R. W. Low (3) 1 up. |
| 2nd round | Woodall bt Hanbury 1 up.<br>Harker bt James 4 and 3. |
| Final | Woodall bt Harker 5 and 4. |



RESULTS 18 HOLES MEDAL

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. L. Robinson | 85 | — | 15 | = | 70 |
| C. F. G. Henshaw | 79 | — | 7 | = | 72 |
| C. E. Grenville-Grey | 82 | — | 10 | = | 72 |
| F. E. Hughes-Onslow | 84 | — | 9 | = | 75 |
| M. J. W. Harker | 91 | — | 16 | = | 75 |
| A. C. Gore | 76 | — | 0 | = | 76 |
| P. R. Tombling | 84 | — | 8 | = | 76 |
| T. N. Hughes-Onslow | 88 | — | 12 | = | 76 |
| H. R. James | 91 | — | 15 | = | 76 |
| P. A. D. Boden | 92 | — | 14 | = | 78 |
| T. Fairfax-Ross | 94 | — | 16 | = | 78 |
| D. G. Clive | 87 | — | 8 | = | 79 |
| A. R. W. Low | 83 | — | 3 | = | 80 |
| J. R. Cornell | 93 | — | 13 | = | 80 |
| Sir C. E. McGregor, Bt. | 92 | — | 12 | = | 80 |
| N. J. C. Hanbury | 91 | — | 11 | = | 80 |
| Hon. N. G. Bligh | 95 | — | 14 | = | 81 |
| Hon. D. O. Trench | 87 | — | 6 | = | 81 |
| J. F. C. Mellor | 88 | — | 7 | = | 81 |
| W. P. S. Curtis | 91 | — | 8 | = | 83 |
| B. Woodburn | 97 | — | 14 | = | 83 |
| N. F. Althams | 94 | — | 11 | = | 83 |

NOTE.—Out of kindness the Editor has not given scores of over 83 that were scored.

## THE ODYSSEY OF A COLONEL COMMANDANT

Every Rifleman knows the noble way in which the Rhodesians backed up the 60th in both World Wars and how King George VI had both assumed the title cf Colonel-in-Chief, and also dubbed the Rhodesia Regiment as Royal.

In Rhodesia it was decided to place a plaque in the War Memorial at Bulawayo in commemoration of those Rhodesians, who fell in World War II, whilst serving with the 60th. This plaque is placed on the walls of the cloister immediately below a similar plaque for World War I. The "Celer et Audax" Club had the privilege of opening the subscription list for the second plaque.

On being asked by the Colonels of the Royal Rhodesia Regiment (Colonels Ferris and Newman) to unveil the plaque on behalf of the 60th I felt proud to accept such an honour so generously offered by our blood brothers.

As it seemed a unique opportunity to visit also the Kaffrarian Rifles at East London, I sailed with my wife in the one-class ship *Bloemfontein Castle*, which sails westabout and calls at Cape Town, East London and Beira the port of Rhodesia.

Though I had crossed the Arctic Circle and spent many years East of Suez, the opportunity of crossing the equator had not come

my way. I was anxious to do so. What a geography lesson the trip proved to be and what surprises were disclosed! Obviously I can here only attempt a few thumb nail sketches. Reports from the Royal Rhodesia Regiment and Kaffrarian Rifles add many details. I soon discovered that the Greeks and Romans knew the Canary Isles well, and the latter named them after fierce packs of dogs, which dominated the Islands for centuries, and not after pet birds. What a lovely port Lobito is in Portuguese West Africa, protected by its natural mole, three miles long, formed by a razor-edged sandbank. How vast is Walvis Bay in S.W. Africa, once German, where we landed over 200 subsidised by the Union and obviously hand-picked dynamic young Germans whose technical jobs awaited them.

We were now approaching South Africa by the same route as the Germans and the Dutch, who turned in at Cape Town, whilst others sailed on to the East Indies; as the Hugenots with their vines, who stopped at Cape Town; as the Portuguese, who both turned in at Laurenco Marques and Beira on the eastern seaboard and also sailed on eastwards; as the English, who passed the Cape and soon turned in at East London and Port Elizabeth, whilst others like the Dutch and Portuguese sailed on.

These invasions from Europe were, however, by no means the only ones being sustained by Central and South Africa. The Europeans met head-on the southward trek of the Bantu fighting tribes, the Zulus near the east coast, the Setsuana in the centre, whilst the Hottentots poured down the west coast. The indigenous stone-age bushmen had a thin time indeed.

Everywhere—both in South Africa and Rhodesia, is felt vividly the vibrating repercussions of these collisions of the coloured and the white, now complicated by the Asian influx.

After resting under the impressive Table Mountain at Cape Town for only a few hours on 29th January, the ship arrived at Port Elizabeth. Universally known as P.E. the huge port and town is rapidly expanding and already covers many miles of coast-line. Two days later saw us at the little port and lovely beaches of East London safeguarded by our Allied regiment the Kaffrarian Rifles, who welcomed me, on behalf of the 60th, with true South African hospitality. Elsewhere in this edition is an account of this liaison visit, which I pray will bear fruit in the future. The Kaffrarian Rifles deeply appreciate the alliance and to a man are determined to see its continuance.

And so on to Durban which looks like what one supposes Chicago



looks like, but the high country behind is beyond praise. Here in a "thousand hills" is the vast Zulu reserve, some 400 miles by 200, where the white man is forbidden and the Zulus live in their primeval pride. Your bus may pass through by one road, but may not stop. Every ridge is occupied by a family, each wife has her own bee-hive hut with the cattle kraal in the centre of the ring.

The road from Durban is the old trek road, an ancient banyan tree still marks the first outspan. The route is lined with the old Dutch gardens, a blaze of colour, fenced with Abelia.

On to Delagoa Bay, a prominent name in the South African war, and Laurenco Marques with hippos in the river. One wonders if the Portuguese keep a few moored in the river for the benefit of the tourist traffic.

And at last to foetid Beira with its 24 feet tide, its flamingoes and pelicans, the sea-gateway to Rhodesia and terminus of the Salisbury railway. At Umtali on the Rhodesian frontier, Christopher Consett kindly met us at dawn and whisked us off to the famous Leopard's Rock hotel in the mountains. Unfortunately the superb scenery was mostly blanketed by cloud. *En route* for Salisbury we were royally entertained by Christopher and Mrs. Consett, staying the night with them.

At Rusafi, Christopher had arranged a luncheon with six old Riflemen and Padre Stowell, a brother-in-law of Sydney de Salis, most kindly took us to the grave of Rfn. Vickers killed in the Mashonaland Rebellion of 1896. In the same grove out in the fields were 2 other graves, one of a sapper, the other a Royal Irishman.

Amongst those at luncheon were Philip van Heerden, so well known to many Riflmen in the Desert Campaigns, and Hector Ashburner.

So at last to Government House, Salisbury, to stay so comfortably with my close neighbour in Dorset, Lord Llewellen, the first Governor-General of the new Confederacy of the Rhodesians and Nyasaland.

H.E.'s half-sister, Mrs. Douie, was acting as a gracious hostess. In a short week amidst much hospitality and regimental rallies, time was found for duck shooting, a sail and a mornings bird watching on two lakes. Some forty species were seen ranging from fish eagles to wrens including hundreds of nesting weavers and bishop birds, little jewells, lily walkers, herons and darters of every description, horn bills and ducks.

The benefit of the Confederacy to the African and white man stems from the economic interdependence of three countries. The Copper

Belt of N. Rhodesia requires the Wankie coal from S. Rhodesia, and the man-power of Nyasaland. Copper and tobacco seem to be the high-lights. Little can Bill Collier, a Dorset man, have guessed the significance of his stalk when, on running forward to collect his quarry, a fine roan antelope, he found it lying on an outcrop of copper.

In Rhodesia a 60th Rifleman is immediately made to feel fully at home. This plesant fact was much facilitated by my old friend Colonel N. S. Ferris, Hon. Colonel of the 1st R.R.R., who together with Jock Thompson, one-time second-in-Command 1st 60th in the Desert, smoothed our path in every possible way by making detailed plans for all our journeys in Rhodesia, and even for my subsequent rail journey to Cape Town, where miraculously we found our cabin filled to the ceiling with huge baskets of fruit and flowers.

A most interesting luncheon was laid on at the club, guests included the Prime Minister, Sir Godfrey and Lady Huggins, Sir Ellis and Lady Robins, Sir Ernest and Lady Guest, General Garside, Colonel and Mrs. Norman Ferris.

Afterwards we were led to the Strangers' Gallery to hear the second day's debate of the first session of the Federal parliament. We were duly impressed by the personality of Sir Roy Walensky, the P.M. of Northern Rhodesia and ex-engine driver and a good one, not like myself a third class army engine driver. My Longmoor certificate so rightly stated "requires more experience." Excuse this digression, and let us back to our muttons. An inspiring rally, arranged by Colonel Ferris and Lieut.-Colonel Harbley in the officers' and sergeants' messes of the 1st Royal Rhodesia Regiment. After much good comradeship the party finished by three cheers for the Colonel-in-Chief of both regiments—H.M. the Queen.

At the beginning of the century the name of Cecil Rhodes was on every boy's tongue. I doubt if this is so to-day, but in Rhodesia, Rhodes is spoken of as if still alive. His influence is vivid and everywhere. This man, who arrived in Cape Town as a boy in bad health and penniless, became a millionaire. A humorous Scot and an ex-Union senator sharing our table at sea said all future millionaires arrived with not more than half-a-crown in their trousers pockets. He himself had arrived with too much—two pounds! Rhodes was obsessed with the idea "so much to do, so little time in which to do it."

This man was convinced that Africa would benefit by British culture. Shabbily dressed he ploughed back his wealth from the newly found treasure troves of diamonds and gold into his schemes of a Cape to Cairo British railway, and his far-sighed Rhodes scholar-

RHODES HUT, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, BULAWAYO
Used as a small Rhodes museum. It stands near the vast baobab tree under which Cetewayo, the Matabele chief, held his indabas (courts)

RHODES' GRAVE, MATOPOS, RHODESIA

ships and universities. Rhodesia, Bolivia excepted, is I believe the only country called after an individual.

Sitting on the top of the weird Matopos, a kaleidoscope of light and shade, mountain tops and valleys, sunshine and thunderstorms, veld and bushmen's caves with their artistic drawings, Rhodes comparing it to the contrasts and up and downs of the world, called it "A view of the World".

Nothing small or niggardly about Rhodes. His streets in Salisbury and Bulawayo had to be wide enough for a span of 18 oxen to turn. He laid the foundation stone of the Royal Rhodesian Drill Hall at Bulawayo, so of course it had to be the biggest in the world, and is. His railway station at Bulawayo is the longest in the world, about a mile long. Future expansion was ever in his mind.

His streets must have both shade and colour provided by avenues of three lines of trees on each side. The trees must be flowering ones and some always in bloom, such as jacaranda and flame of the forest.

So recent is Rhodesia that Lord Llewellen took me to the ten thousand-acre farm of the old farmer, Mr. Willoughby, who planted the avenues in Salisbury. From the stoep, where his wife in the old pioneer style delightfully dispensed tea, we could see hundreds of acres of tobacco and mealies and a herd of black hornless cattle, the apple of their breeder's eye. The brown Afrikander cattle with their immense horns are difficult to manage, especially on railways.

At Bulawayo, the War Memorial cloister, with its huge rock of uncut Matopos granite on the centre lawn, is indeed impressive and poignant. For such a young sparsely populated country by white men, the sacrifice has indeed been severe. No wonder the sons of the fallen have no intention of letting their pioneer fathers down. Clergymen of all denominations assisted at our Memorial Service. With zest Rhodesians rallied to it, coming from Salisbury, 500 miles away, and far afield by air, road and rail through travel was made difficult by heavy rainstorms. A huge and unforseen crowd assembled behind the Royal Rhodesia Regiment in the broad street. Throughout Central Africa, the service and the unveiler's address were heard well on the broadcast. The address emphasised the significance of the unveiling of the plaque as proof of the blood-brotherhood as between Royal Rhodesians and 60th Riflemen and the gratitude of the 60th for such sterling aid in time of crisis. The pipes are now playing. In spite of a very recent return from civil duty at the Wankie coalfield, the R.R.R., spotlessly turned out in starched khaki drill and shorts

WAR MEMORIAL, BULAWAYO
The pillar is of uncut granite from the Matopos Hills near Rhodes' grave

is marching past, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Tones. Standing on the steps outside the Memorial the Colonel Commandant, flanked by their Hon. Colonels and many ex-C.O.s', and old Riflemen, took the salute as the Regiment marched up the incline in sun-light towards the statue of Rhodes. Rhodes' statues face northwards as ever his custom in life. It was a dynamic scene.

Old soldiers in the crowd, whether ex-Riflemen or not had put on their medals, many were wearing Mashonaland and South African medals, many leant on their daughter's arms. After the parade many spontaneously pressed forward to meet a representative of the 60th and shake his hand.

Time pressed. One could not leave without visiting Lobengula's "indaba" tree where Rhodes, nearly alone and unarmed had pulled the whiskers of a very cruel death, and by sheer personality conquered the Matabele. Jock Thompson was my guide and as O.C. Matabeleland, who better? His faultlessly turned out and victorious African football team is the pride of Bulawayo. Yes, soccer. Rugger? A smile and a shake of the head. Matabele are excitable!

In the afternoon on the way to Rhodes' grave on the Matopos, still guided by Jock Thompson we looked in on their rifle range of, I think, 24 targets and 1,000 yards in length.

Standing bare-headed next Rhodes' grave in blazing sunlight, but with three thunderstorms on different parts of the horizon in full crash, the scene was truly Wagnerian and a fit setting to Rhodes' memory. The party at the grave included the widow and daughter of Oliver Newton, M.C. and two bars. Another the 60th will never forget.

All too soon we had to leave Bulawayo, the Matabele, "Place of Killing" of the old days. Amidst so much to impress, here and there we permitted ourselves a discreet smile at notices which might have been expressed differently, such as the one at the entrance to the rifle range: "All shooting is strictly forbidden," and at those in the bathrooms of the very fine modern hotel, "The Management strictly forbid all washing in bathrooms".

And so on by night to the Victoria Falls by the line where elephants are a menace. On a recent occasion on sighting an elephant on the track, the engine driver slowed down and sounded the whistle. Whereupon the elephant, a huge bull, trumpeted and charged full blast down the track head-on into the engine. It took hours to clear away the mess.

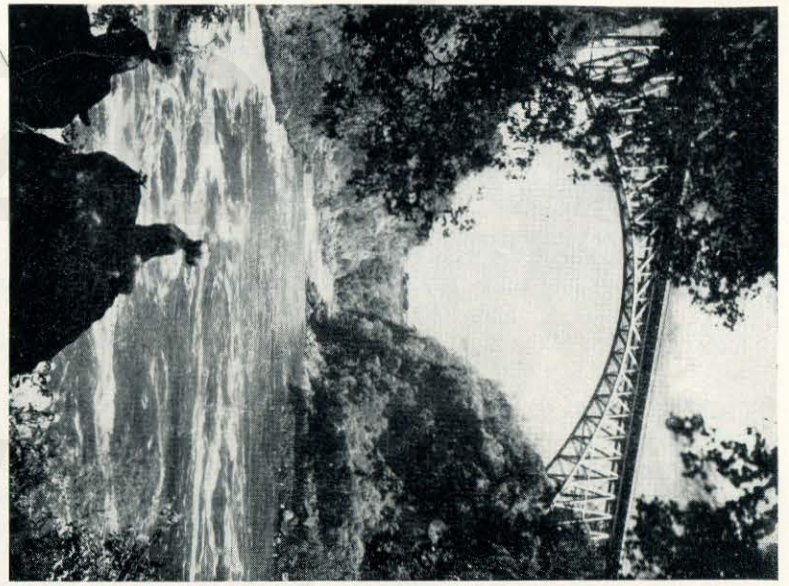
The line passes the famous Wankie coalfields, which resembles a Durham coalfield placed miraculously in virgin jungle.

After our arrival at a spot given much publicity, one is apt to feel an anti-climax. This is not so in the case of Taj Mahal and Petra and most certainly not at the Victoria Falls, a masterpiece of Nature.

Before the arrival of Livingstone, the Africans, over-awed by the roar and mistaking the spray for smoke, "the smoke which thunders." dared not approach the vicinity of the Falls.

The intrepid Livingstone in a dug-out canoe approached from upstream, landing on a small island on the very edge of the Falls. That evening in his diary, below an accurate sketch, the explorer-missionary wrote: "The Falls had never before been seen by English eyes, but scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flights." Hundreds of rainbows, big and tiny, in the spray heightens the idea of fairy-land. One learns that in the spring-flood 75 million gallons a minute fall, and that the spray reaches 8,000 feet. The width is about a mile, including a few small islands, the height some 400-300 feet. On seeing this vast grandeur, a business man from the U.S.A. cabled to Wall Street, "Sell Niagara."

