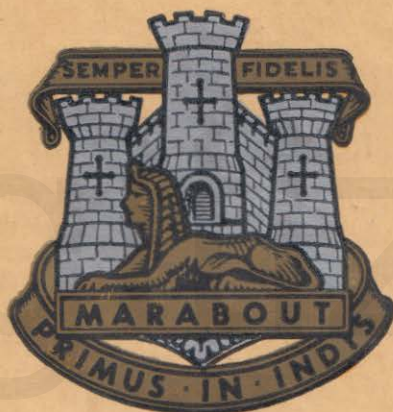




THE
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of the
DEVONSHIRE and DORSET REGIMENT
The 11th 39th and 54th of FOOT

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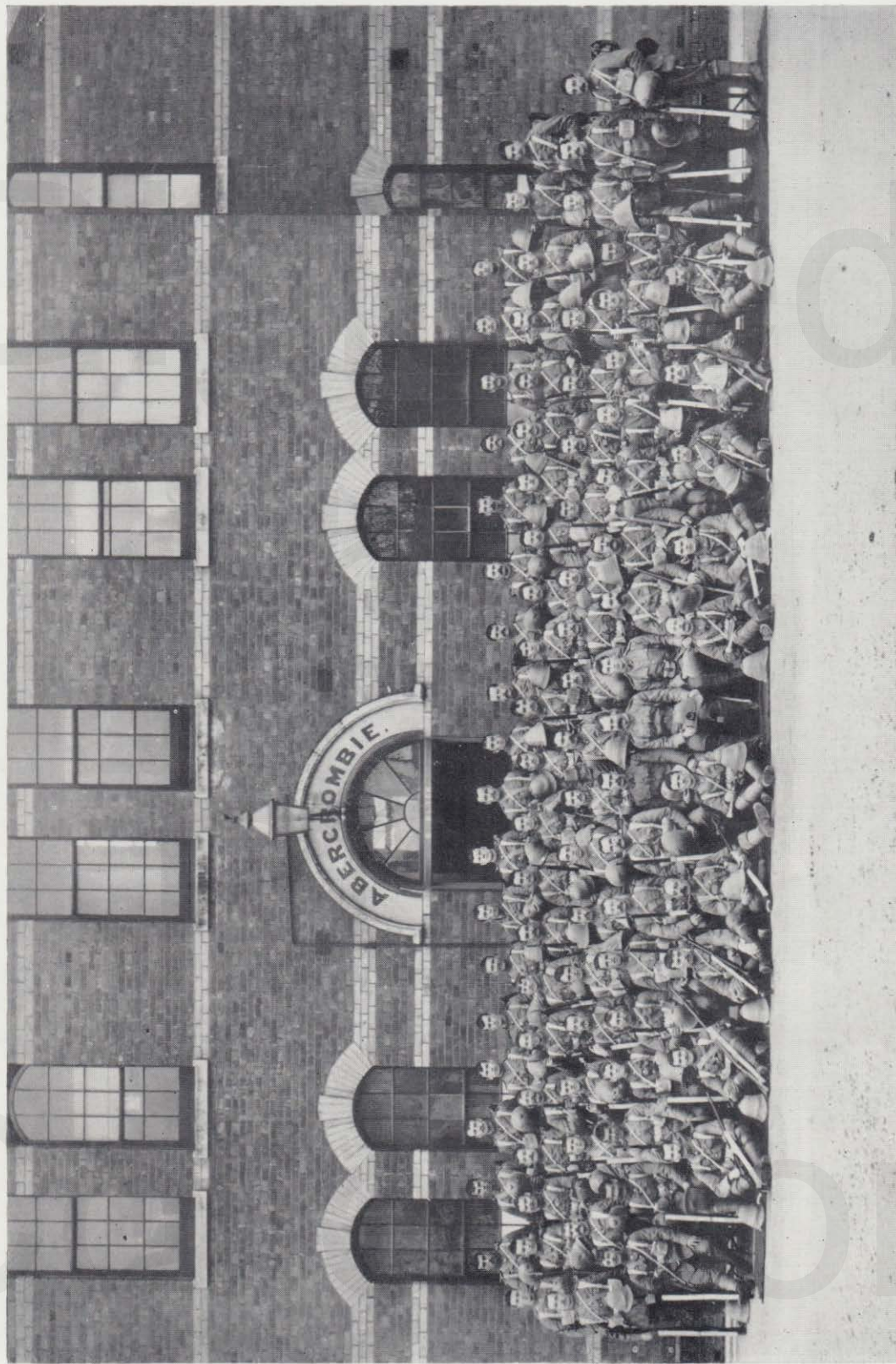
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REGIMENTAL JOURNAL
OF
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THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT [11, 39 and 54]

The Sphinx superimposed upon the Castle of Exeter.

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

The Sphinx superscribed 'Egypt'.

Semper Fidelis
Primus in Indis

Dettingen, Plassey, Martinique 1794, Marabout, Albuhera, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelles, Nive, Orthes, Toulouse, Peninsula, Ava, Maharajpore, Sevastopol, Afghanistan 1879-80, Tirah, Defence of Ladysmith, Relief of Ladysmith, South Africa 1899-1902, Mons, Marne 1914, La Bassee 1914, Ypres 1915, '17, Loos, Somme 1916, '18, Bois des Buttes, Hindenburg Line, Sambre, Vittorio Veneto, Doiran 1917, '18, Suvla, Gaza, Palestine 1917, '18, Shaiba, Ctesiphon, Khan Baghdadi, Mesopotamia 1914-18, St Omer-La Bassee, Normandy Landing, Caen, Arnhem 1944, Aam, Geilenkirchen, Rhine, North-West Europe 1940, '44-45, Landing in Sicily, Regalbuto, Malta 1940-42, Imphal, Kohima, Mandalay, Myinmu Bridgehead Burma 1943-45.

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Les Fusiliers de Sherbrooke

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6th Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment

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5th Battalion The King's African Rifles

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Associate Colonel: MAJOR-GENERAL H. A. BORRADAILE, C.B., D.S.O.