The story of the amazing erosion of the Falls, as kindly explained to me by Dr. Clarke, the Curator of the Livingstone Museum, came



The Bridge and Boiling Pot, immediately below the Victoria Falls. At high flood some 75 million gallons a minute of the mile-wide Zambesi are confined in this narrow gorge

Main Victoria Falls towards the Devil's Cataract at the West end where erosion is in progress

as a complete and fascinating surprise to me. During aeons of ages, the Falls have retreated upstream 70 miles. In the last 10,000 years they have retreated 1½ miles, and had eight different brinks. Unlike Niagara, the whole precipice is not eroded, but only in one spot, on a very narrow front, a weakness is found in the black basalt rock. Here the ever-increasing cascade of water bores a gorge backwards. until a latitudinal weakness is found when a complete new lip is formed.

At this moment the west end of the Falls at the Devil's cataract, the cliff is already some 100 feet lower than elsewhere. The next gorge has started. Some 400 yards upstream air photos show a fault in the bed of the Zambesi; where, without doubt the next lip will be.

The result of all this is that the mile wide Zambesi is compressed below the Falls into a gorge some 100 yards wide, which zig-zags at right angles backwards and forwards in an amazing manner, and with indescribable power. The Falls need a chapter to themselves.

In a motor launch the ex-Co.O. of the Royal Rhodesia Regiment, Sir Ellis Robins, who stepped into Rhodes' shoes, kindly took us for a very pleasant trip up the lovely Zambesi. We saw hippos, stepping backwards off the sandbanks into the water and many birds, monkeys and African huts. Previously Sir Ellis and Lady Robins most generously had offered us the loan of their lovely house outside Bulawayo, but other arrangements had already been made.

After a most worthwhile visit to the Livingstone museum where an African drum band and native xylophone played with zest, it was time to entrain for the long journey to the Cape in order to catch our boat. Mr. Tones had gone far out of his way to make us comfortable at his luxurious Falls Hotel.

Passing through Bechuanaland, the thunderstorms put up a most spectacular show. Here stone-age bushmen still syphon water from damp sand by sucking through a hollow bamboo and squirt the result into an empty ostrich's egg. Long spans of oxen are still to be seen. Later the train crossed the Vaal, Orange and Modder rivers, tactically so important in the South African war.

We passed Kimberley, of which the prosperity rests chiefly on the sale of ten million engagement rings annually.

Arranged by friends in Rhodesia a big car was placed at our disposal by the local *Argus* Press on our arrival at Cape Town, facilitating visits to the University, vineyards and orchards and the magnificent sea-bathing pool. Friends took us for long trips around the lovely



corniche coastal road.

We duly saw the white cloud suddenly form, out of a clear sky, on the roof of Table Mountain and flow down the sides. Naturally it is known as the Tablecloth.

Our three days were gone in a flash. On the sea voyage home we saw whales spouting, many albatrosses and were "hove-to" for a night in a gale off Portugal. After a wonderful trip of some 15,000 miles by sea, car and rail we returned home, very conscious of the fact that the password to the warm hearts of the residents of Rhodesia is "60th Rifles".

It must ever remain so. The portcullis at Winchester already automatically lifts itself at the password "Royal Rhodesian".

H.O.C.

## THE ROYAL RHODESIA REGIMENT

This has been an eventful year for The Royal Rhodesia Regiment as part of the armed forces of three territories of British Central Africa which now form the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Federation has brought into being a new Command—the Central Africa Command—to which now belong the two Nyasaland battalions of the King's African Rifles, the battalion of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment, and the Regular and Territorial forces of Southern Rhodesia.

The Regular forces provided by Southern Rhodesia comprise the Staff Corps, the Air Force, and the Rhodesian African Rifles (which, like the K.A.R. and N.R.R. are African troops led by Europeans). The Territorial forces comprise a field regiment of artillery; an armoured car regiment; an engineer corps; signal corps and medical corps; and two infantry battalions of The Royal Rhodesia Regiment, all of which are composed of Europeans. In addition there is a transport corps—an efficient unit with Coloured personnel and European leaders.

The Southern Rhodesia Staff Corps and Southern Rhodesia Air Force, however, are no longer purely Southern Rhodesian units, as they serve the whole Federation. They have accordingly been renamed respectively the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Staff Corps and the Royal Rhodesian Air Force. The prefix "Royal" to "Rhodesian Air Force" is by gracious permission of Her Majesty the Queen and

is an indication of the world-wide and often distinguished air service of Rhodesians in the last war in the Royal Air Force or in their own Air Force. These new Royal Rhodesians are looked upon with special pride by The Royal Rhodesia Regiment, for it was from young men of the Regiment that the original S.R.A.F. was formed before the war, and for a period, in fact, though airmen, they continued to be included in the establishment of the 1st Battalion.

First G.O.C. of Central Africa Command is Major-General S. Garlake, formerly commanding as a brigadier the Southern Rhodesian forces, and during the war commissioned from the Colony's Staff Corps into the K.R.R.C.

For the Regiment as a whole, a highlight of the year was the visit in February of Major-General H. O. Curtis, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Colonel-Commandant of the 1st Battalion K.R.R.C., and Mrs. Curtis. During the visit, General Curtis unveiled the tablet at the war memorial at Bulawayo to the memory of 32 Rhodesians who fell during the last war while serving with The King's Royal Rifle Corps—most of them with the 1st Battalion in the desert. This tablet goes with the earlier tablet on which the 87 men who fell with the K.R.R.C. in the First World War are commemorated. It bears a simple but dignified inscription, suggested by Sir Robert Tredgold, Chief Justice of Southern Rhodesia, who has been Acting Governor-General of the Federation and Acting Governor of Southern Rhodesia for half this year. He is proud to recall that he was a company commander in The Royal Rhodesia Regiment before political duties (he was Minister of Defence before he went on the Bench) called him away.

The unveiling was one of the great occasions. The 2nd Battalion who are located at Bulawayo, turned out ceremonially in force for it, under command of their C.O., Lieut.-Col. C. Tones, while the Hon. Colonel of the Battalion (Col. C. M. Newman) and the Officer Commanding Troops, Matabeleland (Col. J. de L. Thompson, a war-time K.R.R.C. officer from Rhodesia) were also present. Representatives of the 1st Battalion, including the Hon. Colonel (Col. N. S. Ferris) and the C.O. (Lieut.-Col. G. H. Hartley), attended from Salisbury.

There were present also a good number of former members of the K.R.R.C.—mostly Rhodesians but some from Britain who have settled in Rhodesia since the war. Among them was Lieut.-Colonel Christopher Consett, from Marandellas. Among relatives of the fallen who attended was Mrs. Newton and her daughter. Mrs. Newton is the widow of the late Major Oliver Newton who, while serving with the 1st Battalion K.R.R.C. in the desert gained the

THE UNVEILING OF THE PLAQUE, INSCRIBED WITH THE NAMES OF RHODESIANS WHO FELL WHILST SERVING IN THE K.R.R.C. DURING WORLD WAR II

The Plaque is placed immediately below a similar one for World War I. The photograph was taken by flashlight in the cloisters of the impressive War Memorial at Bulawayo

Military Cross and two bars to it.

General Curtis gave an inspiring address before unveiling the plaque, and appropriately emphasised that the 60th Rifles and Royal Rhodesians were "blood brothers". After the service came a march past of the troops with General Curtis taking the salute.

Obviously delighted at the opportunity, General Curtis met former members of the K.R.R.C.—veterans of both world wars—at reunions arranged at the Drill Halls at Salisbury and Bulawayo.

While at Salisbury, General and Mrs. Curtis stayed at Government House with Lord Llewellin, Governor-General of the Federation, who is their near neighbour in Dorset. The visit was one which pleased Rhodesians very greatly, and they hope that General and Mrs. Curtis on their part gained much interest and pleasure out of their tour in Rhodesia.

At Salisbury they met Sir Godfrey and Lady Huggins. Sir Godfrey was for twenty years in succession Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia and then, last year, went straight on to be the first Federal Prime Minister. He served as a trooper in the old Southern Rhodesia Volunteers (predecessor of the modern Royal Rhodesia Regiment) before the First World War, and is an "Honorary Rifleman" of the Regiment of to-day.

General and Mrs. Curtis also looked in at the Federal Parliament. Two Parliaments now meet at Salisbury—the Federal and Southern Rhodesia—and the K.R.R.C. and Royal Rhodesians are strongly represented on the staff of each. In the Federal Parliament the Clerk of the House is Col. G. E. Wells, former C.O. of the 1st Royal Rhodesians, the Serjeant-at-Arms is Major L. E. Creasy (a former company commander of the Regiment), and the head messenger is Mr. E. T. Jones, a former Regular C.S.M. in the 60th Rifles, commissioned as a quartermaster and retiring with the rank of Major. In the Southern Rhodesia House, the Serjeant-at-Arms is Mr. L. Howe-Ely, who was with the K.R.R.C. during the war. The Governor-General, who arrived back from England in October after recuperative leave, brought with him a second A.D.C.—Lieut. R. T. Whiteley, of the K.R.R.C.

It is appropriate here to record that when Col. Ferris, Hon. Colonel of the 1st Royal Rhodesians, was in England this year, as representing his Regiment he was a guest of honour at the annual reunion dinner of the "Celer et Audax" Club. He has told us what a warm and hospitable welcome he received, and of the very cordial and complimentary manner in which the chairman (General Sir Evelyn Barker)



referred to the Regiment and to the Rhodesians who had severed with the 60th Rifles—all of which was learned with great pleasure by the Regiment in Rhodesia.

It was a great pleasure, too (reports the Royal Rhodesians' representative) to find so many present making inquiries about Rhodesians who had served in the 60th with them, and to meet Lieut.-General Sir Euan Miller, who has now taken over from General Curtis as Colonel-Commandant of the 1st Battalion, The King's Royal Rifle Corps.

Colonel Thompson, one of the Rhodesians remembered by those at the dinner, flew from Bulawayo to represent the Rhodesian forces at the unveiling of the El Alamein memorial by Lord Montgomery in October, and then went on to visit Greece, which he knew when on service in the Balkans.

The 1st Royal Rhodesians made a big drive to raise further funds for their new band on the first week-end in November. It began with a fireworks display on the Fifth on the Drill Hall ground, and this attracted a crowd of 12,000. Next day there was a morning market run by the ladies, in the afternoon a fete, and in the evening a dance in the Drill Hall, while the fete (supplemented by boxing) went on in the grounds. The sum of £1,600 was cleared, after expenses had been met, which will come in uncommonly useful for ceremonial uniforms and so on for the band. Guiding lights among the organisers were Major C. B. Adams (second-in-command) and Major A. Woodroof, a former K.R.R.C. member. The band's first official appearance was at a Sergeants Mess dining-in night, at which R.S.M. N. Hausberger (who served with the K.R.R.C. during the war) presided.

Our warm thanks are due to General Curtis and Major J. F. C. Mellor, of the Colonel-Commandant's office at Winchester, and to those whom they brought into the picture, for advice about our band and ensuring that the instruments bought in England were examined on our behalf before being shipped.

At Bulawayo, Territorial Week as usual went very well; the events of this week arranged by the 2nd Battalion are now an annual feature of the city's year. Both Battalions (except men in their first year, who carried on with basic training in camp) took part in a special exercise in the last week of this year's three-weeks period of continuous training for Territorial Force units.

Showing that Territorial training is not all exercise was the emergency call to the Wankie colliery not far from the Victoria Falls early in the year. Ten thousand African miners went on strike for reasons difficult to discover at the time. As primitive industrial material is

apt to be inflammable, two companies from each battalion, under Col. Tones, were mobilised and sent to Wankie as a stabilising influence. Their roll was fulfilled and the strike concluded without any serious incident.

The 1st Battalion provided a guard of honour in November for the arrival of Southern Rhodesia's new Governor, Admiral Sir Peveril William-Powlett.

The 2nd Battalion at Bulawayo have moved from the old Drill Hall, which though believed to be the largest in the world was not as suitable for modern requirements as it might have been, to spacious and very convenient quarters on the other side of the city vacated by the Royal Air Force when their training scheme in Rhodesia closed down.

The 1st Battalion at Salisbury retain their Drill Hall and 12 acres, but the hall itself has just been renovated and repainted inside and out. Out of this came the re-discovery of the names of the C.O. and certain officers of fifty years ago inscribed in the cement of the giant regimental badge (a lion supporting a tusk of ivory) which stands high above the main doorway. These far-off regimental ancestors must have scaled tall ladders on the occasion of the "roof-wetting" ceremony to inscribe their names in cement still soft, so that they will at least be remembered every time the Drill Hall is repainted.

To complete these notes of the Royal Rhodesian year, there must be mention of notable events in December.

One was the dedication of the regimental Memorial Bay in the Cathedral cloisters at Salisbury. The unveiling of the regimental badge in marble on the north wall of the bay, and a plaque on a southern pillar provided by members of the old 2nd Rhodesia Regiment in memory of comrades who fell in East Africa during the First World War, was performed by Sir Godfrey Huggins, the Federal Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, whose association with Rhodesian defence affairs began as far back as 1911, when he joined the old Southern Rhodesia Volunteers as a trooper.

The service was conducted by the Bishop of Mashonaland (Dr. E. F. Paget) in his capacity as Chaplain-General, with him being the senior chaplain of the 1st Battalion, Dr. J. Kennedy Grant, of the Presbyterian Church.

This was the last public occasion that Lieut.-Colonel G. H. Hartley appeared as the C.O. of the 1st Battalion, as a few days later it was announced that he had been appointed O.C. Troops, Mashonaland, in succession to Colonel G. E. Wells, and with the rank of Colonel.

Colonel Hartley, who served with the Rhodesian African Rifles

The C.O. of the 1st Battalion, Royal Rhodesia Regiment, pointing out the scene of a smart engagement with "bandits" during the exercise in the bush which concluded this year's Southern Rhodesia Territorial Force Camp. *Left to right:* Major C. B. Adams (second-in-command) Brigadier J. O. Crewe-Read (Military Adviser to the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom), Lt.-Col. G. H. Hartley (C.O., 1st Battalion) Lt.-Col. J. M. Lind, (G.S.O.I and chief umpire), and R.S.M. N. Hausberger

during the war in East Africa and Burma, is succeeded in command of the 1st Royal Rhodesians by Major C. B. Adams, M.B.E., for some years second-in-Command of the Battalion, who is now promoted to Lieut.-Colonel. He served in the Regiment before the war, during the war in the East African campaigns, in which he was wounded, and after the war was one of the first to join the Battalion when the Territorial Force came into active being again.

## THE KAFFRARIAN RIFLES

### EAST LONDON, SOUTH AFRICA

Commandant A. P. McCLELLAN, E.D.

On Sunday, 31st January, 1954, Major-General H. O. Curtis, Colonel-Commandant, 1st Battalion K.R.R.C., disembarking from the *Bloemfontein Castle*, paid a visit to our allied regiment, and deeply appreciated the opportunity to do so.

Commandant A. P. McClellan, Col. Geddes-Page, Major Tiddy and others met the General on board and later conducted him to the Drill Hall and Mess, where a large number of officers were in attendance. Many 60th officers will remember Col. Geddes-Page, D.S.O. (now retired and stocking rivers with trout) in N. Africa. Major Tiddy's uncle served in the old 3rd Battalion. A good photograph of the officers of the Kaffrarian Rifles was published in the 1951 Chronicle.

Dressed in black ties, belts, gloves and berets with 60th officer cap badges, the officers look very Riflemanlike, and not only look the part, but are bursting with Rifle spirit.

Much hospitality was given in the comfortable mess, where the mess silver was laid out. The walls are decorated with coloured plates showing the 60th uniforms throughout its history, which is well known to the officers. They could not prize the Alliance more.

The Regiment is lucky to be in possession of a good drill hall, always a very important necessity to a unit on a Territorial basis. Amongst officers who served with the 60th, is Capt. W. Lumley, M.M.

The matter uppermost in the minds of all officers is the recent decision for amalgamation with another Regiment, with its concomitant problems of alliances, Colonel-in-Chief, uniforms, etc. As the two Regiments are located so far apart, in fact each will be a



Wing. For the time being it may be better to carry on on these lines. We often have a way of making plans work, which in theory would seem impossible.

After the inspection of the Drill Hall, armoury, etc., the officers and their ladies entertained General and Mrs. Curtis at a delightful luncheon held at a hotel situated above the bathing beaches where, in brilliant sunshine, the great rollers of the Indian Ocean were breaking, and where many yachts were sailing in their Sunday races.

General Curtis, if the ship had allowed, would so willingly have stayed longer; but he left feeling that on behalf of the King's Royal Rifle Corps he had forged a firm link with the Kaffrarian Rifles of East London, where many of the first Englishmen to arrive landed in South Africa.

P.S.—Major Claude Tiddy, commanding the Kaffrarian Rifles Wing at East London, in a letter dated 7th January, 1955, makes the situation after the amalgamation with the First City Regiment clearer. Anyway, temporarily, the Wing is reduced to 9 officers and 150 O.R.'s Commandant Dold of the First City commands the combined unit. with Major Tiddy as his second-in-command and O.C. K.R. Wing. The latter now possesses a bugle band and a full band is aimed at.

Major Tiddy and one or two other officers are eagerly studying the question of attending our Bicentenary at Winchester on 25th July, 1955. The two Wings of the Regiment retain their original uniforms and identities.

To commemorate those who fell in World War II, a memorial window was put recently in the Garrison Church of St. John's at East London. The window was dedicated by the Bishop of Basutoland, who acted as the Regiment's padre in the war.

Our Allied Regiment obviously has a difficult double-furrow to plough. They are tackling the problem with courage and commonsense, the sympathy and best wishes of the 60th go out to them.

## ALLIED REGIMENTS OF CANADA

Lieut.-Col. Peter Earle, M.C., Q.V.R. kindly sent the following valuable information to the Editor.

"I have just received a letter from the Director of the Historical Section of the Department of National Defence in Ottawa, confirming the present designations of the Canadian Army (Militia) allied with the King's Royal Rifle Corps. They are as follows:

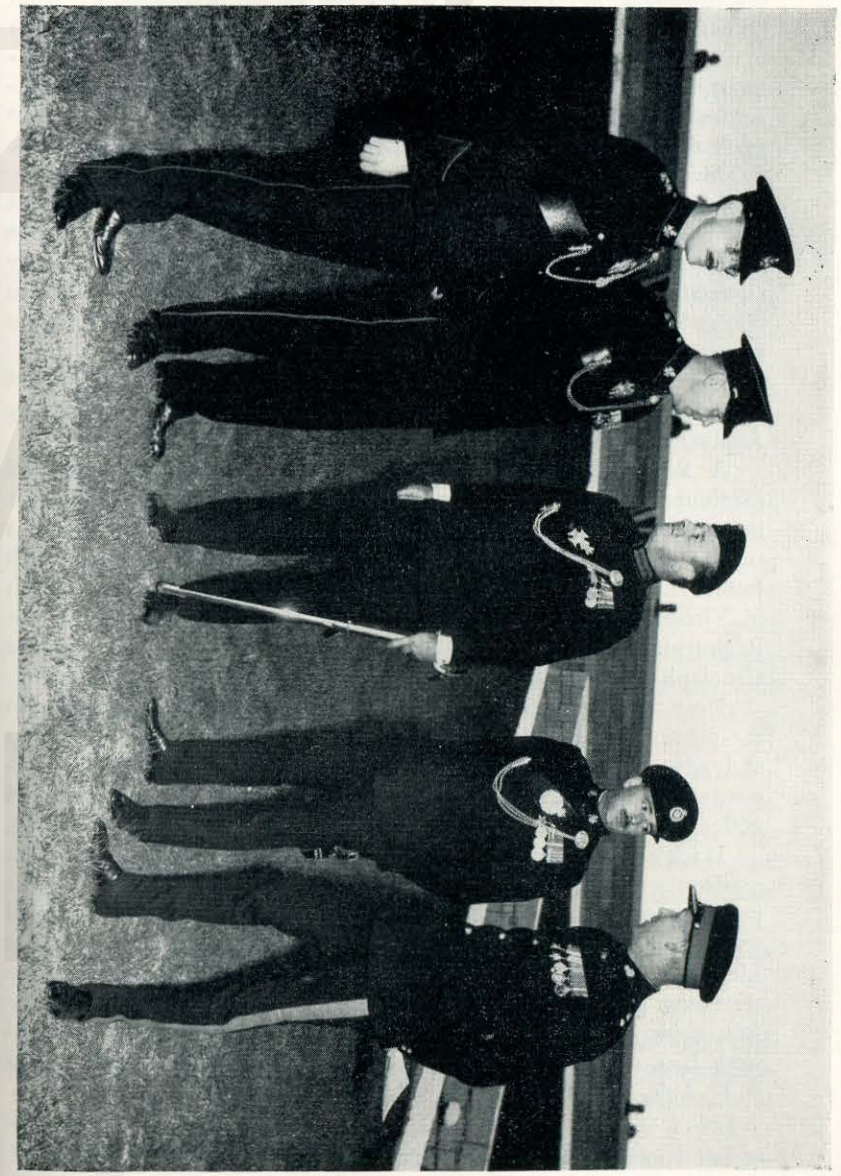
The Halifax Rifles (23rd Armoured Regiment) R.C.A.C.
The Saskatchewan Dragoons (20th Armoured Regiment) R.C.A.C.
56th Field Regiment (Dufferin and Haldimand Rifles) R.C.A.
4th Locating Battery (Brockville Rifles) R.C.A.
Victoria Rifles of Canada.
The Royal Rifles of Canada.
The Regina Rifle Regiment.

## THE REGINA RIFLE REGIMENT

### Room 24 The Armouries, Regina, Sask.

### Lieut.-Col. D. G. Brown, D.S.O., Officer Commanding

The major item of interest to the Regiment during the post year centred around the Regimental Association. Following the Second World War decision was taken to organise a civilian association, which would provide for membership of any member or former member of any battalion of the Regiment, for the purpose of maintaining interest in old associations and to attempt to help any former member in need. Eligible for membership were those who served in the Regiment prior to the war as part of the non Permanent Active Militia, those who served in any of the battalions of the active force during the war: the First Battalion, mobilized in 1940 as part of the Third Canadian Division, which spearheaded the D-Day landings and participated in the whole North-West European Campaign, the Third Battalion which comprised part of the Eighth Canadian Division on Pacific Coast defence, and the Fourth Battalion which comprised part of the German occupation force; those who served in the Second (Reserve) Battalion, the civilian unit at local headquarters during the war, and those who served or are now serving in the Regiment as part of the Canadian Army (Reserve Force) or, as it has just been renamed, the Canadian Army (Militia).



THE UNVEILING OF THE PLAQUE AT FORT HENRY, REPORTED IN THE 1953 EDITION OF THE CHRONICLE
*Left to right:* Capt. MacDowell and Lt.-Col. C. S. MacLaren, 60th L.A.A. Regt. (Brockville Rifles), Colonel G. W. White, M.B.E., Military Attaché Washington, late 60th, Lt.-Col. J. C. Whitwill, 56 L.A.A. Regt. (Dufferin and Haldimand Rifles)

Interest in the Association been has good and former members of the Regiment, or "Johns" as we became known in Normandy, from all parts of Canada have joined. Each year since the war, a reunion has been held in either Regina or Saskatoon. Formerly, the headquarters of the association moved between the two cities, but difficulties of performing secretarial services on a purely civilian basis gradually imposed a problem. Early last year it was decided to make Regina the permanent headquarters and to use the facilities of the Regiment to some extent in assisting the secretary. This arrangement has been much more satisfactory, interest in the association has increased, and the last reunion, held in November, 1953, was highly successful. An outstanding innovation at that time was a mess dinner for all serving and former officers on the evening preceding the reunion and it is proposed to make this a continuing event.

Decision was also made at the last reunion that the Regiment should be represented at the Third Canadian Division's Tenth D-Day Anniversary pilgrimage to Normandy.

A Regimental custom, commenced in Germany in 1945, and continued annually thereafter, is the holding of a memorial service in memory of the Johns who gave their all in the last war. This is a short memorial service, held at seven thirty in the morning of 6th June—H.Hour of D.-Day. The Regina service is held at the Cenotaph in Victoria Park and is conducted by the unit Chaplain with the Regimental Band in attendance. A similar service is held at the Cenotaph in Saskatoon where many ex-Johns now reside.

Unit training during the past year followed a similar pattern to the previous year with emphasis on officer and N.C.O. qualification and advancement training. Training of trained soldiers was concentrated on instruction in the support weapons. The season closed with a successful and extremely busy week at Camp Shilo in Manitoba.

During the year the Regiment participated in all the Regina garrison special parades and activities, highlighted this year by the presentation of Her Majesty s Coronation Medal to selected personnel on 11th November, 1953. The presentations were made by the Lieutenant Governor, His Honour the Hon. W. J. Patterson, in a ceremony preceding the Annual Remembrance Day Service in the Armouries. Representatives of the Regiment receiving the award were Lieut.-Col. D. G. Brown, D.S.O., Officer Commanding; W.O.I A. K. Ault, R.S.M.; and Band Sgt. A. B. Allen.



## 1st BATTALION FIJI INFANTRY REGIMENT

## BATU PAHAT, JOHORE, MALAYA

### Lieut.-Colonel H. J. C. Low, Officer Commanding

**Operations**

It is not proposed to record events in chronological order but rather to "take stock" of events as they stand. The battalion's score stands at 158, and all companies have troops in deep jungle constantly seeking the Terrorists in their lairs. Like hunted rats, they withdraw into well-concealed camps, not seeking contact with the Security Forces, sneaking out as occasion arises to kill, rob and to seek food and financial assistance from their supporters. Contact on such occasions is difficult but our troops are confident that soon there will be a big "strike." [The 60th wish to congratulate their Allied Regiment on the above outstanding performance.—EDITOR].

Always a complicating factor in operations against the Terrorists in Malaya is the reluctance of the civilian population to supply information to the Security Forces. When supplied the information is "stale" and contacts do not eventuate.

Again, some villages give support to the Terrorists. Paloh, a small village on the railway line north of Kluang, (where our A Company is stationed), was raided by Communist Terrorists who captured one rifle and fifteen shotguns from the Home Guard Keep, instructing the P.C. on sentry *not* to report the visit until twenty minutes had elapsed *which order he obeyed*! The villagers were perturbed that the entire Home Guard on duty that evening were detained under the Emergency Regulations, and some villagers taken in for questioning. They claimed that the raid was a "surprise," yet the bandits cut their way through two wire defence enclosures, entered the Home Guard and Police Keep, and escaped undisturbed. This incident, a repeat of the November 1953 visit of Goh Peng Tuan to Yong Peng indicates that the "Hearts and Minds of the People" have not yet been entirely won over.

The 1st F.I.R. in keeping with its reputation for constant effort against the Terrorist has commenced intense harassing operations against suspected Communist hide-outs. Major P. K. Ganilau is commanding a deep jungle force of seventy men from A and D Companys in the area north east of Layang Layang, which yielded such success for D Company in a recent helicopter operation.

## Honours and Awards

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to award the Military Medal to Sergt. Sailada of A Company for gallantry. He led the action in which L./Cpl. Nemin Nadaku was mortally wounded. Luke has a long and proud record as a soldier. He was Mentioned in Despatches during active service in the south west Pacific campaign when he was seriously wounded resulting in his spending several months in the Christchurch Hospital in New Zealand. He was quick to volunteer again when 1st F.I.R. was re-embodied for service in Malaya, and his skill and enthusiasm on operations with the Battalion has earned him the honour of the award of the Military Medal. Well done, Luke!

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to award the the Military Cross to Major George Mate, Officer Commanding D Company for gallant leadership in the field. He led his company on a helicopter operation in the Kota Tingi area of Johore in June 1954. During that operation, seven Communist Terrorists were killed, one by Major Mate personally; six camps and fifteen cultivations were destroyed. His men returned in rags and tatters from an exhausting operation over most difficult terrain. Their spirits were high and though some cases of cuts, infections and skin ailments were discovered after the operation, not one man fell out. Mrs. Mate has recently presented Major "George," as he is affectionately known by us all, with a bonny son born at the British Military Hospital, Kluang. D Company are proud of their Company Commander whose enthusiasm and drive is an inspiration to the whole battalion.

Her Majesty the Queen has graciously approved the award of the British Empire Medal to Private T. Seru. His citation is reproduced below, as an outstanding example of devotion and self-sacrifice.

> "17166 Private Tevita Somaki Seru of D Company 1st Battalion Fiji Infantry Regiment has served with the battalion as an R.A.P. Orderly since January 1952. During that time he has taken his place on patrol as a fighting soldier, often as leading scout, and he has personally killed no less than five Communist Terrorists.
>
> On the night of 2nd October, 1954 Private Seru as Medical Orderly was with his platoon as it made its way homeward from a fourteen-day patrol in the jungle of the Rengam district of Johore.
>
> At ten o'clock p.m. a big tree crashed without warning across the platoon camp and its sleeping soldiers. It was discovered that five men lay pinned beneath the fallen tree. One of them was Private Seru who was the first to be extricated.
>
> He was found to have a badly crushed leg, the broken bone of which was protruding through the flesh. Without concern for his injuries Private Seru called for his First Aid kit and assisted by a fellow soldier hobbled around in the darkness to give morphine and to bandage the wounds of the other four grievously injured men.

17166 Pt. T. SERU, B.E.M.

> Private Seru then worked devotedly for five minutes giving first aid to a soldier whom the platoon struggled desperately to release from beneath the base of the tree, until he realised that the man had died.
>
> Only then did he attend to himself, calmly giving instructions how to apply splints and bandages to his broken leg. Although suffering intense pain he refused to take any of the remaining morphine saying his injured comrades' needs were greater than his.
>
> He was then assisted to a soldier whose back he had suspected was broken. He lay down beside him and did all in his power to comfort and help him but the soldier died some twenty minutes later. Private Seru then having satisfied himself that the two surviving casualties needed no further morphine, allowed himself to be given an injection to relieve his suffering.
>
> The self-sacrifice and devotion of Private Tevita Somaki Seru throughout this ordeal is an inspiration of faith and courage for each and every officer and soldier of 1st Battalion Fiji Infantry Regiment."

## Welfare

Our grateful thanks go to the civilian and military population for their whole-hearted support for the Queen Carnival which yielded the magnificent sum of about £6,400. Such generosity will not go unrewarded. Christmas, for many of the boys their first away from

home, will be cheered by parcels, mats and yaqona from far-off Fiji. A word about yaqona. No more precious commodity exists in the 1st Battalion Fiji Infantry Regiment. Now, as the "feasting" aspect of Christmas starts to be a topic of conversation, yaqona comes into the foreground. Our grateful thanks go to the R.A.F. who conveyed eleven bags of yaqona for the battalion to Malaya.

**Conclusion**

The Battalion is in good heart. Troops in the rifle companies, sensible of the unit's proud record, probe deeper and deeper into the jungle seeking out Terrorists. Soon success will crown their efforts. Meanwhile a cessation of incidents in Yong Peng, the declaration of Batu Pahat, and environs, and majority of Pontian district as "white areas," and the general well-being of the civilian population speak well for our efforts in the field, in sport, and in our special relations with the civilians. Watch any Kampong when a Fijian truck passes through. Where once they hid in fright, they now come rushing out waving to and saluting their friends, "The Smiling Fijians."

**Visit of Secretary of State for War**

Wednesday, 20th October was a red-letter day for the 1st Battalion Fiji Infantry Regiment. The Right Honourable Anthony Head, C.B.E., M.C., M.P., The Secretary of State for War visited headquarters at Batu Pahat. Strict security measures were enforced, and a V.I.P. escort was provided by a Squadron Federation Armoured Car Regiment from Kluang.

The party which included the Lady Dorothea, Major-General G. W. Lathbury, C.B., D.S.O., M.B.E., Major-General L. E. C. M. Perowne, C.B., C.B.E., Commanding 17th Gurkha Infantry Division, Brigadier M. C. A. Henniker, C.B.E., D.S.O., Commanding 63rd Infantry Brigade, landed at the Batu Pahat airstrip at approximately 10.55 a.m. From there they moved to camp. A guard of honour fifty strong, commanded by Captain R. J. B. Ackland and Lieut. J. N. B. Toganivalu was drawn up in front of Battalion H.Q. Resplendent in full dress, they were supported by the Regimental Band. The Regimental Colour was carried by Lieut. M. R. D. Vula. The drill and turn-out of the Guard, Colour Party and Band, was of the highest order, and reflected great credit on all who performed on it.