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(b) The Barracks, Dorchester, Dorset. Tele. Dorchester 1066

1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment—Cyprus, British Forces Post Office 53

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CAPTAIN R. AGGETT, Nigeria Military Forces
LIEUT.-COLONEL P. F. ANDERSON, M.C., Wessex Brigade Depot
2ND LIEUT. J. E. ANDRE, 'B' Company, 1st Battalion
(esc) MAJOR M. G. ANDREW, H.Q. Advanced Base (British Forces), B.F.P.O. 21

MAJOR D. O. APPLETON, H.Q. Company, 5th Division, B.A.O.R. 32
MAJOR A. J. ARCHER, Joint Services Staff College, Latimer, Chesham, Bucks (till 20th May 1960)

MAJOR (T/Lieut.-Colonel) R. J. G. T. BAHIN, T.S.O.1, Ministry of Supply, Shell Mex House, Strand, London, W.C.2

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2ND LIEUT. A. E. O. BASTYAN, 1st Battalion

LIEUT. P. MC. L. BAXTER, MMG Platoon, 1st Battalion

MAJOR G. M. BENNETT, E.R.D. Cyprus Leave Camp, B.F.P.O. 53
CAPTAIN (Q.M.) G. W. BLAKE, Quartermaster 1st Battalion (Designate)

CAPTAIN J. D. C. BLAKE, Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Plymouth

CAPTAIN G. B. BLIGHT, 7th Bn Royal Malay Regt, Seputeh, Perak, Malaya

CAPTAIN A. F. BLUNDELL, Wessex Brigade Depot

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MAJOR M. F. R. BULLOCK, The Staff College, Camberley

LIEUT. C. W. G. BULLOCKE, 3rd Mortar Platoon, 'S' Company, 1st Battalion

CAPTAIN P. BURDICK, School of Infantry (Signal Wing), Hythe, Kent
2ND LIEUT. R. W. B. BURNETT, 1st Battalion

(esc) CAPTAIN W. F. R. BURTON, Staff Captain Q. (Maint.) H.Q., B.A.O.R.

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CAPTAIN (Q.M.) F. L. CANN, Quartermaster, The Devonshire Regiment (T.A.), Exeter

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CAPTAIN P. D. CLARKE, 'B' Company, 1st Battalion

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LIEUT. J. M. DEANS, 5th Battalion, Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment, Kaduna

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(ssc) MAJOR B. G. DILLON, Staff Captain (A), H.Q. Commonwealth Independent Infantry Brigade, Singapore

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CAPTAIN H. C. EALAND, 2/6th Bn, King's African Rifles, Mauritius

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CAPTAIN D. B. EDWARDS, Somaliland Scouts

CAPTAIN P. N. ELGAR, No. 1 Wing, Army Air Corps, Detmold, B.A.O.R., B.F.P.O.

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CAPTAIN P. K. ESSAME, G.S.O. 3 (Int.), H.Q. 1st British Corps, B.F.P.O. 39

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MAJOR R. H. B. FELTHAM, Brigade Major, 148 Infantry Brigade (T.A.), Wigmore Road, Nottingham

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(ssc) MAJOR E. H. GILES, D.C.M., Ship's Staff Pool, Short Sea Voyages, Harwich

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2ND LIEUT. J. R. GRAHAM, Assistant Adjutant, 1st Battalion

CAPTAIN R. F. GRAHAM, R.A.M.C., Medical Officer, 1st Battalion

CAPTAIN P. W. R. GRAYSTONE, Wessex Brigade Depot, pending posting 1st Battalion

LIEUT. C. R. M. GREEN, Signal Officer (designate), 1st Battalion

(nsc) 2ND LIEUT. E. GREY, 'C' Company, 1st Battalion

CAPTAIN W. J. GUINAN, Singapore Regiment, Singapore

(ssc) LIEUT. D. G. HAMILL, 5th Bn, King's African Rifles

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MAJOR F. W. HARRIES, Aden Protectorate Levies, British Land Forces, Arabian Peninsula

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LIEUT. J. C. F. HILL, 'C' Company, 1st Battalion

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CAPTAIN C. G. C. HOSKING, War Office Selection Board, Barton Stacey

2ND LIEUT. J. A. HURST, 'D' Company, 1st Battalion

CAPTAIN J. IVES, Signals Officer, 1st Battalion

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CAPTAIN F. LESS, M.C., Army Air Corps, Middle Wallop

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2ND LIEUT. M. J. LEWIS, 'C' Company, 1st Battalion

CAPTAIN D. P. LOVEJOY, 'C' Company, 1st Battalion

MAJOR C. J. LYNCH, 'B' Company, 1st Battalion

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LIEUT. N. D. NOTLEY, 4th Battalion, Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment

(Q.M.) R. R. PATMORE, Quartermaster, 11th Battalion, King's African Rifles, Nakuru, Kenya

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2ND LIEUT. B. E. T. REED, 'B' Company, 1st Battalion

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 CAPTAIN C. T. SHORTIS, Staff Captain, Brigade H.Q., Singapore Military Forces
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 MAJOR F. G. BAKER, Headquarter Company
 MAJOR G. G. BAKER, M.B.E., 'S' Company
 CAPTAIN G. F. BIGWOOD, R.A.M.C., Medical Officer
 2ND LIEUT. M. BURDICK, 'B' Company
 LIEUT. D. G. BURGOWNE, Unit Paymaster
 CAPTAIN A. J. BUTT, 'D' Company
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 LIEUT. C. A. M. COXE, 'A' Company
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 CAPTAIN M. J. DRAKE, 'C' Company
 CAPTAIN P. R. W. F. FALKNER, Administrative Officer
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 LIEUT. C. E. HALLOWS, 'D' Company
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 LIEUT. E. W. HAWKES, Mortar Platoon, 'S' Company
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 CAPTAIN R. G. MACKIE, 'D' Company

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 MAJOR A. B. PIER, 'B' Company
 LIEUT. C. R. B. SMALE, 'A' Company
 2ND LIEUT. G. SIMEY, 'A' Company
 LIEUT. G. STAMP, M.T. Officer, Headquarter Company
 CAPTAIN R. E. STAMP, 'B' Company
 CAPTAIN P. STRICKLAND, M.M.G. Platoon, 'S' Company
 CAPTAIN C. H. STURE, Anti-Tank Platoon, 'S' Company
 LIEUT. C. G. WEBBER, 'C' Company
 LIEUT. J. L. WHITESIDE, Signal Officer, Headquarter Company
 MAJOR K. E. WILKINSON, 'C' Company

The Dorset Regiment (T.A.)

Hon. Colonel: COLONEL J. W. WELD, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P.

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 CAPTAIN C. E. DAWKINS, M.T. Officer
 MAJOR R. O. DOVER, 'A' Company
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 CAPTAIN S. FIELD, 'C' Company
 LIEUT. D. R. GIBSON, 'D' Company
 LIEUT. P. S. GROOM, 'C' Company
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 LIEUT. A. P. LABRUM, 'A' Company
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 CAPTAIN R. M. REED, 'D' Company
 2ND LIEUT. P. J. ROBSON, 'B' Company
 LIEUT. G. RODWAY, 'A' Company
 LIEUT. N. S. SALISBURY, 'B' Company
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 LIEUT. C. J. STEPHENSON, 'D' Company
 MAJOR P. F. STOOP, 'S' Company
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 CAPTAIN D. G. WOLLEN, Mortar Platoon, 'S' Company

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 5618862 A. T. COOMBE, 1st Battalion
 14624904 V. F. HOWE, Ships Staff Pool, Southampton
 5503774 W. C. HARRIS, The Dorset Regiment (T.A.)
 5631259 R. S. POLLARD, The Devonshire Regiment (T.A.)