From Battalion Headquarters, the party moved to the Officers' Mess, where the traditional Fijian ceremony of welcome was performed. Then the Tabua, Fijian whale's tooth, given as an honour only to persons of high rank, was afforded by Major Josefa George

THE RT. HON. ANTHONY HEAD, C.B.E., M.C., M.P.
INSPECTING THE GUARD OF HONOUR
Accompanied by Capt. R. J. B. Ackland. The Regimental Colour is borne by Lt. M. R. D. Vula

MAJOR JOSEFA GEORGE OFFERING THE TABUA (WHALE'S TOOTH)—
FIJIAN TRADITIONAL OFFERING TO A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON
At Winchester museum in 1950 Sir Lala Sukuna, K.B.E., Hon. Col. Fiji Regt., presented a tabua to the 60th

The Secretary of State for War chatting to Major Ratu P. K. Ganilu, Second-in-Command, 1st Bn. F.I.R.

to our distinguished visitor. The presentation of yaqona, Fijian national drink, followed. Mr. Head addressed the gathering. He firstly congratulated the Guard of Honour on its magnificent turn-out, then thanked the men for the honour of a traditional Fijian welcome. He paid tribute to the Battalion's fine fighting record in the south west Pacific Campaign of World War II and Malaya, and its achievements in the field of sport, particularly rugby, which "many a regiment in Malaya had learnt to their cost." The formal portion of the visit over, the Secretary of State for War and his party mingled informally with the officers, chatting for a little while with each in turn. He was introduced to Major Ratu P. K. Ganilau, the second-in-Command, Major G. S. Mate, M.C., M.M. and Sergt. Naikava, L., M.M. The Lady Dorothea accompanied by Lieut. A. P. Keelin, visited the Fijian married quarters, where Adi Laisa, wife of the second-in-Command, and the wives had everything spick and span for their visitor. She stated that she was much impressed with their neatness, and the obvious radiant health of the children.

The party moved away from the camp to the airport, V.I.P. escort in attendance. The Minister sent the following message to the Commanding Officer: "Please convey to all ranks of 1st F.I.R. my appreciation of what they have done and are doing in Malaya. When I came to see them I was greatly impressed by their physique, bearing and smartness on parade. Where operations are concerned they have earned for themselves a reputation second to none. Their loyalty to their Queen is outstanding and it is a source of pride and satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government that they are fighting



side by side with other Imperial Forces. I would like to congratulate all ranks and to wish them best of luck in the future."

[The Editor is most grateful to the Chief Clerk of the Battalion for writing this interesting account].

## 2nd KING EDWARD VII's OWN GURKHA RIFLES
### (THE SIRMOOR RIFLES)

The 1st Battalion under command of Lieut.-Colonel G. P. Rickcord, D.S.O., continues to operate against the elusive enemy in Malaya. The 2nd Battalion under Lieut-.Colonel G. S. N. Richardson D.S.O., is firmly established in Hong Kong and training vigorously in the arts and crafts of modern war. In direct support they have the Regimental Band which provides welcome relief from their arduous duties. Just prior to leaving Malaya for Hong Kong in August, 1954, the band broadcast three times on the Radio Malaya network. Twice in a "Bands of Malaya" feature in which popular selections and marches were played and then in another series entitled "Soldiers of the Queen." The script, written by Radio Malaya based on material supplied by us dealt with the history of the Regiment from its date of raising to the present day, due prominence being given to the Queen's Truncheon. All ranks and families of the Regiment are benefitting enormously by their stay in Hong Kong.

The 1st Battalion remained in Kuala Kubu Bahru in Selangor, forty miles north of Kuala Lumpur, until May 1954. From October 1953 to the middle of January 1954, the Battalion was engaged on a food denial operation. Broadly, the aim was to deny to the Communist Terrorists their food supplies in the hope that in desperation they would either surrender or come so close to ground of our own choosing that they would be eliminated. To impose this food denial effectively rubber estate and tin mine workers were by order of Government placed on an operational rice ration of three katties of rice per week. The normal rice ration being five katties a week. As one katty (a Chinese measure) is equivalent to twenty-two ounces, it will be appreciated there could be little spare rice for the terrorists to acquire. During this operation the Battalion had seven contacts with the enemy and recovered three weapons in addition to a dump of ammunition. Numerous food dumps and enemy camps were found including cultivation areas where the terrorists had been growing their own vegetables.

After conclusion of this food denial operation companies were relieved to find themselves operating mainly in their own particular

company areas. This enabled Company Commanders to plan and mount their own operations supported by artillery, mortars and aircraft as necessary. On one of the many routine patrols at this time the strange story of the two brothers and the python is worthy of repetition. A young rifleman advancing with his section through secondary jungle was suddenly seized by a huge 10 ft. python. Being a scout he was some distance ahead of his section. The python secured a firm grip on his arm and although the young rifleman fought desperately to release himself the python's hold was slowly but surely increasing in pressure. His shouts of alarm soon attracted the remainder of the section who were quickly upon the scene. The victim's brother, who by good fortune was also with the section, saw to his amazement the python completely encircling his brother's body. Without a moment's hesitation he leapt forward and with a mighty swing decapitated the python with his kukri.

The seven months passed quickly in Kuala Kubu Bahru district and although the Battalion's stay was comparatively short, several high-ranking terrorists were eliminated. Amongst them were a Platoon Commander of a communist unit, a District Committee Member, a District Committee Secretary, a Branch Committee Member and a Branch Committee Secretary. Thoughts at this time were being turned to the prospect of a two month's re-training period in Slim Barracks, Singapore. Re-training in 1953 had been by companies and now the Battalion was to be together again for the first time since early 1952.

The Battalion, having handed over to the Somerset Light Infantry, duly arrived in Singapore on 31st May, 1954. Like all such periods there was a great deal to be done within the short time of two months. Certain main objects were to be achieved on which every attempt was made to superimpose the "rest" and change of atmosphere aspect, which was of equal importance. Annual Range Classification was a major item, where every man had to fire and hope to classify in the revised Rifle and Light Machine Gun long range Classification courses.

A full scale Battalion exercise in modern warfare was run by the Brigade Commander. This proved to be most refreshing. A series of cloth model exercises which were of great assistance preceded the Battalion exercise. Lastly a Ceremonial Parade before the Major General Commanding the Brigade of Gurkhas took place on 23rd July. Despite miniature cloud burst which continued during most of the inspection everything passed off well. Later the General



toured Slim Barracks and saw training in progress.

Several Regimental Guest Nights were held and one function is worthy of special remark. This was a large scale evening affair where the Regimental Band surpassed itself with an admirable floodlit Retreat performed in front of the Officers' Mess.

At the beginning of August 1954 the 1st Battalion once again moved out on operations and came under command of 99th Gurkha Brigade in South Johore. Tactical H.Q. is in a pleasant site some four miles outside the town of Johore Bahru with one company nearby in Majedee Barracks. The remaining companies are based some distance away but all within three hours travelling time of Tactical H.Q. In accordance with the Director of Operations new Directive for dominating the deep jungle one company is established for a period of a month at a time in a deep jungle base. Maintenance of supplies is carried out entirely by air. Dakota aircraft are used for these supply drops which consist of four days dry rations and one day's fresh ration. Mail and small emergency clothing supplies are "free dropped" by auster aircraft. Men returning from these deep jungle bases are very fit and remarkably free from skin diseases.

Note by the Editor.—It is interesting to hear that the 2nd Goorkha's portion of the Delhi table from Hindu Rao's house is now in the officers' mess of their 1st Battalion in Singapore. A photograph of this table was published on page 80 of the K.R.R.C. 1952 Chronicle. As is generally known one portion of the Delhi table is in our museum at Winchester.

## THE KENYA REGIMENT (T.F.)

**Lieut.-Col. Guy Campbell, O.B.E., M.C. K.R.R.C. (C.O.)**

After two years of the Mau Mau war in Kenya a short description of the activities of the Regiment may be appropriate.

During the Annual Camp which was held in the Ngong Hills in September, 1952, the Commanding Officer received warning that there might be a need for an Internal Security Role. This necessitated the production of an I.S. scheme which the out-going Adjutant, Teddy Phillips, had carefully shelved. "John Peel" was written hurriedly and within a matter of days this had to be implemented. An "O" Group was held on 11th October and on the 21st "Jock Scott', the Colony Emergency scheme, was enforced.

Regimental Headquarters and A Company were stationed in Nairobi, H.Q. B Company was at Nakuru 100 miles from Nairobi

R.S.M. "Dutch" Holland, D.C.M., M.M. with Samburu tribesmen on Gen. Wainwrights' Farm, North Eastern end of the Aberdares, near Ndaragwa, August, 1953. In background are the Land Rovers of the Mobile Patrol with Bren Gun mountings

and HQ C Company was in Kitale 230 miles from Nairobi. Members were also living in Uganda, Tangayika and a small number in Mombasa. "John" was sent out as a warning order on the 19th and B Company immediately replied with "Peel" and acted upon it accordingly. This was premature, but showed the keenness of the Regiment.

Companies took up their battle stations and thus began a long series of moves which has been the lot of the Regiment ever since. Some Companies have had as many as 33 moves in two years, over distances of 200 miles and more.

To begin with, military measures were slow to materialise and despite the urgent appeals of the Regiment to get cracking and to emulate General Dyer, we were still only in support of Civil Power. We had to be content with sweeps in the locations allotted to us and patrolling of affected areas. At this stage, and for many months afterwards, the Regiment presented a hybrid appearance. We had no equipment or uniform clothing and no transport. Every variety of dress was worn; the most fashionable being check shirts and stetsons whilst, without exception, every member drove his own car and was accompanied by his African servant. Weapons varied from shot guns and sporting rifles to the correct issue of a few S.M.L.E.'s and Brens.



Gradually, however, we became more organized and with the arrival of Frank Wakefield (Rifle Brigade) as Quartermaster we began to look more soldierly.

It was not until December that we really became as active as we wished. Companies had served in the Fort Hall District, Nairobi precincts. Rift Valley, Nanyuki and one platoon of C Company was guarding Jomo Kenyatta and his mates at Kapenguria near Mount Elgon. The first demand made upon us was to provide leaders for the K.A.R. Battalions and liaison personnel with the Lancashire Fusiliers. These men took up their duties at the commencement of the Emergency. Subsequently, we have had to supply an increasing demand for an enormous number of jobs, so much so in fact that detached personnel greatly out number the actual number serving with the Regiment.

By January, 1953, the Regiment concentrated at Mweiga, ten miles north of Nyeri and 110 miles north-east of Nairobi. A small force was formed a few miles north of Mweiga at Squair's Farm on the edge of the Aberdare range of mountains. This body was known as "I" Force and they were soon to become a household word throughout Kenya. They were the first troops to operate extensively in the Forest, although A Company in the Fort Hall area had carried out several offensive patrols into the Aberdares with Masai trackers. "I" Force expanded and in the Rifle tradition pioneered patrol techniques in the Forest. They also worked in conjunction with the Pacer aircraft of the Kenya Police Reserve Air Wing; the first three planes being entirely ours with the great-hearted pilots, Punch Bearcroft, Jimmy Dodds and Tommy Thompson.

Regimental Headquarters were established on the farm of Peter Marrian at Mweiga and six companies were formed. At this stage African trackers were enlisted into the Regiment, a connection we have retained ever since. All six companies concentrated on deep penetration patrols into the Forest; moving fast, lightly equipped and dependent on air drops for food. Equipment jungle clothing and weapons began to arrive, but not without repeated representation to the authorities. As we had to buy every article out of our meagre budget from the Treasury we had many delays and disappointments.

Before these companies were formed and trained, another demand had to be met. This was the closer administration of the Kikuyu Reserve. This called for five officers and one hundred and twenty of our men who, in pairs built small Police Posts in the heart of the Reserve and trained and lead the raw material recruited as Policemen.

As our numbers were only four hundred in October, 1952, it will be realised that our companies were very small in number and seldom had more than thirty effective Europeans, but were swelled by eighty to one hundred Africans in each company all of whom had to be trained with rifles instead of spears and bows and arrows. By January also, we were supplying Intelligence personnel for various District Headquarters and Army units.

A Jungle Range which we pioneered, was made at Mweiga by R.S.M. Pendry with help from Capt. Mark Fearfield of the 4th Hussars, attached to the East African Armoured Car Squadron. The C.I.G.S., Sir John Harding, fired the first Patchett to reach Kenya on our range and we were the first unit to be equipped with this weapon. We had also bought jungle smocks and sleeping bags which were soon issued to other units. The Buffs and Devons were trained on our range and at the newly formed battle school started by us, with Major Ernie Morgan of the Suffolks as Chief Instructor. We had by now established our own patrol methods which had been improved by the pamphlet on Malayan Jungle Tactics.

Mweiga had developed into a joint R.A.F. (Harvards), K.P.R. Air Wing (Pacers) and Kenya Regiment Headquarters with a Joint Operations Room enlivened by several devastatingly attractive girls and a variety of dogs. We were still very independent in thought and methods (not entirely unknown to Riflemen) but our success against Forest gangs had been most encouraging. Patrols spent up to fourteen days on the Forest slopes of the Aberdares and on Mount Kenya, where one company had been sent. The K.P.R. Pacers were dropping home-made bombs and 36 grenades which nearly caused the Commanding Officer to take the next boat for home! As he had little conscience and less remorse, lethal drops continued! Daily bombing sorties in the Harvards were an added whip to the appetite and it was rare not to find someone from the Regiment travelling as a passenger. This type of warfare continued until June with six K.A.R. Battalions and the three British Battalions, Police and K.P.R. operating in the Reserve and the Regiment in the Forest. Many encounters with wild game such as rhino, buffalo and elephant were normal occurrences. Two Reserve Officers of the Brigade of Guards joined us; Frank Waldron (S.G.), a former Oxford Rowing Blue, as Assistant I.O. to Peter Marrian and Shaun Plunket (I.G.) as Liaison Officer.

In June the Regiment, now only three companies strong, were moved to the Fort Hall area with the role of "cleaning up" the

*Left to right: Back row*—Major Mayers, M.B.E., Major Cooper, M.C., Major Josselyn, Major Gillett, M.C., Capt. MacLean, Lieut. Nell, R.S.M. Holland, D.C.M., M.M.
*Front:* Lt.-Col. Guy Campbell, M.C., Major Nightingale
"O" Group on Eland Hill, Northern Aberdares. (10,000 ft. and very cold). Withering Heights is a Game Camp

notorious Ruathia Ridge. General "Bobbie" Erskine had become Commander-in-Chief and due to his tremendous support, and a quick "bounce" when he was unguarded, a new Mobile Patrol Company of Landrovers was formed with Bren mountings. In a month the gangs in Ruathia were annihilated and a smoking ruin of four deep valleys was left as a warning of what the Regiment could do in "pacification'. Companies were perched on promonitories on the Forest edge behind wired fortifications, strengthened by panjis. Wireless communications linked up with the Command Post and Tilley searchlights in the defences kept off any night attack. The only people to complain (except the Mau Mau) were the Pacer Pilots who could not see the ground because of the smoke from burning houses. We lived well from the endless supply of "lifted" cattle. Life was exactly similar to the old clan warfare in the Highlands. This came as second nature to one member of the Green Jackets!

From Ruathia the Regiment moved to South Nyeri, but the opposition was tamer. Another move found us in the Ngobit-Ndaragwa area on the eastern end of the Aberdares, where actions took place at over 10,000 feet. One patrol actually reached over 14,000

feet on Mount Kenya and complained of the cold.

In each area the Mau Mau gangs operated under self-styled Generals who seldom moved far from their own sphere of control. They were variously armed and disciplined but all had one asset in common. They were excellent bush men who knew the Forest, travelled fast and were cunning at concealing their hideouts. Their information service was excellent and they had the added advantage of being fed and helped by the local Kikuyu population. Although they could be graded as a fifth class enemy they were difficult to bring to battle.

In September the Regiment moved across to the Kinangop for operations in the Forest area on the west side of the Aberdares; and Sattima, the Elephant and Kipipiri became as familar as Eland Hill and Bamboo Hill. This month also saw the release of our men with "Rayforce", officers and men who had been administering and leading the Police in the Kikuyu Reserve. They had been named after Major Ray Mayers of the Regiment, a cheerful warrior who only understood the most orthodox methods. "I" Force had for some time been changed to "I" Company and their intrepid and brilliant leader was still Major Neville Cooper. We had been promised a rest in the Rift Valley but this was changed into a training period at Naivasha. Companies by now were widely dispersed and the Regiment was taxed with further demands for manpower as the Black Watch had arrived from Korea and the Fifth Fusiliers and Inniskillings were arriving.

We had served in all the Brigades; Northern area, renamed 70 (E.A.) Brigade, 39th Infantry Brigade and 49th Independent Infantry Brigade. In November, O.C. Kenya Regiment became Commander, Rift Valley Province, with the Armoured Car Squadron under command and a parish stretching from Thomson's Falls, Western Aberdares, Eldama Ravine down to the Masai Reserve near Nairobi, over 150 miles in length. Several punitive patrols were carried out in so far untouched areas but the main action was still on the Kinangtop, and the Mau and Eburra Hills bordering Nakuru and Naivasha. This was a dull period for the Regiment who hankered after the good killing grounds round Fort Hall and Nyeri.

At the end of January we were heartened by a change of scenery; the southern slopes of Mount Kenya from Meru in the east to Ragati, North Nyeri, where the Command Post was established. Support Company, formerly the Mobile Patrol, took over the newly constructed Guard Posts round Karatina where the men acted in much the same

REGIMENTAL COMMAND POST AT RWATHIA IN THE FORT HALL RESERVE
Lt. (Q.M.) Frank Wakefield, R.B., cutting Panjis with Mau Mau Prisoners. C.O. looking on. June, 1953

capacity as previously carried out by Rayforce. Their six 3 in. mortars had done great damage and this, combined with mobility in the Landrovers, enabled them to act like Motor Platoons. For a long time companies had been equipped with 2 in. mortars, Patchetts, Stens, Mk. 5 Rifles, ·300 Carbines, Sniper rifles and EY rifles. Everyone carried ·36 and 80 grenades. Several lives had been lost in action, but the Regiment had proved themselves adept at this type of warfare. Several men were skilled trackers and game scouts and all were fit and imbued with the spirit of putting an end to the emergency as quickly as possible. An added demand for manpower in the administration had seen the transfer of men as District Officers and Field Intelligence Assistants and to other military formations and this weakened the Companies. Some of our fiercest engagements were fought round Karatina. We had lost our private air force as the Pacer Wing had been split up in the Brigade areas.

In April, Headquartrs, B, C, I and Support Companies moved down to Nairobi for operation "Anvil". Some consternation was caused, which reached Cabinet level, when Regimental patrols entered and searched the offices of the Indian High Commissioner. Several Kikuyu in hiding were forcibly removed. On the conclusion

of "Anvil" the Regiment dispersed to South Nyeri, Embu, Meru and the worst area of all, Kiambu; all companies being charged with forming Guard Posts. An amusing incident occurred in this last area. A young 2nd/Lieut. in I Company, Jack Barrah, found himself engaging a Mau Mau gang, which included a substantive "General" on the fairway of Muthaiga golf course. Finding himself under brisk cross-fire from both sides, an irate senior golfer shouts to Jackie, "What the hell is going on here? You should have warned everyone." To which our gallant soldier replied: "What do you expect me to do? shout "fore" or ask if I can "play through'?"

During these two years we have had to experiment in the best type of rations to be carried, the most suitable clothing and footwear, load carrying by donkeys and the making of home-made bombs and grenades. Special mountings for Brens and stretchers have been placed on Landrovers and even armour plating. 36 grenades were found to be the best type of fly for enticing trout to the surface! We have supplied instructors at the Tracker School and the Battle School. The rains bogged down our vehicles for long periods and the mists in the Aberdares limited visibility to a few feet. Sgt. King of the Regiment has invented a "beam" which will give warning of anything crossing its ray up to 140 feet. This is now in the hands of the War Office. Regimental Headquarters in Nairobi have been converted into the base from which all supplies, ammunition and stores are sent to the troops in the field. Lecture rooms have been, turned into ration stores and showers into armouries. Pre-war our budget was £53,000 a year; it is now over £750,000. We are our own Pay Unit and have to account to the Treasury for all expenditure. We are entirely self-accounting. We are under both G.H.Q. and the Kenya Government and if, at times, we play one off against the other who will blame us. We have not G1098 or establishment and our pay scale is our own.

In September at the Royal Agricultural Show in Nakuru a demonstration of a ground/air contact was given by the Regiment and a K.P.R. (Kenya Police Reserve) Tri-pacer. Those taking part had been on ambushes the night before but the display was most realistic. It showed the spectators how a small patrol made camp in the Forest, then called up a plane on the 88 set. The plane dropped food parcels very accurately from less than 10 feet in the centre of a small arena which thrilled all who watched. After the demonstration the performers returned to their Company in the Reserve.



At the time of writing the Regiment is in the process of reorganisation. The battle to retain ourselves as a fighting entity has been lost. Demands for manpower greatly affect the Regiment and, with the rule of release after two years' service, it was found impossible to keep operational companies up to strength. The National Service Training Wing has moved to Nakuru from Southern Rhodesia and, in future, the cadet training period is to be reduced to a ten week training course, one month with the only operational company we will have left and then a month leadership course to select leaders. The "break-up" of the Regiment has been a great blow to the pride of the officers and men but it was inevitable and only the support of General "Bobbie" has kept it in being for so long.

Apart from one company which will consist of sixty to 120 Europeans with one hundred and fifty Africans, all trained on commando lines with great mobility and fire power, there will be an an Administrative Company and Regimental Headquarters. For a long time now, members of the Regiment disguised as Mau Mau have sought out gangs and inflicted heavy casualities. This requires great courage and daring and a faultless disguise and knowledge of Mau Mau customs and the Kikuyu language. The future looks bright for those who like fighting and excitement.

All the way through the permanent staff instructors have performed a variety of roles as C.S.M.'s, administration and the general running and guidance of the Regiment. This is especially important as all the older and experienced officers and N.C.O.'s are released from service. It has meant long hours of extra work and little leave. After two years of the war the Regiment is the only unit which has never been pulled out of the line for a rest.

If I add one last word and single out from the P.S.I.'s it is to say what a debt the Regiment owes to Roly Guy, the Adjutant, and Frank Wakefield, the Quartermaster, also R.S.M. Holland. Dick Cornell's courses are excellent and doing much to increase the fighting efficiency. The administration and P.R.I. is gradually straightening, due to the arrival of the C.O.'s twin brother David—another wangle!

We are also indebted to General "Bobbie" himself for his interest in the Regiment and the defence he puts up when we get into trouble. As G.S.O. I, Hugh Hope has been known to agree with our tactics but has shuddered when he knew some of our methods!

## NOMINAL ROLL OF PERMANENT STAFF INSTRUCTORS SINCE THE START OF THE EMERGENCY

**Commanding Officer:** Lieut.-Col. G. T. H. Campbell, O.B.E., M.C 60th Rifles. **2nd in Command:** Major E. F. D. Cambell, M.C., Black Watch. **Adjutant:** Captain R. K. Guy, 60th Rifles. **Training Officer:** Captain R. R. Cornell, 60th Rifles. **Quartermaster:** Lieut. F. Wakefield, Rifle Brigade. **R.S.M.:** R.S.M. J. F. Holland, D.C.M., M.M., 60th Rifles. **O.R.Q.M.S.:** O.R.Q.M.S. D. R. Truluck, Rifle Brigade. **P.S.I.'s:** C.S.M. Cooke, Rifle Brigade, C.S.M. G. Williams, 60th Rifles, C.S.M. R. W. Garner, 60th Rifles, C.S.M. E. Eves, 60th Rifles, C.S.M. R. Nunn, 60th Rifles, C/Sgt., L. Jones, 60th Rifles, Sgt. F. Smith, 60th Rifles.

P.S.I'S WHO HAVE LEFT THE REGIMENT

R.S.M. M. Pendry (left April 1953) 60th Rifles, R.S.M. J. Condon (left January 54) 60th Rifles, O.R.Q.M.S. W. G. Hutchinson (left October 1953) 60th Rifles, C.S.M. G. Slater, B.E.M. (left March 1953) 60th Rifles, C./Sgt. J. Lennox (left January 1953) 60th Rifles, Sgt. J. Goodair (left June 1954) Rifle Brigade, Sgt. E. Hidden (left November 1952) Rifle Brigade.

### DECORATIONS AWARDED DURING THE EMERGENCY

**O.B.E.:** Lieut.-Col. G. T. H. Campbell, M.C.
**M.B.E.:** Major N. M. C. Cooper, M.C., 2nd Lieut, M. R. M. Tetley, J. Dodds, K.P.R. Air Wing, ex-R.A.F.
**B.E.M.:** C.S.M. Slater (K.R.R.C.), Sgt. N. G. Hales, Sgt. J. A. McNab, Sgt. N. J. P. Hewett, African C.S.M. Hoeden.
**Colonial Police Medal:** M. Bearcroft, K.P.R. Air Wing, ex-R.A.F., who has only one hand.

### CASUALTIES

| | *European* | *African* |
|---|---|---|
| A. *Killed or Died on Active Service* | | |
| | 1 Officer | |
| | 17 O.R.'s | 7 |
| B. *Wounded* | | |
| | 4 Officers | |
| | 10 O.R's | 2 |

Total 41.

## NOTES ON "MAU MAU"

In order to define certain terms, I propose to outline very briefly the organisation to which Mau Mau aspire but have, in fact, never established. Do not imagine from this a closely controlled and well-directed Command, but bear in mind that the idea and skeleton organisation does exist.

The Kikuyu is an avid imitator and you may not be surprised to learn of the existence of a Kenya Training Centre on Mount Kenya as a parallel to our own K.R.T.C. in Nakuru. This imitative



trait is the key to the explanation of their whole desired organisation and at various times they have had "shadow appointments" to cover nearly all Government Offices including chiefs and headmen. Unfortunately, in many instances these latter combine the two offices naturally so it saves Mau Mau appointing anyone.

The Mau Mau attempts direction through a loosely-named Kenya Parliament or Legco, but the amount of authority acknowledged by the forest gangs is purely problematic and, as is usual with African leadership, depends directly on personality. An illustration of this is the gang commanded by Stanley Mathenge, a better soldier than Dedan Kimathi, who has been ousted and is operating entirely independently hoping for a change in opinion to carry him back to power.

The Kenya Parliament (named from suggestions made by Mr. Lyttleton during his visit out here) operates through an executive committee called the Central Assembly, which is the Senior Passive formation exercising nominal control over the District Passive and Militant Commanders. Here it must be explained that the term Passive is used to mean the administrative and Q side of Mau Mau.

The Mau Mau try to maintain a committee in Nairobi to represent each location and representative group, being a manifestation of the clan system which the Tribe operates on ordinarily.

A general picture of the organisation of gangs is that a gang exists opposite to each location and is based in the forest. It draws its recruits from its own location and is supported by a passive group who lead an ostensibly normal life in their location. The extent to which these groups owe allegiance to Nairobi varies considerably and, as previously stated, efficient direction has not been achieved.

Distinct from the passive or administrative side of Mau Mau is the Moderate group who, realising that they have failed to achieve their aims by terrorism, are trying to effect an understanding with the Kikuyu Guard, in order to re-unite the tribe against the European. Their weapons are politics, intrigue and agitation and the picture painted is very similar to other trouble spots in the world. This Moderate school, which is prepared to disown and condemn the extremists, is potentially more dangerous than the simple terrorists as its methods have succeeded elsewhere against antiquated administrative methods, ill-suited to cope with modern Political warfare. The leaders of this party are in England, and two well-known politicians, not a hundred miles from Kikuyu Town, are their opposite numbers out here.

# RACING 1952-54

*By* Lieut.-Colonel J. A. HUNTER, D.S.O., M.B.E., M.C.

Racing in Germany takes place both under German rules and also under the rules of the Jockey Club and National Hunt Committee. The latter race meetings are run by British Army of the Rhine and are confined to officers and other ranks of the services and civilians of the Control Commission.

Both types of racing are a mixture of flat, hurdle races and chases and in German meetings amateur riders are eligible to compete against professionals both on the flat as well as over hurdles and fences.

In the German races a good horse is necessary for any chance of success, but in the British racing, horses are graded according to ability, which means that those with no pretentions of being race horses can race against others of the same class. This provides a great deal of fun for owners, riders and spectators alike, and ensures that practically anyone who wants to can ride.

During the past three seasons we have had many successes and can be said to have held our own with everyone else. The Rifle Brigade

Royal Mint, owned and ridden by Major Pardoe, winner of the Grand Military Chase, Hanover, jumping the water

had established a reputation in this line and from the arrival of the 1st Battalion in January, 1951, we have gradually built up our stables until we can take on all comers with a good chance of success.

Pardoe brought out Mr. Price from England when he came with the 2nd Battalion and immediately won a hurdle race at Hanover with him. This horse of unknown breeding has altogether won him five chases and hurdle races under British Rules including the Heavyweight Cup of 1953 and one chase under German rules. Not content with this Phil very wisely bought Royal Mint from the 11th Hussars at the end of 1952. A beautiful thoroughbred chestnut mare by Pactolus—Rio Rita, she has now established herself as being the best English owned chaser in Germany. After winning four races in 1953, including the Mounted Infantry Cup, and another three in 1954, including a good good class German chase at Frankfurt, Royal Mint, beautifully ridden by Phil, won the Grand Military Chase at Hanover this August. The mare carried top weight and won convincingly against the best horses the cavalry could produce.

The Regimental Races for 1954 were run at Bad Lippspringe in in April and September. Bad Lippspringe is an entirely British made course and the fences are big enough to require proper jumping. The race for the Heavyweight Cup was run at the Green Jacket Meeting in April. For this race thoroughbred horses were excluded and, in consequence, a field of nine assorted half-breds faced the starter. An excellent race over the two-and-a-half-mile chase course ensued and resulted in a close win for Seymour's King Harold, ridden by St. Aubyn, by one length and two lengths from Hunter riding Squirt and Thistlethwayte riding Jimmy. Seven of the nine starters finished the course and the Kennedy Cup was won by Lywood on Sandy VI who was fourth.

King Harold was originally brought to Germany by Raymond Seymour with the 1st Battalion with the intention of show-jumping and Hunter Trialing. Although he has had successes in this line of country he has also done very well as a race horse—winning two steeplechases in 1954 in addition to the Heavyweight Cup.

Squirt was an ex-Government horse bought by Hunter from the Irish Guards. After the Heavyweight Cup she was bought by Teddy Phillips and Patrick Barbour in partnership and in her first outing at Hanover, ridden very well by Barbour, she won a two-mile hurdle race. Unfortunately she pulled up lame at the end of this race and later in the summer, after an accident with the horse box, had to be destroyed. This was a tragedy as she was an excellent ride on a race course and

LUNEBERG HUNTER TRIALS, 1954
Russell Colman on Jimmy. Winner of Class "A" and "C" Jumping

would have been a very good horse for beginners to learn on.

This year the Lightweight Cup Race was run concurrently with the Mounted Infantry Cup at Bad Lippspringe in September. Village King ridden by Peter Parker won both cups. This race was a handicap both by weight and distance in order to try to equalise the chances of horses of very different capabilities. It was a most interesting experiment. Village King was never in danger from any other Regimental horse but had a close race with a K.S.L.I. horse for the Mounted Infantry Cup.

Village King, an 11-year-old bay gelding by Embargo-Village Maiden, belongs in partnership to Peter Parker and John Oxley. He was bought by them from the Rifle Brigade. Although he has had no other wins since being in his present ownership he has been placed in all his races except one this year.

In the autumn of 1952 Hunter imported Triolein, a brown five-year-old gelding by Trigo-Sweet and Rough. This horse had won a Novices Hurdle at Fontwell Park and been placed on the flat twice. He immediately started to make a name for himself out here and in the early part of 1953 won a flat race and a two-mile hurdle as well as being placed on two other occasions. He then ran in the Champion Chase at the Grand Military Meeting and carrying top weight he was defeated by a short head. As he broke down some two lengths before the

Gold Plume, owned and ridden by Lt.-Col. J. A. Hunter, winning the Whitsuntide Stakes, Hanover, June, 1954

Nearest camera is Tommy St. Aubyn on King Harold, Hanover, 1954. Winner 2½ mile steeplechase

winning post it was a very creditable performance. This horse never recovered and in October 1953 had to be destroyed. This was a sad blow to his owner as Triolein had a very great future in German racing and it had already been decided to run him at Sandown in 1954.

Through the co-operation of Robin Hastings and the British Bloodstock Agency Triolein was replaced in March of this year by Gold Plume, a bay five-year-old colt by Phoenix-Bramhall Queen, which has won twice on the flat in England and been placed in a Novices Hurdle. He has won two good class flat races in Germany this season and came fourth in the International Amateur Flat Race at Hamburg on the same day as the German Derby.

Since then Gold Plume has been out of training due to lameness but is now fully recovered and is being schooled over hurdles with a view to running him next season. This horse can be classed with Royal Mint as the best British owned horse on the flat in Germany and he undoubtedly has a great future under German and British rules next year.

The British racing season finished on 31st October with the Rhine Army Team Race at the last Hanover meeting. This race is a two-mile chase for teams of three Hunter Trial horses. There were thirty entries from seven different regiments. We entered two teams. Nineteen horses lined up practically in the dark and after a very exciting race we finished 4th 5th 6th and 11th. Unfortunately Beresine who, ridden by Barbour, was fourth, was part of our second team and we were therefore second to the 3rd Hussars who had the 1st and 3rd places. Our second team was fourth.

So ended a most enjoyable season in which practically every horse we possess has had a race or two and a large number of officers have had enjoyable and instructive rides.

1952-54 inclusive

| *Horse* | *No. of Races* | *Wins* | *2nd* | *3rd* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Royal Mint | 16 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| Mr. Price | 21 | 6 | 2 | 5 |
| Triolein | 10 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Gold Plume | 5 | 2 | 1 | — |
| Village King | 10 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Squirt | 5 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Cossack | 2 | 1 | — | — |
| King Harold | 11 | 3 | — | 2 |
| Beresine | 11 | — | 3 | 1 |
| Jimmy | 2 | — | — | 1 |
| Total | 78 | 23 | 14 | 15 |

Only races while in ownership of a 60th Officer or Battalion are included.