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7265618 K. BOULDING, Band, 1st Battalion, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

Class II

5724280 J. KEELY, The Dorset Regiment (T.A.)
 5617580 H. FRENCH, Headquarters, Northern Army Group, B.F.P.O. 44
 883509 J. WALLIS, Army Apprentices School
 5617457 R. PETHERICK, M.B.E., Junior Leaders Battalion
 5619283 K. ROOKE, Ghana Military Forces
 1929043 M. NOTT, Wessex Brigade Depot
 883445 E. NUNN, 1st Battalion
 14923779 G. TRODD, B.E.M., Wessex Brigade Depot
 5617017 F. G. BURTON, The Devonshire Regiment (T.A.)
 5568075 J. DUNNING, Army Apprentices School, Arborfield
 14857451 R. BATE-JONES, The Devonshire Regiment (T.A.)
 886054 L. BURGOWNE, 1st Battalion
 22557310 R. THOMAS, B.E.M., 1st Battalion
 2222392 R. MCGREGOR, 1st Battalion
 5618336 A. BOLTON, Wessex Brigade Depot (temporary duty with Home Counties District)
 5382272 V. WILLEY, Regimental Pay Office, Stockbridge
 19036219 K. WOOD, 1st Battalion
 5510896 J. CLEVERLEY, 1st Battalion
 E. KENNEY, Administrative Warrant Officer, Sek Kon Village, Hong Kong (N.T.)

Permanent Staff Instructors to the Devonshire and Dorset Regiments (T.A.)

The Devonshire Regiment (T.A.) (The First Rifle Volunteers)

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 C.S.M. F. G. BURTON, Battalion Headquarters
 C.S.M. R. G. BATE-JONES, 'C' Company
 SERGEANT W. L. VINSON, 'S' Company
 SERGEANT W. WILKINSON, 'D' Company
 SERGEANT J. E. ALDERMAN, 'A' Company
 SERGEANT R. A. CROCKER, Battalion Headquarters

The Dorset Regiment (T.A.)

R.S.M. W. C. HARRIS, Battalion Headquarters
 C.S.M. R. MARSH, 'A' Company
 SERGEANT E. J. ELLIS, 'B' Company
 SERGEANT A. JOHNSON, 'C' Company
 SERGEANT R. A. SOLMAN, 'D' Company
 C.S.M. J. J. KEELY, 'S' Company
 SERGEANT H. KNIGHT, 'S' Company

EDITORIAL

The Journal of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment can hardly claim to have got away to a flying start. What with the unavoidable delays in launching the new magazine last spring and the subsequent disruption caused by the strike in the printing trade just as we were going to press for the second number, we have not yet been able to achieve that rhythm in our affairs which not only our readers but also our regular contributors have reason to expect. But given a fair run now, our printers and the editorial staff hope to give you issue No. 4 by Christmas, and if we do then we will all be able to start 1960 by producing the first number of Volume II at the advertised time.

Meanwhile at home we have managed to show that even without our own Regimental Depots at Dorchester and Exeter we have been able to produce two Cricket Weeks and two Regimental 'At Homes'. Both Regimental Headquarters are to be congratulated on this achievement. Both Headquarters are deep in the debt of the Wessex Brigade Depot without whose active working parties neither week could really have been held. At Dorchester also, where there is currently no form of regular soldiery within reach, the Regiment is most grateful for the skill, enthusiasm and hard work of the Battalion Headquarters and the Dorchester Company of the 4th Bn Dorset Regiment (T.A.) for their successful organisation of the working parties for the Cricket Week and the undoubtedly successful Regimental Ball in Barracks. It is perhaps invidious to single out the Dorchester Company when many others played their part, but in these days when R.H.Q. is merely an establishment of retired soldiers the bulk of the work must inevitably fall upon R.S.M. Harris, his drivers of Headquarters and the P.S.I.s from all Companies.

News from the 1st Battalion in Cyprus indicates that they are settling down well and training hard in their new rôle in M.E.L.F. reserve in which they can expect to be called out in any emergency anywhere in the Middle East. That opens up an awful lot of possibilities to Colonel Wheatley.

We are especially thrilled to read in these notes of the manner in which all ranks, individually or in groups, are being so adventurous and ambitious in their leaves. They really do seem to be doing interesting things and going to unusual places by uncommon means. Encouraging also is the news of the 1st Battalion's first Outward Bound Course which they ran for all ranks of all three services.

These voluntary activities followed in addition to what must be a hard physical day-to-day existence provide an excellent substitute for the tough outdoor activities pursued by the British Soldier overseas from time immemorial. We remember the concern expressed at various times since the end of World War II that, with the disappearance of the excellent facilities for field sport in India and the increase in hours which the average officer and N.C.O. requires nowadays to attend to his duties, the spirit of voluntary adventure was on the decline. The activities of the 1st Battalion afford abundant proof that once a Battalion is overseas the spirit of tough voluntary adventure is still very much alive. Neither, we are glad to report, is this spirit of adventure lacking in the latest joined young officers, one of whom, a few days before he was commissioned into the Regiment took part in the Bleriot Anniversary Paris to London Air Race. Second Lieutenant John Wilsey took full advantage of his voluntary parachute training during his senior term at Sandhurst and considerably speeded his journey by dropping accurately on to his objective, having had to climb out on to the wings of his Rapide bi-plane flying at 90 miles an hour to do so. There is obviously a welcome in the 1st Battalion awaiting a young officer with as much lust for adventure as General Felix Wilsey's son has already shown.

Meanwhile this number of the Journal will appear just as the 4th Dorsets are getting ready to celebrate in Bridport the centenary of the raising of the first Corps of the Dorset Rifle Volunteer Corps in August 1859. In doing so they will be acknowledging another kind of spirit, that which has activated the Volunteers for a hundred years and has inspired them in good days and in foul and in times of national stress and in the dull days when public support failed to measure up to their enthusiasm. This was the spirit which filled the ranks of the Volunteers in 1859 and the 'Terriers' in 1914 and again when the latter were doubled unexpectedly overnight in 1939. It is therefore good to hear from our Territorial Battalions that, even before conscription is dead, new volunteers who have known no form of military service are coming forward to do their training as Volunteer Territorials just as their forebears in Devon and Dorset have always done.

This number is therefore dedicated to the memory of those Volunteers of our two counties who have served their country in the last 100 years. If we appear in our articles to devote more space to the Dorset Rifle Volunteers, it is because it is their centenary that is being celebrated and not that of the senior corps who must have reached this stage some seven years ago. We do however rejoice with the Devons in their successful fight to obtain approval to wear their new shoulder flash which will proclaim to all men that they are the descendants of the First Rifle Volunteers. We are also grateful to Colonel Godfrey Wycisk for his account of the return to Plymouth of the 2nd Devon Rifle Volunteers from South Africa which rounds off so neatly the survivor's story of the Dorset Rifle Volunteers in the same campaign.

OUR FRONTISPIECE

NO. 3 CORPS OF THE DORSETSHIRE RIFLE VOLUNTEER CORPS, DORCHESTER, 1863

This is the oldest photograph of the Dorset Rifle Volunteers extant. It shows No. 3 Corps (which became 'C' Company in 1881) assembling in West Walks, Dorchester, for a day on the range.

This was before Colonel George Mansel had introduced his family crest, the Cap of Maintenance, as the badge for all Corps of the Dorset Rifle Volunteers. The men in this group are wearing the badge of No. 3 Corps which bore the arms of the Borough of Dorchester; that worn by the late Mr Henry Ling of High East Street about this time can be seen in the Regimental Museum in the Barracks.

The Volunteers of those days had to provide their own arms, clothing and equipment and defray all expenses

(unless called out for actual service), which meant that the Corps was virtually confined to the well-to-do tradesman, clerks, professional men and better paid artisans. This group can therefore be taken to represent a fair cross section of the burghers of Dorchester one hundred years ago. The flagman in fatigue dress on the right appears to be a dutyman lent to the Volunteers from the Barracks. The N.C.O. sitting on the ammunition may be the regular Staff Instructor, if so he has fully identified himself with the Corps by wearing its badge. We would like to identify the medal worn by the Corporal. The new Volunteer Movement Corps was too young for a Long Service medal to have been introduced. It is probable that the Corporal is a former regular wearing a campaign medal to which he is entitled.

Standing No. 6 from the right is Pte J. Godwin of High West Street, grandfather of Mr D. J. Godwin, the present owner of Godwin's Stores, who has kindly presented this photograph and his grandfather's shooting cup, won in 1865, to the Regimental Museum.

THE DORSET RIFLE VOLUNTEER CORPS IS ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD

AFTER twenty years of conscription during which time we have seen the whole nation at war, it is perhaps difficult for many of our young readers to picture the wave of enthusiasm with which the menfolk of this country rallied to the defence of the realm just one hundred years ago. This rallying was hardly spontaneous because it was not for some twelve years after the Duke of Wellington had made his striking attempt in 1847 to alert the public to the deplorable state into which the defences of the country had been allowed to sink, that the enthusiasm for volunteers really captured the imagination of the public.

Earlier to react than most, the men of Devon were first in the field. Their claim to be the First Rifle Volunteers indicates to all their rightful place in the priority of Rifle Volunteers and their successors of the Territorial Army.

Between 1859-61 the Volunteer movement really got under way and during these two years Volunteers came in at the rate of 7,000 a month until by May 1861 170,000 had been enrolled. The essential characteristic of the Volunteer Movement at the time was that every one of these 170,000 officers and men were volunteers who, under their charter had to 'provide their own arms and equipment and defray all expenses attending their Corps, except in the event of being assembled for actual service', a contingency which obviously would arise in the event of 'actual or apprehended invasion'. It was the enthusiasm of these early volunteers which later kept the force in being even when subjected to the ridicule of the general public (once the immediate scare of invasion had passed) and the indifferent support of the military authorities. These latter worked on the principle that the volunteer nature of the movement was to be emphasized and that the best way to ensure this was to receive even the most moderate request with a *non possumus*, thereby ensuring that the Volunteers got on with the job with their own resources without worrying the War Department.

It was the enthusiasm of the later Volunteers which continued to inspire their successors the Territorials once the second line of the Army had been re-organized

into a proper fighting force under the Haldane reform of 1907. It is the same enthusiasm which to-day encourage the newest recruits to our Territorial Battalions. Young men who having escaped the National Service draft are prepared to serve as their forebears were before them and in serving sacrifice much of their spare time and even hard-earned holidays by soldiering in the Territorials.

To understand the growth of the Volunteer Movement in Dorset one hundred years ago, we must appreciate that (as in the case of Devon) there is a long southern coast line. It was to defend this coast against invasion that the men of Dorset in 1859 answered the call for volunteers as had their predecessors during the French Wars of sixty years earlier. That is why at a meeting held at Bridport early in 1852 it was decided to request permission 'to raise a Volunteer Corps to protect that part of the coast between Portland and the River Exe'. What is not so clear is why this request failed when that of the men of Exeter succeeded. Perhaps Exeter being the larger town could give a better guarantee that their Volunteers would be supported by their own citizens and would not become a charge against the public. More probably the Government, despite the Duke of Wellington's warning were not yet conditioned to defence after forty years of peace. Defence in 1852 like the problem of our roads to-day carried no votes. However, by 1859 the Government must have had a change of heart and when in that year Bridport renewed her request to raise a Corps of Volunteers it was granted. They must have been very early in the fray as the Corps which was subsequently raised was accorded the priority of sixteen among the counties of England who raised Corps, a distinction which they were to bear on their appointments until 1907 when they exchanged their rifle green volunteer uniforms for the red coat of the Territorial Battalion of the County Regiment.

Bridport continued to play a leading rôle in the formation of the Dorset Rifle Volunteers. The Borough not only raised the strongest Corps (128 against Dorchester and Blandford's 92 each) but upwards of £1,100 by public subscription to start their Corps off. Not content with this they also raised a Company for

the Volunteer Garrison Artillery at the same time. After World War I Bridport published a book about her sons who had served in that war. It would be nice to think in this centenary year that once again Bridport would take the lead among the Boroughs of Dorset in providing men for the Territorials, a lead which unfortunately they have lost for many a long year.

Within a year 830 men had enrolled in the Dorset Rifle Volunteers and were distributed in Corps (they were not called Companies until the re-organization of 1881 when the old numbered Corps were given Company letters) in the following order: 1st Bridport, 2nd Wareham and Corfe Castle, 3rd Dorchester, 4th Poole, 5th Weymouth, 6th Wimborne, 7th Sherborne, 8th Blandford, 9th Shaftesbury, with three sub-divisions at 10th Sturminster Newton, 11th Gillingham and 12th Stalbridge. The three latter Corps were usually shown as 'constituting the forces of the Blackmore Vale' and when everyone else was wearing scarlet piping to their rifle-men's uniform they chose french grey.

If the most prominent characteristic of the nineteenth-century Volunteer was his volunteering, the outstanding characteristic of the Rifle Volunteer Corps was the fiercely independent nature of the constituent corps of which it was composed. They were held together by a regimental staff and designated the 1st Dorsetshire Administrative Battalion, whatever that meant. They only assembled as a Battalion for annual training or any special parade which required the Volunteers to be assembled together out of season.

From the earliest days the Commanding Officer of the Dorset Rifle Volunteers was Colonel George Mansel, a former Captain of 60th Rifles, and we can assume that from the start the Corps under his command became imbued with much of the spirit and tradition of that magnificent regiment. It is to Colonel Mansel that the Rifle Volunteers owed their peculiar badge of the 'Cap of Maintenance', the Mansel crest which was awarded to the family for the services of earlier Mansels in the Crusades.

On the subject of badges there is evidence that prior to 1865 each Corps designed its own insignia. That of the 3rd (Dorchester) Corps is recognizable in our frontispiece as the badge worn by the late Henry Ling of Dorchester and which can be seen in the Dorset Regiment Museum.