## GOOD NEWS FROM A.R.A.

### RESULTS NON-CENTRAL, HOME SERIES, 1954

| | | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| *Queen Victoria Trophy* (Grand Aggregate) | | |
| 1st | 2nd K.R.R.C. | 3837 |
| 2nd | 1st K.R.R.C. | 3701 |
| 3rd | 1st R.B. | 3699 |
| *King George* | | |
| 1st | 1st R.B. | 707 |
| 2nd | 2nd K.R.R.C. | 628 |
| 3rd | 10th H. | 628 |
| *Royal Irish* | | |
| 1st | 1st K.R.R.C. | 714 |
| 2nd | 1st R.B. | 668 |
| 3rd | 2nd K.R.R.C. | 668 |
| *Young Soldiers* | | |
| 1st | 2nd K.R.R.C. | 774 |
| 2nd | 52nd R.A.C. | 707 |
| 3rd | 1st K.R.R.C. | 693 |
| *Hopton Cup* | | |
| 1st | 12th Platoon 2nd K.R.R.C. | 261 |
| 2nd | 2nd Platoon 1st K.R.R.C. | 252 |
| 3rd | 2nd Platoon 1st R.B.. | 239 |
| *Company Shield* | | |
| 1st | "C" Coy. 1st K.R.R.C. | 619 |
| 2nd | "H.Q." Coy. 2nd K.R.R.C. | 610 |
| 3rd | "A" Coy, 2nd K.R.R.C. | 609 |
| *Sniper Cup* | | |
| 1st | 1st K.R.R.C. | 325 |
| 2nd | 1st R.U.R. | 260 |

## REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, 1954

The past year has been one of some activity in the Museum. The Depot has been turning out more than the normal number of recruits and as each Platoon has a Training period allotted for a visit to the Museum we have had a large number of recruits round.

In addition, during the summer especially, we had rather more outside visitors than usual, including a good few from abroad and also from Southampton.

As regards the Exhibits themselves we again had thirty items or collections presented during the year—exactly the same number as last year. If we—and of course the Rifle Brigade too—go on at this rate we shall soon be wanting a bigger building for our joint collection.

Amongst the items presented the following take pride of place:

1. Collection of Shooting Medals and Badges presented by Capt. Walter Jagger. As may be imagined this is one of the finest collections of shooting trophies which ever existed: in all there are 9 badges and 69 medals including two gold ones.
   It is extremely kind of Walter to give us this magnificent collection.
2. A Black Serge Jacket which belonged to the late Sergeant Phillips. This was presented by his sister and we are very glad to have such a nice memento of a character so well known and liked especially in the 1st Battalion. Sergt. Phillips had no less than 57 years service and before his final illness was still serving in the 1st Battalion as Pioneer Sergeant.
3. The Medals of Captain J. F. P. Butler who was killed in 1916 after winning the V.C. and D.S.O. Although 24 members of the Regiment have won the V.C. we only have five of the actual Medals in the Museum and if any one knows where the others are and how we can get hold of them for the Museum, the Committee would be delighted to hear about it.
4. A Metal Cigarette Case presented by Colonel D. R. C. Boileau on giving up command of the Depot. This Case was given to Dick Boileau at Thorn P.O.W. Punishment Camp, Poland, by the R.S.M. and C.S.M.'s of the 2nd Battalion who were captured at Calais and has scratched on it the names of all the Sergeant Majors.
5. A Lewis Gun. This was presented by the 1st Cadet Battalion. To the older members of the Regiment it may appear as somewhat of a joke that such a "modern" weapon as a Lewis Gun is now a Museum piece, but in fact it is!
6. Nordenfeld Machine Gun. This is a very interesting weapon but although presented to the Museum by the Rangers, we thought it too heavy for the floor and as we did not wish it to land on someone's head in the N.A.A.F.I. down below, we are having some difficulty in finding a suitable place for it in the Barracks.

The Rangers can claim to be the first Infantry Battalion in the British Army to use Machine Guns and this Gun was one of the first two which they obtained under the following conditions:

"In 1881 Colonel Alt took over command of the Rangers and as he was very keen on the idea of Machine Guns and the War Office would not issue any (one story is that they thought it was an unfair weapon and would kill too many of the enemy in an unsporting manner), he bought the Nordenfeld Gun and another and designed the Carriages for them himself.

After demonstrations by the Rangers of the capabilities of these guns at the first Military Tournament held at the Agricultural Hall and in many subsequent ones, the War Office allowed Colonel Alt to take the guns to Aldershot for practise and finally in 1893 (12 years since the Rangers first had them!) sanctioned their adoption."

We hope during our bicentenary year that we shall have more visits than usual from all past and present Riflemen. The Museum is open every day, morning and afternoon, except for Wednesday afternoon and all Sunday, when it is closed, and we are delighted to see anyone who cares to come and think we shall be able to interest him or her.



# THE REGIMENTAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner of the "Celer et Audax Club was held at the Naval and Military Club, on 24th June. General Sir Evelyn Barker, Colonel Commandant 2nd Battalion, was in the Chair and one hundred and eight officers attended.

In opening his address the Chairman remarked that it was unfortunate that it was his turn to be in the Chair and this would be the last dinner that General Curtis would attend as Colonel Commandant of the 1st Battalion. The resignation of General "Squeaker" after eight years in that appointment, his approaching resignation as Editor of the Chronicle and his resignation of the Chairmanship of the Riflemen's Aid Society, would be a real loss. The Chairman emphasised the debt due to General "Squeaker" for all the very hard work and interest he had so willingly given in the affairs of the Regiment over such a long period. He was sure all Members would wish to give him their sincere thanks and best wishes.

The Chairman then read the telegram sent to the Colonel-in-Chief Her Majesty the Queen, and her gracious reply. Also he stated that telegrams had been sent to many old members, whom he named, who could not be present. It was obvious from their replies, that these messages of good wishes had been appreciated.

He then reported that General Curtis, Sir Euan Miller, who was succeeding General Curtis, and himself had been to Buckingham Palace that morning to present to Her Majesty the diamond Regimental Badge Brooch, which was a gift from all members of The King's Royal Rifle Corps, as an expression of their loyal gratitude to Her Majesty in assuming the appointment of Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, Her Majesty had expressed her sincere appreciation of the gift and Commanded General Curtis to thank all those who had subscribed towards it. Her Majesty discussed at some length our Allied Regiments, many of which the Queen and H.M. the Queen Mother have visited.

## Guests

The Chairman then greeted on behalf of everyone present, firstly Colonel Ferris, Colonel of the Royal Rhodesia Regiment, and late Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion The Royal Rhodesia Regiment, whose son had served at the Depot and in the 1st Battalion since World War II, and secondly Lieut-Colonel Sutton, Commanding Officer of the 1st Cadet Battalion, K.R.R.C., for many years. As

Commanding Officer he had carried out most successfully the amalgamation of the 1st and 2nd Cadet Battalions.

### Mount Everest

The Chairman then referred to Her Majesty's coronation last year and how, in the minds of all in the Regiment, this great occasion would be linked with the magnificent achievement of the Mount Everest Expedition, under the leadership of Brigadier Sir John Hunt. It was in the early hours of the morning of 2nd June, 1953, that those going to the Abbey and elsewhere, had read the posters reporting that the summit had been reached. A great thrill went through all of us who had served with John Hunt, and it was to be hoped that his training in the Regiment, had contributed something towards this achievement, even to getting the Intention paragraph of his operation order correct.

The Chairman then presented John Hunt with a pair of regimental cuff links as a token of admiration from his brother officers.

### Shooting and Sport

Mention was then made of the wonderful successes of the 1st and 2nd Battalions in the Rhine Army shooting, also the successes of the 2nd Battalion in the Rhine Army Ski-ing Championships, and in winning the Rhine Army Regimental Team Boxing Championship and being runners-up in the Army final. (Details are given elsewhere).

### Command of the Depot

Members were notified that Colonel Boileau, was handing over Command of the Green Jackets Depot, to Lieut.-Col. The Hon. Malcolm Douglas-Pennant. The Chairman mentioned how much Colonel Boileau was to be congratulated in increasing our regular recruitment with the result that, apart from the Guards and the Parachute Regiment, we were top of all Infantry Regiments in this respect.

### Bicentenary

Lastly the Chairman mentioned that next year would mark the bicentenary of the raising of the Regiment in North America, and that celebrations would be held at Winchester, probably in July, when it was expected the 1st Battalion would be at home prior to moving to North Africa.



He then called on John Hunt to say a few words.

The height of Everest has certainly not blunted John's sense of humour, in fact many think it has sharpened it to a pinnacle. He made a very witty after dinner speech, but after reducing his brother officers to fits of laughter he finished at a very high level indeed by delivering a world-wide appeal, especially to our Empire, for leadership at all levels and an adventurous spirit in the young, coupled with a perception of true values.

In the aftermath of Everest many surprising experiences caught up on him. Perhaps the most surprising happened in Paris, where, after being honoured at a dinner party, he was carried off to a cabaret show. Sure enough, there was Mount Everest reaching to the roof, equipped with crevasses, chimneys and overhanging cornices of—cotton wool.

At the foot appeared four ladies, "roped in an unconventional manner." Wind-proof clothes they disdained, boots and crampons no, in fact they assaulted Mount Everest with nothing on at all. The assault was successful. On arriving at the summit, the leading lady surprisingly produced from somewhere a Union Jack, and planted it on the summit.

In his closing words John pointed out that the Army has a unique opportunity and also responsibility for developing the finest qualities in the young as they pass through its hands. He finished by expressing his deep appreciation of the gift of the Regiment to him.

John sat down amidst heartfelt applause.

## "32 ECCLESTON SQUARE"

### REPORTS

As the annual Reports of the Riflemen's Aid Society, the "Celer et Audax" Club, the Ladies' Guild and the Regimental Association are sent to members, only short reports are included below.

### THE RIFLEMEN'S AID SOCIETY

At the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd June, 1954, the Chairman (Major General H. O. Curtis) expressed his deep regret that the time had come for him to hand over the reins of office but that he did so with complete confidence in his successors, and he wished the Society every prosperity in its great service.

He wished to place on record his deep gratitude to all the Members of his Committees for their loyal assistance during his period of office.

Special reference was made to:

(i) Major General J. M. L. Renton, both as Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee, and as Chairman of the Benevolence and General Purposes Sub-Committee over a long period, and to Lieut.-Colonel A. G. Bennett, the present Chairman.

(ii) Major-General J. F. Hare, Colonel D. R. C. Boileau, and their Committee for their magnificent work in connection with the "Special Report."

(iii) Colonel C. E. Temperley, and Major P. A. Daniell, to whom the Society was indebted for their assistance and advice on all questions of Finance.

(iv) The Ladies' Guild of both regiments, for whom no praise is too great, for the way in which the widows and children were being "sponsored" under the War Memorial Scheme.

(v) The invaluable work of our two secretaries, Major Hubble and Capt. Timson.

Lieut.-Col. V. B. Turner, in the absence of General Sir Montagu Stopford, referred to the great loss the Society was sustaining in the resignation of the Chairman, and on behalf of the Committees proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to him for the tremendous amount of hard work and time which he has devoted to the Society during the past eight years.

The Committee then elected General Sir Montagu Stopford, Colonel Commandant The Rifle Brigade, Chairman of the Society, and Lieut.-General. Sir Euan Miller, Colonel Commandant, 1st Battalion The K.R.R.C., Vice-Chairman.

### Cases of Financial Assistance

The Benevolence and General Purposes Committee has carried out another splendid year's work.

They dealt with close on 1,000 cases.

Many of the applications come from men of the 1914-18 war, and old age pensioners, who find it most difficult to manage on their old age pensions.

The direct expenditure on relief was nearly £4,000.

### Men's Clothing

A direct appeal to Members of both Regiments was made for clothing, this had good results.

Gifts of clothing by past and present officers are always welcome.

The demand is greater than ever.



### Employment

We are glad to be able to say that there are still more jobs than men.

We have been able to place most men in suitable employment, some of whom are well past 60 years of age.

## "CELER ET AUDAX" CLUB

### Membership at the end of 1953

Total 659. This number includes 235 Regular Officers, past and present, and 380 under Rule 4b; also 12 U.S.A. Life Members, and 32 Honorary ones.

### Regimental Dinner, 1954

The dinner was again held at the Naval and Military Club. A full report will be found on page 00.

1955 being the Bicentenary of the raising of the Regiment, it has been decided to hold the Dinner at the Trocadero on Wednesday, 20th July. This date was decided in order that the Officers of the 1st Battalion could attend.

### Finance

Expenditure exceeded income by £47 11s. 6d. This was largely due to the cost of The Green Jackets Recruiting Poster, which cost the two Regimental Clubs £50 each. Results have more than justified this expenditure.

### Colonels Commandant

In succession to Major General H. O. Curtis, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., D.L., Lieut.-General Sir Euan A. B. Miller, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., assumed the appointment of Colonel Commandant, 1st Battalion, on 30th June, 1954.

### Committee

General Sir Evelyn H. Barker, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.L., and Lieut.-General Sir Euan A. B. Miller, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., became Chairman and Deputy Chairman respectively on 30th June, 1954.

## THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS ASSOCIATION

### Membership

We are down on last year. 261 Members had not paid their 1954 subscription. They were circularised, with the result that 55 paid up.

**Newsletter**

Is still very popular with our Members. It will continue to be published as long as subscriptions are received and our funds permit.

**Annual Re-Union**

This was again held in the Queen Victoria's Rifles Drill Hall, on 1st May, 1954.

Our President, General Sir Evelyn H. Barker, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.L., was in the Chair.

The attendance exceeded our hopes and we sat 156 down to Supper, this was 16 more than last year, and 283 attended the Buffet party, this was 65 more than last year.

After Supper both parties got together and a real good time was had by all.

The re-union for 1955, has been arranged for Cup-final night at the Queen Victoria's Rifles Headquarters, by kind permission of the Commanding Officer, Lieut-Colonel P. B. Earle, M.C.

**Branches**

We regret to say they show a steady decline.

They are kept going mainly by the stalwarts of the 1914-18 war. We ask everyone who can to support them.

## THE LADIES' GUILD

During the year ending 1st November, 1954, 86 parcels of clothing were despatched, of which 43 went to War Memorial families.

Endowments under the Sponsor Scheme have now reached a total of 85—13 were paid during the year. Holiday grants to widows in poor health amounted to £30. Christmas cards are sent to every family benefiting by this scheme.

The finances of our Guild are in good order.—£450 has been invested in Defence Bonds, and £200 in the Post Office Savings Bank. There was a balance of £163 at the bank. Subscriptions were £250, and £150 had been received from the covenant.

Mrs. Harker regularly visits the Star and Garter Home and Mrs. Sinclair keeps in touch with other hospitals.

Her Highness Princess Marie Louise, attended by Mrs. Murray, honoured the Regimental Tea Party at the Naval and Military Club.



## GREEN JACKETS YACHT CLUB

**(Branch of the Household Brigade Yacht Club)**

Unfortunately the lease of the H.B.Y.C.'s charming club-house and grounds at Warsash on the Hamble has run out. So far alternative accommodation has not been found. The Royal Thames Yacht Club have kindly come to the rescue by making the H.B.Y.C. and G.J.Y.C. honorary members of the R.T.Y.C. Yachting Base, Shore House, Warsash-on-the-Hamble, near Southampton, during the coming year. A block subscription is being paid to the R.T.Y.C. In October a meeting is to be held between the clubs concerned to decide on the future.

A memorandum, giving full details to members of G.J.Y.C., has been circulated, and C.O.'s have been requested kindly to give publicity as regards 1955 plans.

The H.B.Y.C. have always extended such a warm welcome to us and placed their fleet at our disposal, although we have not contributed anything towards capital expenditure. They welcome our support in these difficult days for yacht clubs, when so many officers are overseas.

After excellent service as Hon. Secretary, Major Peter Parker, on being posted overseas, has had to resign. A volunteer for the post would indeed be welcome. Some years ago Major C. J. Wilson, Hon. Secretary Green Jacket Cricket Club, nobly volunteered to be "an attendance member" of the G.J.Y.C. committee. This fact ensures continuity and enquiries should be addressed to him at the Depot until an Hon. Secretary can be appointed.

Little information is available from members as regards their sailing activities in 1954. It was certainly a tough year for yachtsmen. There were no complaints of shortage of wind! The increase in the popularity of small yacht racing continues to be amazing, and the number of entries at Cowes has become an embarrassment.

Major George Millar, with his wife, is on one of his famous long cruises, this time to the Gulf of Mexico, thence to North American waters, returning in the spring. In our bicentenary year it is good to know that our G.J.Y.C. burgee is being shown in North American waters.

Best wishes to all members for the starboard tack in 1955.

*Chairman*, H.O.C.