We know from Colonel Mansel's orders that the Dorset Rifle Volunteers assembled for inspection at Maiden Castle in 1860 but there was no actual Volunteer Camp until 1864 when the Corps assembled for a five-day camp at West Lulworth. From that time these camps became a regular feature of Volunteer life. They were usually held in the county, but every three years the Corps

attended a camp in the Aldershot area and periodically they timed their annual concentration so that they could take part in Army manoeuvres.

To run a camp at all subscription lists had to be raised throughout the county. A certain amount of camp equipment could be obtained from Army sources but so strict was the accounting and so unrelenting the allowance for 'fair wear and tear' that more often than not no advantage was taken of the facilities offered.

The old Volunteers spent a great deal of time on the march. With no free Government transport and no railway warrants to get the men to camp it was necessary for Commanders of each Corps to march their men to their annual training from their home stations. Furthermore attendance at the big volunteer parades held periodically at Salisbury or Aldershot invariably meant a longish march to and from railhead.

A Volunteer 'by-product' was the School Cadet Corps later to become the Officer Training Corps and in these days a unit of the Combined Cadet Force or Army Cadet Force. The first of such Corps to be raised was that of Sherborne School, in 1888. Dorchester Grammar School (now Hardy's) was not many years behind and by 1895 we find both School Corps in the Army List as units of the Dorset Regiment.

Although most Volunteer Battalions were first brigaded in 1890, the Dorset Volunteers were allocated a Coast Defence rôle and it was not until 1902 that they and the two Wiltshire Volunteer Battalions were formed into the Wilts and Dorset Brigade. By the middle nineties the Volunteer Force had reached the quarter million mark. That is to say they exceeded the Regular Army by four-fifths and the strength of the militia by three-quarters and were four times as great as the entire Army Reserve. Had the only opportunity for a fight offered to the Volunteers after forty years been on British soil the Commander-in-Chief would have had a formidable force at his disposal. As it was the theatre of operations was at the other end of the world and it was as independent companies reinforcing the Line Battalions of the county regiments that the Volunteers fought in South Africa.

In this manner the Dorset Volunteers got their baptism of fire at Van Wyck and earned two Distinguished Conduct Medals at Alleman's Nek a few days later. We are most grateful for one of the eight survivors of that Dorset Volunteer Company for the ensuing account of their activities in that campaign. The Volunteers may have been fresh to battle, but their morale was high. Their arrival in the Battalion had been marked by an immediate commendation in Divisional Orders. They joined with zest in the fight for Alleman's Nek, the Dorsets' part in which action was summed up by their Brigade Commander as 'a fine piece of work grandly performed'.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR—1899-1902

THE VOLUNTEER SERVICE COMPANY DORSET REGIMENT

By One of Them

I HAVE been asked to write a short article on the above, but as this Company was called into being over fifty-nine years ago, I cannot be sure of my dates, and details so I hope no one will write and tell me I am all wrong.

The Regular Army was short of numbers so the War Office, in October 1899, called on all Volunteer Battalions to furnish a Company composed of three officers and 100 other ranks to join the Regular Battalions of their Regiments in South Africa. The 1st Volunteer Battalion Dorset Regiment, were able only to raise three officers

and about eighty other ranks. In consequence, it was granted permission to recruit from the Dorset Volunteer Heavy Battery, R.A. One officer, Lieut. Lano of Portland, and sixteen other ranks joined the Company but still left us under strength and the War Office delayed authorizing our departure. We remained at the Depot Barracks, Dorchester, from November 1899 to April 1900.

The officers who volunteered were Major F. G. Wheatley, T.D., who later commanded the 4th Battalion Dorset Regiment, T.A., and in the 1914-18 War was

Chief Recruiting Officer for the County of Dorset (incidentally he was the grandfather of the present Commanding Officer of the 1st Devonshire and Dorset Regiment). Lieut. Kitson of Beaminster and 2nd Lieut. M. J. Wheatley of Poole. Subsequently, before the Company left England, Major Wheatley had to resign, owing to ill health, and Lieut. Kitson was promoted Captain to Command. All the officers had to enlist as Regular soldiers and were then granted temporary rank. Sgt Instructor B. Verden, Dorset Regiment, attached to the Poole Company of the Volunteer Battalion, was detailed as Colour Sergeant and a right good job he did. He saved the officers and indeed all ranks, from many troubles due to inexperience.

By March the Company despaired of getting to South Africa, so, one day near the end of the month Lieut. Wheatley went to London. A friend in the War Office took him to the Admiralty and introduced him to the official whose job it was to allot transport. A tale of woe and disappointment amongst the stalwart Dorset Volunteers, weary and bored with drilling on the Square at Dorchester, carrying out field exercises on Poundbury and impatient to be sent to South Africa before the war was over (!), received such sympathetic consideration from the official that he promised to put the Company on a ship as soon as possible. Within ten days the Company sailed from London on the S.S. *Devon* on 3rd April 1900. No wonder we suffered some humiliating reverses at the beginning of the war if this was an example of War Office organization!

On board the *Devon* we found the Elswick Volunteer Field Battery, R.A., commanded by Major Scott, who were all employees of the Vickers Armament firm. They were armed with a new type of field gun which had not yet been issued to the Regular Army. In fact, on arriving in South Africa the Battery was split up into gun detachments and posted to various Regular R.A. units. The men of this Battery were paid 5s. per diem by their firm in addition to their Army pay and were consequently regarded as millionaires by the other troops on board. This was particularly noticeable round the 'Housey Housey' cloth. They had a favourite ditty, the origin of which will be recognized, which began:

'Who killed Oom Paul?
I, said Major Scott
With my very first shot,
I killed Oom Paul.'

The *Devon* had a rough passage, not made any the more comfortable by being lightly loaded and the Battery horses occupying a lot of accommodation. We docked at Cape Town on 29th April. About half-way on the voyage we passed a homeward bound ship, which told us of the action on Spion Kop. This news filled the troops with even greater eagerness to arrive at our destination and turn the tables on the enemy if the Regular Army could not do it!

We spent four days in the docks before transhipping to the S.S. *Vienna* en route for Durban. I must here mention a sad event which overtook nine men of the Company. They had been given shore leave. Unfortunately they delayed returning to the ship, which sailed sooner than was expected. The two subalterns of the Company were also left behind, but managed to charter a boat which enabled them to catch the ship which was lying-to in Table Bay. After months without docking, an inflow pipe to the boilers had been blocked by seaweed. The young officers were greeted with rounds of ironical cheers from all on board as they clambered up a swaying rope ladder. The unhappy nine soldiers were court-martialled and given a sentence of detention. They were employed, while carrying out their sentence in carrying

water up to a Signal Station, high on a spur of Table Mountain. They subsequently rejoined the Company in Natal.

On arriving in Durban the Company immediately entrained for Pietermaritzburg. To bring us down to earth we were called upon to provide firing parties for several funerals. However, on 11th May, the Company proceeded with a draft for the 2nd Dorsets to Elandslaagte, where all the flies in the world had collected! Some details of the Regiment awaited us and we all set out on the 13th to join the Regiment. We spent the night at Sunday River and the next morning the Volunteer Company was detailed as escort to two Naval 12-pounder guns dragged by oxen under Lieut. Halsy, R.N., to a position twelve hours away on Haviland Kop. Owing to lack of experience we were practically without food or water for two days, a hard lesson never forgotten in future days. On 17th May the Company was freed of that duty and marched to join the Regiment at Wessels Nek. It was a question whether the Company would be split up among the eight Companies of the Regiment or remain a separate Company designated 'J'. To our joy the latter course was decided upon.

The day after joining the Regiment the Division had to make a particularly arduous march through the mountains of Northern Natal, during which the Company was called upon to repair a river crossing to facilitate the passage of the Artillery. This effort was watched by a Staff Officer, His Highness Prince Christian, who complimented the Company on the way it had carried out this job. The Divisional Commander watched us march in and that night in Divisional Orders we were particularly mentioned for fine marching and soldierly bearing after such a long march. We felt we had paid our footing and that the 'dog-shooters' had not let the Regiment down.

Our history for the next few months was that of the 2nd Dorsets, which has already been recorded. At the engagement of Van Wyck we had two men wounded and at Allemans Nek three. Colour-Sergeant Verden and A. E. Williams (Dorchester) were both awarded the D.C.M. for outstanding conduct in the latter battle.

Lieut. Lano had been temporarily attached to the Brigade Supply Column but, in the middle of August he was sent home medically unfit. Lieut. Wheatley took his place and remained attached to the Army Service Corps till he rejoined the Regiment on 4th December 1901 as a Regular Officer with seniority 15th January 1900, the date of the temporary rank.

In October 1900 it was decided that all Volunteer Service Companies were to return home to be disbanded. The Dorset Volunteer Company left the Regiment at Ingogo in Natal on 10th October. The following movements of the Company were kindly provided by Mr Stride of Shillingstone, who was a Corporal with the Company.

The Company went to Pietermaritzburg, ready to embark at Durban. On 16th October, however, it was detailed to return to Ladysmith to join a composite force ordered to proceed to Van Reenans Pass in the Drakensberg Mountains, which divided Natal from the Orange Free State. The Volunteer Companies of the Durhams and East Surreys were also sent with this force together with a troop of the Royal Dragoons, 4th Mountain Battery and two guns of the 73rd Battery, R.F.A. The object was to prevent the Boers breaking through into Natal. Little was seen of the enemy except by the mounted patrols, which came into touch with reconnoitring parties of Boers.

This duty was completed in May 1901 and the Company sailed from Durban in the S.S. *Custodian* for Southampton. One stop was made at the Cape Verde Islands.

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DORCHESTER AND BRANCHES

The Company was sent to Dorchester where it was met by the Mayor and Corporation, the Regimental Band and 'C' Company. As they marched to the Depot they were cheered by large crowds. Major E. K. Ridley, Dorset Regiment, was then commanding the Depot. Next morning the Company attended a thanksgiving service at Holy Trinity Church after which it was entertained to lunch by the Corporation of Dorchester at the Town Hall. On the following morning the Company

was demobilized and all men sent to their homes. Most of the towns and villages gave the returning warriors a great reception and the Boroughs of Poole, Weymouth and Dorchester elected the men from their own towns to be Freemen of their Boroughs.

Of all those who left to go to South Africa there are still eight alive and one, Sergeant Bower, of Weymouth, has reached the advanced age of 94, still in fine form and retaining all his faculties.

THE RETURN OF DEVON VOLUNTEERS FROM THE BOER WAR

By Godfrey Wycisk

A FEW months ago a sword came into the possession of the Prince of Wales's Company of the 4th Devon Regiment (T.A.) at Plymouth. It was a parade sword presented to Lieut. R. D. Marshall, a member of the 2nd (Prince of Wales's) Devon Volunteers Battalion, on his return from the South African War in 1901.

This recalls that fifty-eight years ago the whole of the Devon Rifle Volunteers who had served in South Africa arrived at Exeter on 8th June. They were entertained to a civic luncheon two days later and afterwards the Plymouth contingent, under Lieut. Marshall, entrained for home.

Streets Blocked

Plymouth and its neighbouring towns of Devonport and Stonehouse were *en fête* to welcome their fellow citizens from overseas. This was a popular demonstration on a large scale. Most places of business were closed at three o'clock, the schools were dismissed at the same hour, and practically the whole population went out to greet the returning volunteers.

A reception committee of prominent townfolk (including Mr J. F. Winnicott and Mr J. Y. Woolcombe) met the detachment at North Road Station and the South African veterans then joined a parade 600 strong of the 2nd Devon Volunteer Battalion, under the command of Lieut.-Col. P. S. Snell, to march to Plymouth Guildhall.

Troops—including the Royal Welch Fusiliers and the Gloucester Regiment—from the local garrison, helped to line the streets, and the bands of these battalions, together with that of the Plymouth Division Royal Marines took part in the proceedings.

In spite of the careful arrangements which had been made, the streets at several points were almost impassable. The Regular troops lining the streets, assisted by the police, were in many instances unable to cope with the human tide.

The dense crowds broke in upon the procession and many men in khaki were carried shoulder high, and instead of marching in order made their way to Guildhall Square one by one.

Barriers Fail

At the St Andrew's entrance to the square the crowds in sheer exuberance of spirit broke through the barrier of police constables and Artillery volunteers, who were trying to guard the approaches.

Most of the men had literally to fight their way into the square. Panting and exhausted, they at length found a haven of safety within the square, where they were greeted with round upon round of cheering.

After warm greetings from the Mayor of Plymouth (Mr R. Risdon) the returned volunteers marched, accompanied by their comrades of the Prince of Wales's Battalion, to Millbay Drill Hall, where Lieut.-Col. Snell delivered a short address of welcome.

At six o'clock that evening there was a sumptuous meat tea for Volunteers at the Corn Exchange, when the Mayor, the senior M.P. for Plymouth (Mr H. E. Duke), and Archdeacon Wilkinson (Vicar of Plymouth and Chaplain to the Battalion) spoke.

Souvenirs

The day's proceedings ended with a great demonstration in the Guildhall, where the two local officers of the Service contingent, Lieut. R. D. Marshall and Lieut. Lancaster (who had been gazetted to a regular commission), were presented with swords, the gifts of their fellow citizens, and each of the other ranks was given a souvenir silver watch.

The Guildhall was crowded, and the principal speakers were the Mayor, Mr Ivor Guest, M.P., Alderman J. T. Bond, and Mr J. Y. Woolcombe, supported by the Mayor of Devonport and the chairman of the Stonehouse District Council.

During the evening Mr H. Moreton (now Dr Moreton) played appropriate music on the organ.

One of the spectators in the Guildhall was Staff-Sergt E. Roseveare, who had served in South Africa with an ambulance unit. He later joined the 2nd Volunteer Battalion, and commanded its Territorial successor, the 5th Devons, from 1922 to 1926.