## Lieut.-Colonel Wilfred James Long, c.m.g.

Died 24th May, 1954, aged 82.

After giving much sterling service to the Regiment, another old-timer, a character has passed on.

Long served with the Burmese expedition of 1891-92 including operations in the Chin Hills with the Lushai column, gaining the medal with clasp. He saw much fighting in the South African War of 1899-1902. Serving with the Rifle Reserve Battalion in the Ladysmith Relief Force, he took part in the operations of 17th to 24th January and again on 5th to 7th February, 1900. His late brother Charles served in the Rifle Brigade in the same operation and was twice wounded. Long was again in action both at the Tugela Heights and Pieters Hill; and later with the 1st Battalion took part in the operations in Natal between March and June, including the action of Laing s Nek. Still in 1900, between July and November he was in action in the Transvaal including actions at Belfast and Lyndenberg.

In 1901-02, as a Captain, Long took part in the operations east of Pretoria. He had well earned his medal with six clasps.

What sort of a man was he really? Well, a brother officer paints a vivid and human portrait of him.

"I served with "Linger" Long in the 3rd Battalion from 1910 till January 1915, in India, where he was a Company Commander and in France where he was second-in-Command to Gosling (The Goose).

"Linger" was a sound and practical soldier. He was never afraid of expressing his opinion, however unpopular, preferably to those in authority over him; and he was usually right.

He was never very particular about his appearance or dress, which was rarely according to regulations. He used to wear—in India too—a patrol jacket with the astrakhan fur collar, which I believe had been adopted by the 1st Battalion in Halifax, Nova Scotia (some time in the sixties or seventies, I think). Where he had obtained it, we never discovered but it must have been out of date years before

LIEUT.-COL. W. J. LONG, c.m.g.

he joined. 'Linger' played no games, never shot, rode very seldom, never seemed particularly genial, yet was always extremely popular, especially with us younger officers. I think we all realised he was dependable and would never shelve a responsibility, and he was always in sympathy with the 'under dog.' One officer recalls the story that when a 2nd Lieut. staying with the 3rd Battalion for the 'Ambala Week, to commence his racing career, he was approached in the mess by the formidable figure of 'Linger' with a longer face even

than usual. 'My boy, at the front door two men are asking for you. They look like bookmaker's touts. Shall I show you the back door of the Mess?' I remember him getting very angry with us if he thought we were lacking in good manners towards the natives of India—as we often were.

Although I was only a short time in France with him as I left the Battalion wounded, soon after we got out, it was long enough to realise that one could trust him to keep cool and never lose his head, to do his best in any situation however nasty, and that he would hold himself responsible for any mistakes his subordinates might make.

A typical story about him is that one night after a most gruelling time, his Battalion got in late to temporary billets, pretty well dead beat. An excited and somewhat jumpy staff officer arrived at about one a.m. and insisted on waking up the Commanding Officer with a message—'Your Battalion must be ready to move at ten minutes notice.' 'My Battalion is always ready to move at ten minutes notice' replied 'Linger' and rolled over in his blankets again. Needless to say the Battalion was not required to move.

In the autumn of 1915 when the 80th Brigade of Rifles left France, Lieut.-Colonel Long took the 3rd Battalion to Salonika where his wide experience on the inhospitable Veldt of South Africa stood the Battalion in good stead.

His sailor brother met "Linger" at Stavros, near the mouth of the Struma. The former recalls an incident which took place at Stavros, when "Linger" was investigating a charge made by some Greeks against his men. A dishonest interpreter, favouring his Greeks, grossly misconstrued the evidence. Little did he know (nor anybody else as a matter of fact) that "Linger" had sufficient command of classical Greek to send the scoundrel and prosecution to the right about in double quick time.

One more anecdote recalled by his brother. Standing in front of a portrait of Lord Plumer in the United Services Club, "Linger" said: "I saw a lot of Plumer in South Africa. I remember him telling me to remove a dead mule from the booking office at Stellenbosch. I did not do it. But he added hastily "I should have only we moved on at once."

During the 1914-18 war he was Mentioned in Despatches twice. awarded the C.M.G. and a Brevet Lieut.-Colonelcy.

The 60th wish to offer their sympathy to his widow, and to his ex-sailor brother, Captain Long.

LIEUT.-COLONEL P. G. MORTLOCK

## Lieut.-Colonel P. G. Mortlock

After a long and painful illness Lieut.-Colonel Mortlock died on 15th October, 1954, aged 67. He had an outstanding record as a C.O. of Cadets, having commanded the 1st Cadet Battalion K.R.R.C. during the difficult years between 1944 and 1949, with his H.Q. in Sun Street. Cadet Battalions in the City always raise awkward difficulties as the area is largely non-residential, but the C.O., in spite of added war difficulties, fully maintained the high and unique traditions of his Cadet Battalion. Unique, as the 1st Cadet Battalion K.R.R.C. is the only cadet unit in possession of a Battle Honour, that of "South Africa".

Representatives of his Cadet Battalion, past and present, attended the funeral, at which the Hertfordshire Yeomanry were also represented. Lieut.-Colonel Mortlock served with this Yeomanry unit in the 1914-18 war. As a mark of deep respect for his memory and in gratitude for the numbers of future Riflemen he had trained, the 60th Rifles sent a Regimental Poppy wreath.

Mrs. Mortlock, his widow, and his brother (who also nobly backed up the Cadet Battalion) wish to take this opportunity of thanking the 60th for their expressions of sympathy and for the laying of a Regimental wreath.

R.S.M. HOLMES, M.C.

R.S.M. William Thomas Holmes, M.C.

Born 27th January, 1873. Died 14th September, 1954.

Enlisted for the K.R.R.C. 21st March, 1894.

He served at home from 1894 to 1900; South Africa 1900 to 1903; Bermuda 1904 and 1905; Home 1905 to 1908; Crete 1908-09; Malta 1909-10; India 1910 to 1912; Home 1912 to 1915.

His early service was with the 3rd Battalion.

He was promoted Cpl. in March and Lance-Sergeant in June 1899. and was at the Relief of Ladysmith and then served with the Mounted Infantry. On return from South Africa he was promoted Sergeant in March and Colour Sergeant in August, 1903.

On going to the 6th Battalion in 1913 he was promoted C.S.M., and went to the 8th Battalion on formation in 1914. He went to France with the 8th Battalion and was subsequently promoted R.S.M. to the Battalion.



Mr. Holmes was in action with the Battalion at Ypres, Arras and on the Somme, and during an action on the Somme in 1916 was awarded the Military Cross.

He was discharged medically unfit in October 1917 as the result of chest wounds.

In 1918 he was appointed a Messenger at the Privy Purse Office and was employed as a Messenger at Buckingham Palace until he retired in 1938.

He was in possesion of the following medals: M.C.; Queen's South African; King's South African; Delhi Durbar; 1915; British War and Victory; Long Service and Good Conduct; King George V Jubilee; Royal Victorian; King George VI; Coronation; he was also in possession of the Medaille d'Honneur of the Argentine and the Medale d'Honneur of France.

What a proud record. The Regiment will not forget and will always cherish the memory of this great Rifleman.

Colonel Sir Geoffrey Hippisley Cox, C.B.E., T.D., D.L.

Died 24th February 1954. Joined Queen's Westminsters 1907.

Besides everyone connected with the Queen's Westminsters, a great many members of the "Celer et Audax" Club will cherish a happy and noble memory of Geoffrey Hippisley Cox. At all times, especially when Hon. Colonel of the Queen's Westminsters, his co-operation with the 60th the was total and of great mutual benefit.

The two extracts taken from *The Times* clearly emphasise his vitality and versatility, his efficiency and great good comradeship.

**Lawyer and Soldier**

Colonel Sir Geoffrey Hippisley Cox, C.B.E., T.D., D.L., a partner in the firm of Parliamentary agents, Messrs. Dyson, Bell & Co., died at his home in London on Wednesday at the age of 69.

Edward George Hippisley Cox was born on 29th August, 1884, the son of the late Edward Hippisley Cox. Having chosen a legal career, he was admitted a solicitor in 1907 and specialised in Parliamentary work. For many years he was a member of the Statute Law Committee. Parallel with his important legal work he had another career as a Territorial soldier which began in 1915 when he took his first staff appointment.

His clear brain and legal training were great assets to the adminis-

COLONEL SIR GEOFFREY HIPPISLEY COX, C.B.E., T.D., D.L.



trative staff and he ended the 1914-18 war in the grade of A.A.G. with the rank of Lieut.-Colonel. From 1931 to 1926 he commanded the Queen's Westminster and Civil Service Rifles and after his retirement in the latter year served for a time as honorary Colonel of the regiment. having been granted the brevet of colonel in 1925. During the 1939-45 war he was re-employed and served as A.A.G. at London District Headquarters from 1940 to 1945.

He married in 1914 Ethel Milsted, daughter of Mr. M. E. Pitcher, who survives him together with two sons of the marriage.

Sir Lynden Macassey, Q.C. and Sir Henry MacGeagh, Q.C. write:

May two old and intimate friends of Sir Geoffrey Hippisley Cox out of their combined associations with him over many years try to give some idea of an exceptionally charming and versatile personality? Reference has already been made by you, Sir, to his distinguished military career. As a parliamentary agent he enjoyed to an unusual degree the respect and confidence of members of Parliament, Ministers of successive Governments, the authorities of both Houses, and the affection of the Parliamentary Bar, being always forcible yet scrupulously fair, a zealous upholder of parliamentary traditions with an unrivalled knowledge of parliamentary practice and precedent relating to private Bills all qualifications commanding respect in the climate of Westminster.

His guidance and advice were wisely secured by all the great associations representing the undertakings that fell for nationalisation, railways, collieries, electric supply, and gas undertakings, etc., and and he played a particularly prominent part in the very strenuous work of securing for their benefit amendments in the various nationalising Bills. His activities spread out into commerce and industry covering a wide and varied field from a directorship in Jaqmars to one in the English Electric Company. He was on the Court of the Drapers' Company of the City of London, a member of its Education Committee, also of the Court of Governors of Queen Mary College of the University of London, and an invaluable adviser in regard to the many problems from time to time confronting the company and the college.

He will be remembered best of all by his friends for his personal qualities, his love of all beautiful things—one of his great joys being his delightful home in Somerset—his knowledge of art, his unabating interest in men and affairs, and his most attractive and entertaining gift of conversation.

He will be most missed, perhaps, by his many friends in the Carlton Club, on the committee of which he gave outstanding service.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN HUMPHREY DAVIDSON, C.M.G., C.B.,, D.S.O.



MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN HUMPHREY DAVIDSON, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.
COLONEL COMMANDANT 2ND BATTALION, 1937-1945.

Died 11th December, 1954, aged 78.

Sir John Davidson died in a nursing home in Scotland. He had been for a long time in failing health. Born in 1876 he was educated at Harrow and the Royal Military College and received his commission in the Regiment in 1896 joining the 1st Battalion in Mauritius. Early in 1899 the Battalion was sent to Natal to augment the Ladysmith garrison and when the South African war started it was with the advanced Brigade at Dundee under Sir William Penn Symons. Early on October 20th a large force of Boers started shelling the camp from a ridge called Talana Hill, a mile distant. The British Brigade deployed and drove the enemy off the ridge. In this fight the 1st Battalion lost five officers killed (including Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Gunning) and seven wounded, out of seventeen, and nearly 100 other ranks. Lieut. J. H. Davidson was among those Mentioned in Despatches. The Brigade fell back on Ladysmith which was besieged for four months. Davidson remained with the 1st Battalion another two years, in the advance into the Transvaal and long operations on blockhouse lines. He then became Adjutant of a local mounted regiment known as Remington's Guides and later of Damants Horse. Promoted Captain in 1901 he was awarded the D.S.O. with nine bars to his Medals at the end of the war.

After serving in Malta and Crete, still with the 1st Battalion, he passed through the Staff College 1906-07 after which his service was entirely on the Staff; two years in the training directorate as G.S.O.3 at the War Office, followed by two years as Brigade Major 5th Infantry Brigade at Aldershot, then (in 1912) instructor at the Staff College till the commencement of the first world war. He had received a Brevet Majority in 1913. The following description of his services in the 1914-18 war is taken from the obituary notice in *The Times*. "The outbreak of war in 1914 found him still at the College and his mobilisation appointment being G.S.O.3 (intelligence), III Corps, he joined its headquarters in France during the retreat from Mons, and took part in the battles of the Marne and Aisne, and the fighting round Armentieres. When in December 1914, the first Army was formed under Sir Douglas Haig, Davidson was lent to its headquarters for the special duty of extracting the Indian Corps from the waterlogged trenches in the Lys Valley, where it had been thrust to fill a gap; the relief took ten days and he had to report progress personally to Haig each evening.

" On the termination of this duty Haig asked for his permanent appointment to the General Staff of the First Army as Operations Officer, and he joined as a temporary Colonel, subsequently receiving the Brevets of Lieut.-Colonel and Colonel. When in December 1915, Haig became Commander-in-Chief he took Davidson as Director of Operations with the rank of Brigadier General. In 1917 he was promoted Major General. At the close of the war Davidson was created a K.C.M.G.; he had previously been appointed C.B. (in 1917) and had received a number of foreign decorations."

Haig kept him at G.H.Q. for three years. His dependence on his Director of Operations to whom loyalty to his Chief was the first consideration, had however prevented Davidson acquiring the experience necessary for high command for which he was obviously qualified in other respects, and when the war ended he decided to accept an offer to stand for Parliament. He was elected Conservative member for the Fareham Division of Hampshire and held the seat, with large and increasing majorities, serving as Chairman of the Select Committe on the training of ex-service men and of the King's Roll National Council, and as President of the Union Jack Club.

At the age of 55 he left Parliament and went into business in the City in which he was extremely successful. He became Chairman of the Bank of Australia among other numerous responsibilities.

In 1937 came the honour of which he was most proud, that of a Colonel Commandant of his Regiment (2nd Battalion) which he held till reaching the age limit in 1945. At the start of these anxious years His Majesty King George VI had followed his father as Colonel-in-Chief; the battle role of the Regiment had changed to "motor" and for the last six years the war was being slowly won. Inspections, interviews, meetings and correspondence, the Chairmanship of the Riflemen's Aid Society entailed heavy work.

To him belongs the credit for the historical commissioning of the seventeen American citizens who came over and served as officers in the Regiment they had heard of as the Royal Americans. As the junior Colonel Commandant at the time the writer of this tribute to his memory can claim to know something of John Davidson's influence and work for the Regiment in this critical period. In 1953, in his old age, Davidson's loyalty to his war chief induced him to publish a book named *Haig, Master of the Field* after a name said to have been applied to him in German military circles. It is a graphic description of Haig's problems and difficulties when Commander-in-Chief on the Western Front 1916-18. Lord Haig had died



in 1928 and the official history of the war had just been published.

Such, in brief, is John Davidson's record. In personal ways Tavish, the name by which his friends knew him, held a special place in their affection. The most loyal of friends himself, the joy of living and a happy sense of honour were his. He had won the School High Jump at Harrow and I once saw him come off parade in boots and spurs and beat the winner of the high jump in the Battalion Sports.

In 1905 he married Margaret, daughter of John Grant of Rothiemurchus in Inverness-shire. The last years of his life were spent at his home at Nairn, close to that of his daughter.

The Regiment shares with them their loss of him and their pride in him.

## Major David Johnson Mitchell, m.c.

Born 28th January, 1890. Died 25th December, 1954

When driving alone in his own park, David met his death in tragic circumstances due to sudden heart failure followed by a crash.

He joined a home Battalion in 1911, and came out to the 4th Battalion early in 1914. Polo soon attracted his attention on the small Gharial recreation ground still being terraced out of the steep Murree hill-side.

David had the lightest of hands and a beautiful seat on a horse, but his elegant horsemanship did not end there. He was a really first-class man to hounds in any country.

But do not let me suggest that polo occupied all his attention. When the 4th Battalion went to Belgium at the end of 1914, David commanded our brace of M.G.'s—yes, we had two of these vital weapons, carried in four-horsed limbers (at that time unique) drawn by four beautiful bays, whilst David rode a magnificent little heavy-weight cob. This turn-out was the cynosure of all eyes and excited the envy of every transport officer.

Unfortunately David had to spend a long spell in hospital, and on return became A.D.C. to General Milne, who became C.-in-C. in Salonika with the 3rd and 4th Battalions still under his command. With his friendly manners David was a notable success in the appointment. Indeed with his flair for liaison with commanders and staff at all levels he soon made himself so indispensible that his Chief

MAJOR D. J. MITCHELL, M.C.

would not release him, taking him with him on his many Commands in the Middle East.

In the 1914-19 war, David was awarded M.C., French War Cross, Order of the Redeemer and Order of the White Eagle. In 1916 he was Mentioned in Despatches.



After retiring in 1926, he was recalled to the Motor Training Battalion in 1939 and received a brevet Majority in 1941 for his services.