Survivors

There are still with us a few former members of the old 2nd Volunteer Battalion. They include Capt. E. Leest, now 85, and living at Paignton, who was Mayor of Devonport in 1901-02, and Mr Arnold Leigh, who at 88 is an active member of St Luke's with Charles church choir, with which he has been associated for over fifty years.

The writer of these notes, as a schoolboy who was released from school at three o'clock on 10th June 1901, watched the procession passing through Cobourg Street.

He did not imagine then that one day he would have the honour of commanding the 5th (Prince of Wales's) Battalion, the Devonshire Regiment (T.A.), the direct descendants of the battalion then on parade, and of mobilizing the 5th Battalion for the Hitler war.

[Reproduced with kind permission from 'The Western Morning News' of Friday, 5th June 1959.]

REGIMENTAL NEWS

TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES

THE summer of 1959 will long be remembered for its abundant sunshine, so much of it indeed that we tend to forget that due to a mistimed rainy spell half the Dorchester cricket week had to be abandoned without a ball being bowled. However, during this last quarter we have been able to show that, even after the disappearance of the Regimental Depots, it is still possible to hold our annual regimental 'At Homes'. At times the organisers almost came to agree with the sceptics who never tire of telling them that it 'just wasn't on old boy'. Exeter proved it could be done and with that successful lead could Dorchester lag behind? They had been prepared for lack of soldiers in Dorchester and we all join with them in our thanks to Colonel Welchman, his Deputy, Lieut.-Colonel Anderson and the Staff of Wessex Brigade Depot who indeed did find a most willing and helpful party to help them make good this deficiency. What they were not prepared for was the unexpected inability of the N.A.A.F.I. to keep to their original agreement to do the catering. Things have come to a sorry state when the N.A.A.F.I. cannot come to the aid of isolated units at home—there are not many firms around our part of the world who can accept to cater for such a large party. Local contractors have not got the resources with which to take on such a commitment and if many of us did not get the tea we had hoped for we ask your indulgence. Everyone was doing as well as he could under not very easy conditions. The important aim was achieved, we proved that it was still possible to continue the party at all, next year we know the organisers will do their best to make good the deficiencies of this initial effort.

The Regimental Ball at Dorchester following the 'At Home' was a great success. Again the organisers, perhaps because they are so very thin on the ground, felt that having to organise an 'At Home' and a Ball in one day is a shade over the odds.

Is it really necessary for the Ball to be held during Cricket Week? the 4th Battalion run it and why should they not hold it at a time more convenient to themselves, say in the spring or autumn when they have more time to cope with the arrangements. There are numerous factors to be considered and we know that Colonel Bray or the Regimental Secretary at Dorchester would be only too keen to hear the views of anyone interested enough to write to them.

Finally, there is the question of the timing of the Dorchester Cricket Week. Dependent as we are now upon outside assistance for fatigue parties it may well prove to be easier for Wessex Brigade Depot if both the Exeter and Dorchester weeks were to be held in consecutive weeks. For various reasons Exeter is tied to July, which means we should bring our week forward a month or so. There are many advantages to this plan, not the least being that the weather is generally better in July. A working party is investigating this problem at the moment and will be reporting to the Colonel of the Regiment shortly. If 1959 has proved anything it has shown that we can continue our activities but the chances of ultimate survival will be much better if we make our plans in the light of present realities and future hopes and not dwell too much on past conditions.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIALS

The Colonel of the Regiment is very anxious that a proper record of all Regimental Memorials be kept. In both Regimental Museums at Exeter and Dorchester there is quite a deal of information about these memorials all over the world. However, two Regiments who have campaigned and served quite as much as ours have all over the world for the best part of three hundred years, must have left a very large number of memorials all over the place. A great many will only be to individuals as were the two discovered at Troodos in Cyprus by 'S' Company of the 1st Battalion on their recent Company march. What we would ask our readers to do is to report any memorial to any Devon or Dorset, 11th, 39th or 54th wherever encountered—a postcard will do giving the following information:

- (a) details of the memorial,
- (b) situation,
- (c) condition in which it is kept.

To be really ambitious we would like a photograph of the memorial, but that will not always be possible. This information should be sent either to the Editor of this JOURNAL or the Curator of the Devonshire Regiment Museum at Exeter or the Dorset Regiment Museum in Dorchester.

ALLIED REGIMENTS

Our hope of going to press with No. 3 of this JOURNAL complete with a section concerning the activities of the Allied Regiments has alas not come about. We really hope that with the Christmas Number we will be able to show you that our friends are not as shy as they appear. 6th Battalion Royal Malay are still engaged in destroying the enemy within their lovely land. A new Federation Military Forces Club for officers who have ever served with the Malay Regiment and indeed with any of the Armed Forces of the Federation is being formed. It should have a lot of supporters from the Regiment and if anyone who has not had a copy of the notice of the Club's formation likes to write to the Editor he will be sent the latest information.

Brigadier Jock McNaught, who commanded the 2nd Dorsets at Kohima, is on a visit to one of his old stamping grounds in East Africa. He hopes to visit 5th King's African Rifles and bring us back the latest news of them. Command has recently changed in that battalion—Lieut.-Colonel R. F. Coles, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, is the new C.O., who made us the following signal on Plassey Day:

'BEST WISHES AND CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR REGIMENTAL DAY PLASSEY. ALL RANKS 5 K.A.R.'

to which we replied:

'YOUR MESSAGE MUCH APPRECIATED. MANY THANKS.'

Lieut.-Colonel Richard Cerefeau, commanding Les Fusiliers de Sherbrooke, tells us that he and his second-in-command, Major J. Dunn may well be visiting England next year. We certainly look forward to welcoming them at Exeter and Dorchester.

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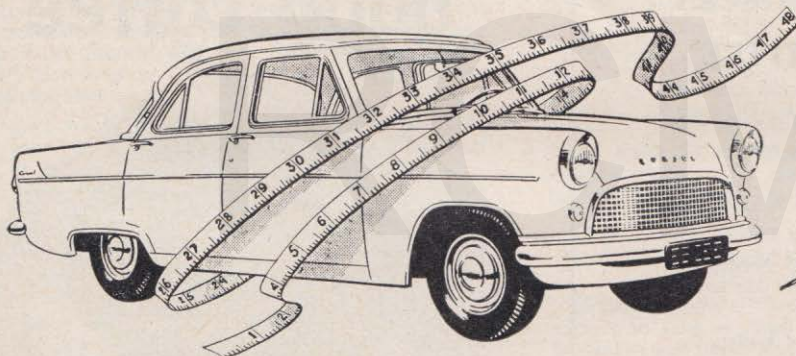


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from the Chairman of **HER MAJESTY'S FORCES SAVINGS COMMITTEE**

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Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Saunders,
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Chairman, H.M. Forces Savings Committee,
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AWARDS

We are very pleased to congratulate the following on their awards:

Queen's Birthday Honours

- K.C.V.O.—Brigadier Ivan De la Bere (late The Dorset Regiment).
 C.B.—Major-General H. A. Borradaile (late The Devonshire Regiment).
 O.B.E.—Lieut.-Colonel O. G. W. White, R.A.R.O. (late The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment).
 M.B.E.—Major G. G. Baker (The Devonshire Regiment [T.A.]).