Between the wars David played a lot of polo at Cirencester and hunted with the North Cotswold, of which pack he eventually became joint master.

David never missed a regimental dinner and will be missed by a host of friends, who will cherish his attractive memory.

Colonel C. E. Grenville-Grey, C.B.E., represented the 60th at the funeral and the "Celer et Audax" Club sent a Poppy wreath in affectionate memory.

The 60th again offers its deep sympathy to his mother and step-daughter and other relatives.

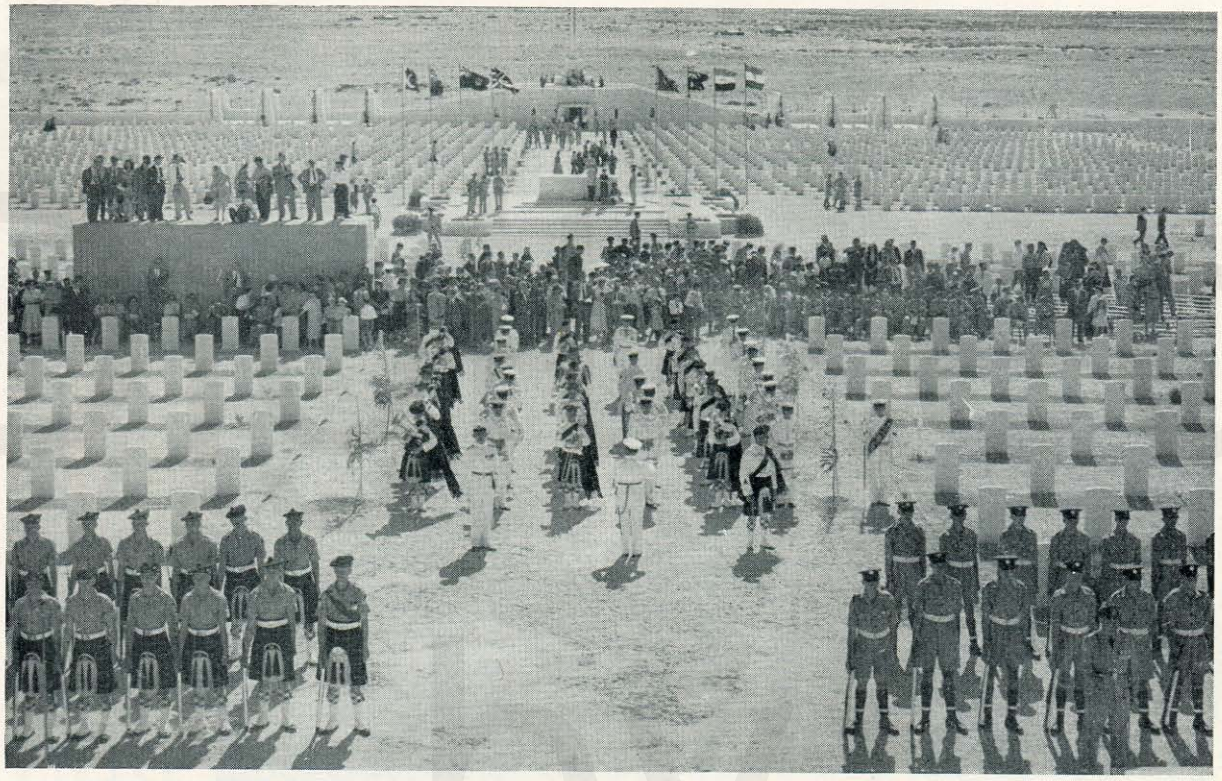
## EL ALAMEIN—24th OCTOBER, 1954

The memorial cloister in which are inscribed the names of 11,945 officers and men of the Commonwealth Armies and Air Forces who fell in the Middle East theatre and have no known graves, was unveiled by Field Marshal Montgomery at El Alamein on Sunday, 24th October, 1954.

Memories which time has clouded, were freshened as some hundreds of veterans assembled in the warm Egyptian sunshine below the glistening white memorial cloister. Many famous desert leaders had made the pilgrimage—O'Connor, Freyberg, Neame, Messervy, Marriott, Kippenburger, Vic Turner and others. They were joined by contingents from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan and a sprinkling of serving soldiers from the Canal Zone. The Royal Navy were represented by a shore party among whom the crew of H.M.S. *Rifleman* was prominent. Most moving of all were the mothers and fathers, sisters, brothers and wives of those whose names were inscribed on the memorial. For them the tragedy of sacrifice lives on.

The Field Marshal also has not changed. A little greyer but as thin and alert as when he dominated the battlefield twelve years ago. The hundreds who heard his speech at El Alamein and the millions throughout the world who listened to the B.B.C. broadcast, will not easily forget his vivid words.

Buglers of the 1st Battalion the Durham Light Infantry sounded the Last Post as the Field Marshal drew aside the Commonwealth



EL ALAMEIN CEREMONY, OCTOBER 24th, 1954
A general view of the Cemetery from the top of the Memorial Cloister

EL ALAMEIN CEMETARY

EL ALAMEIN CEREMONY
Our chummy ship sent a very worthy representative

EL ALAMEIN

Col. de L. Thompson, O.C. Matabeleland and onetime 2nd-in-C. 1st K.R.R.C. in the Desert campaign, laying a wreath from the Royal Rhodesia Regt. on the Memorial to the King's Royal Rifle Corps, on which the names of Rhodesians are also inscribed



Flags, which veiled the face of the memorial. Presently the pipes of the 1st Battalion the Seaforth Highlanders played a lament and the service of dedication by the Anglican Bishop of Egypt began.

The names inscribed in the cloister brought back poignant memories of friends whose presence we miss to-day, companions of our youth who will always have a special place in our hearts. They would be happy to know that on this day of remembrance they were not forgotten by their fellow Green Jackets. Colonel Vic Turner, V.C., laid a very beautiful wreath under the Rifle Brigade tablet and Colonel Thompson of the Royal Rhodesia Regiment laid his wreath under the tablet which combines the names of both the 60th and the Royal Rhodesias.

A day full of memories, of sand and sunshine, of famous men and valiant armies, of survivors and relations who mourn, but above all of pride and of inspiration that men of British stock could rise to such heights of nobleness at that great turning point of history. In the words of the Field Marshal "Let us rest the solemnity of this moment on the memory of duty done. We, who stand around this Memorial to-day, form a Guard of Honour to those whose names we commemorate expressing from former glories our confidence in the future."

J.M.W.

## GRAVES OF C.O.'s IN JAMAICA

The Regiment is much indebted to Brigadier A. C. F. Jackson, C.B.E., H.Q. s Caribbean Area, Jamaica for so kindly forwarding the following information.

With reference to the C.O.'s, 2nd Battalion 60th Rifles who died here in 1841 and 1842, their graves are in Halfway Tree Church Burial Ground, and were located without difficulty.

The first, Lieut.-Colonel Ellis, died on the 16th August, 1841. The monument erected takes the form of a very substantial plinth, on which the inscription appears:

ERECTED BY THE 2ND BATTN. 60TH RIFLES TO THE MEMORY OF LT. COLONEL THE HONBLE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK ELLIS SECOND SON OF THE LORD SEAFORD WHO DIED IN THIS ISLAND IN COMMAND OF THAT REGIMENT,

16th August, 1841

*Aetat. suae* 41.

Standing on this base is a shield mounted on a stone band carrying the motto: NON QUO SED QUOMODO. The shield, which is surmounted

by a unicorn, is divided in half, of which the left-hand side is given over to floral designs with crosses worked into the pattern. The right half shows a large "Y".

A very large monument has been erected to Lieut.-Colonel Markham who died during the next year, although the actual date is not given. This edifice is surmounted by a burial urn.

The inscription appears on two sides of the monument, as does a shield surmounted by a winged lion. The left-hand side ot the shield shows half a lion rampant, the right-hand side a shield over a cross.

The inscription reads:

ERECTED BY THE 2ND BATTN 60TH RIFLES TO THE MEMORY OF LT. COLONEL CHARLES MARKHAM FIFTH SON OF WILLIAM MARKHAM, ESQ. OF BECCA HALL WHO DIED IN THIS ISLAND IN COMMAND OF THAT CORPS

*Ann. aetat. suae* 39.

1842.

and the sculptor's name and address is given as "E. Physick, Sculpt, Park Terrrace, Regent's Park, London."

## THE GREEN JACKETS WAR MEMORIAL, CALAIS

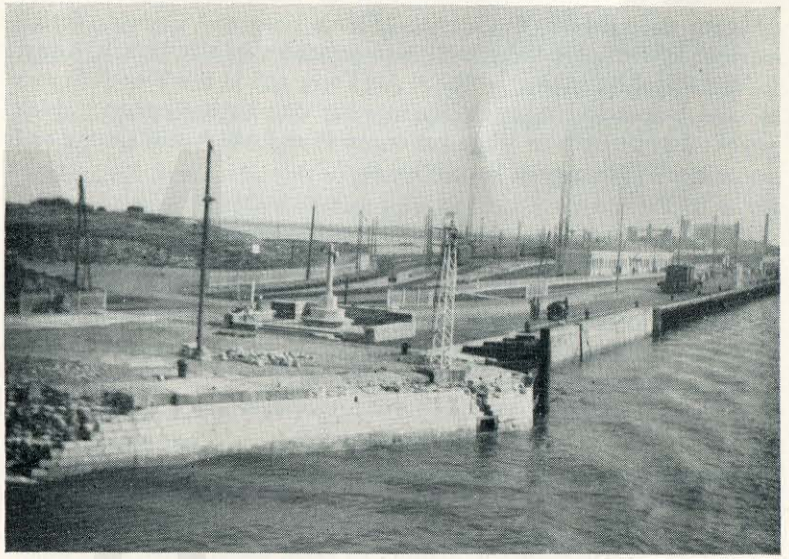
A pilgrimage was made by members of the British Legion (Calais Branch) on Sunday, 30th May at 11 a.m. to the monument erected to the Green Jackets at the Gare Maritime, Calais. Wreaths were sent on behalf of the King s Royal Rifle Corps, the Rifle Brigade, and Queen Victoria's Rifles, the Calais District Patriotic Societies Association, and the British Legion (Calais Branch).

The Exhortation was then recited by Mr. Crowhurst, President, of the Calais Branch, who said:

"It is a privilege and an honour for us to gather at this monument to-day, for the purpose of commemorating anew the officers and men of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, the Rifle Brigade, and Queen Victoria's Rifles, who gave their lives in this district for the cause of justice and liberty.

Some of us have personal memories of those dark days in Calais, just fourteen years ago, when the Green Jackets were already on French soil quietly and unobtrusively performing their duties and inspiring the local population with a sense of security and protection which, unfortunately, subsequent events

THE STANDARDS OF THE CALAIS BRANCH OF THE BRITISH LEGION
The poppy wreath sent by 60th, R.B. and Q.V.R. can be seen. It was very kindly laid by the Legion



GREEN JACKETS' MEMORIAL AT CALAIS
Taken from a cross-channel ship by Brig. Gordon de Bruyne. In the background the Calais Railway Station is seen and in the foreground damage by bombs

were so soon to belie. But if their gallant stand against vastly superior odds could not prevent the fall of Calais, it did contribute largely to the defence of Dunkerque and to the successful evacuation from that port, some few days later, of hundreds of thousands of our own and allied troops. These are facts which have become, and made world history. The heroic action of the Green Jackets showed that, once again, England had Calais graven on her heart. It also further cemented, in the bonds of loyalty and friendship, the *Entente Cordiale* the fifteenth anniversary of which is being celebrated this year.

This cross, before which we stand, was unveiled in 1951, by H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester as a tribute to the fallen whom we do not forget and to whose memory we are proud to render homage this morning.

Father, husband, brother, son have now passed beyond the border to swell the ranks of that other Legion where we, as Christians, believe they have found that peace and happiness which is their due reward. May their example and sacrifice be for us who are left a source of consolation and an inspiration to continue to serve God, our Queen and our country.

Let us remember before God all those Green Jackets who gave their lives in the service of their King and Country during the defence of Calais, and their comrades in the British Army, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force and in the French Forces and in conclusion let us say together that sublime prayer which our Lord taught us while yet on earth and which will set the seal to our Pilgrimage of Remembrance".

After observing a minute's silence to commemorate the fallen the ceremony concluded with the saying of the Lord's Prayer.

The Calais branch of the British Legion have decided on an annual Pilgrimage to the Memorial on the Sunday before 2nd June, or on that date if a Sunday. The Green Jackets are much touched by this.

### POST SCRIPTUM

With deep regret, the Editor has to report the recent deaths of :—

Lieut.-Col. L. G. Moore, D.S.O., in S. Rhodesia.
Lieut.-Col. Sir John V. E. Lees, Bart., D.S.O., M.C., D.L.
Brig.-Gen. B. J. Curling, D.S.O.

Obituary notices will be published in the 1955 edition.



## NOTICES

### THE ARMY ART SOCIETY

The Army Art Society, of which Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery is Patron and Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck Chairman held its 23rd Exhibition in the Art Gallery of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington from the 9th to the 27th November.

The Exhibition was opened at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 9th November, by Sir Bruce Ingram, C.B.E., M.C.

Before the last War the Society was known as the Army Officers Art Society and membership was restricted to those who held or had held a regular commission. After the War when the Society opend up again it was expanded to include all ranks of the Army and Royal Marines, past and present, permanent and temporary. Membership is by election but non-members may exhibit. Past and present members of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force may also exhibit and are eligible to become Associate Members. Past and present members of the Women's Services are also eligible.

The object of the Society is to encourage art in the Services by giving members a chance of exhibiting in London at reasonable cost.

Among the present day exhibitors are Field Marshal the Earl Alexander of Tunis, Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Tedder, Admiral Sir Dudley de Chair, Lieut-General Sir Lionel Bond, Major General J. C. T. Willis, the Lord Hampton, John Skeaping, A.R.A., Edward Seago, Macdonald Bruce who this year obtained an award at the Paris Salon, Officer Cadets, National Service men and many others. Most of the exhibitors have travelled far afield and for this reason the Exhibition of 400 or 450 works contains many paintings of foreign lands.
(J. F. Batten, Lieut.-Col., Hon. Secretary, Sherwood, Canon Hill Bray, Berks.).

### THE MILITIA CLUB

**40 Broadway, Westminster, S.W.1**

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I would much appreciate if we could have space in your Journal to bring The Militia Club to the notice of any of your readers who may have held commissions in the old Militia, Special Reserve Battalion or Yeomanry.

The Club was started in 1905 to provide Militia Officers of different Regiments opportunities to meet together for social intercourse.

The Club has no quarters, but the members meet together at least twice each year, at one of the Service Clubs, for lunch or dinner. The present membership is 120, and there are representatives of almost every Regiment in the Army. The subscription is 10s. a year.

Our President is Brigadier General The Earl of Gowrie, V.C., P.C., G.C., M.C., C.B., D.S.O., who started his army life in the Militia Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry.

Further information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Major A. S. Bredon, Derry Gariff, Camberley, Surrey.

Yours truly,

CHARLES HITCHINS,
*Chairman, Colonel late 3rd Royal West Kent.*

## OFFICERS PENSIONS SOCIETY

### Change of Address

Owing to expansion the Society moved from 79 Petty France, S.W.1 on the 1st May, 1954 to new offices at: 171 VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.1, Telephone: VICtoria 0853.

Details of the recently announced increases for 8,250 officers appeared in the June "Pennant." Please remember the importance of increasing our Membership.

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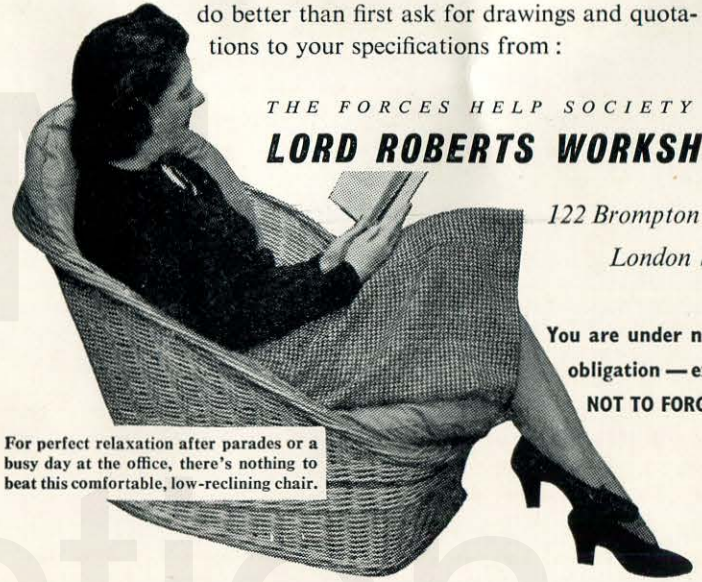

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