For Services in Cyprus

- C.B.—Brigadier P. Gleadell (late The Devonshire Regiment).

Mention in Despatches

- Captain D. P. Lovejoy (1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment).
 Corporal Walter (1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment).

For Service in Oman

- M.C.—Lieut. A. S. Jeapes (The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, seconded to 22nd Special Air Service Regiment).

PROMOTIONS

To be Lieut.-Colonel: Major P. F. Anderson, M.C.

OFFICERS' ROLL

Time was when it was hard enough to compile a roll of every officer in the former Devonshire and Dorset Regiments, a problem which often confused our predecessors. To trace all officers in the amalgamated Regiment and produce a standard list which does not require considerable alteration each quarter is the present aim of the Editorial staff.

We have therefore decided to produce our lists on the following lines:

- Rolls will be alphabetical and not by rank. Over the year this will save a considerable amount of re-setting of type.
- At the request of the Territorial Battalions separate rolls will be kept for the Officers of the Devonshire Regiment (T.A.) and Dorset Regiment (T.A.)
- Warrant Officers will be shown. We hope in time to extend this list to include all Sergeants.
- Only those officers of the rank of Colonel and above still on the active list who were promoted direct from the Regiment or Employed List (I) are recorded. This may explain the omission of one or two names that might have expected to appear in this list.
- Only retired officers employed by the War Office are listed.

NOTE. Officers who have been omitted in the past or who have been incorrectly reported have usually been kind enough to bring these mistakes to our notice. We hope to make these lists really accurate and keep them up to date. Our sources of information are not always as accurate as we would hope—we can only ask officers to bear with us in their criticism and to ensure that when at ERE we are kept au fait with their latest movements by making it their personal responsibility to keep us informed.

Mrs Shelagh Speller

We regret to announce the death of Mrs Shelagh Speller in the Wheatley Hospital last July. Mrs Speller had contracted polio earlier in the year when stationed in Malaya with her husband Major C. E. K. Speller who was seconded to the 5th Battalion The Royal Malaya Regiment. After some months in hospital in Kuala Lumpur she was considered to be fit enough to fly home for further treatment. It was when their friends were anticipating some marked improvement in her condition that the end came quite suddenly in July.

The Colonel of the Regiment was represented at the funeral by Major John Freer Smith. Our deepest sympathy goes to 'John' Speller and his two sons, who have been spending a great deal of the summer near Exeter. Major Speller has been posted as Training Major of the King's Own Malta Regiment in October.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 17 Oct. The Chinthe Dinner Club (33 Corps XII Army), London
 17 Oct Dorset Regiment (T.A.), Centenary Celebrations, Bridport
 18 Oct Dorset Regiment (T.A.) Centenary Church Parade, Bridport
 22 Oct. Regimental Tea Party, Hyde Park Hotel, London
 Regimental Dinner, United Service Club
 31 Oct. Reunion: 1st Bn The Dorset Regt (1939-45) Officers Dinner Club, London
 31 Oct. Devon Regt O.C.A. London Branch Annual Reunion
 1 Nov. Devon Regiment O.C.A., London Branch Cenotaph Parade
 5 Nov. Dorset Regt Association (London Branch), Field of Remembrance 1930
 15 Nov. Dorset Regt Association (London Branch) Cenotaph Parade
 20 Nov. 2 Division Officers (1939-45), Dinner Club, London
 21 Nov. 5th (Prince of Wales') Bn The Devonshire Regiment (T.A.) Annual Reunion, Mutley Barracks, Plymouth
 25 Nov. Wyvern Officers Dinner Club, London

We invite all Regimental Clubs, Associations and Branches to let us have their fixtures and we will publish them for you in these columns.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Calling all Officers! Regimental Headquarters is very anxious to keep in touch with former officers of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiments. Please help us to keep our lists up to date by sending us your address whenever you make a move.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Why not obtain your requirements direct from Regimental Headquarters at Exeter or Dorchester, where stocks of the following items are held.

Regimental Diaries

Wallet	16/- complete
Plexide	4/6
Refills	2/6

Regimental Christmas Cards

10/- per dozen

These cards have the Regimental Crest in silver, bound with the new ribbon in green with tawny stripes. The photo is 'Paphos, last garrison under British Sovereignty 1959'.

Regimental Ties

Silk 14/6
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Regimental Car Badges

Devon/Dorset 40/-
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See top of page 2 for the correct address of Regimental Headquarters

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Colonel Godfrey Wycisk

The Editor,
The Devonshire & Dorset Regimental Journal,
Dorchester.

Sir,

The interesting photograph captioned 'A Family Affair', in No. 2 of THE REGIMENTAL JOURNAL, reminds me of a similar instance of family service in The Devonshire Regiment.

In 1937 six brothers all of one family were members of the Teignmouth platoon of the 5th (Prince of Wales's) Battalion, which Battalion I then had the honour to command.

As these enlistments took place before the advent of conscription in this country, and as all six men were embodied in 1939 I think this example may well be claimed as a record.

The 5th Battalion was merged with the 4th Battalion The Devonshire Regiment (The 1st Rifle Volunteers) T.A. in 1950.

Yours faithfully,
GODFREY WYCISK.

Plymouth, 21st August 1959.

[An opportunity for Battalion historians; we remember four Hobby Brothers together in 2nd Dorsets in India during World War II. Regarding the above six brothers, our correspondent writes that the Battalion records were destroyed in the blitz of '41—can any reader supply the name of this family?—EDITOR.]

From Major Stephen Elvery

SIR,

APOLOGIA

It would appear from the last issue of the JOURNAL that the Company Commander of 'B' Company of the 1st Battalion, Major 'Blank' has been put in suspended animation either by the Adjutant of the 1st Battalion, the Editor of the JOURNAL, or the Printing Strike—so be it—however, as neither Major Steve Elvery or Major Jimmy Lynch appear anywhere else in the lists, it is fair to assume that either or both were commanding at the time or that someone wasn't sure who, or which. The true picture was that Major Jimmy Lynch took over 'B' Company from Major Steve Elvery from 10th May 1959, when the latter returned to U.K.

Yours faithfully,
S. S. ELVERY.

Dorchester, August 1959.

[The Battalion roll showing Major Elvery as the commander of 'B' Company arrived shortly after the return of that officer to the U.K. As he was obviously no longer commanding 'B' Company, and we were unable to discover who had taken over, the appointment was left vacant. We might have filled it with 'Major Road', but as is well known he only 'works ahead' and so was not available for this particular appointment. We hope our new alphabetical roll will resolve many of these omissions and reduce the number of corrections required. However, it is important that individual officers keep us posted of their movements. Remember when you move that a number of our readers are interested in your whereabouts. Official sources are not always the most up to date. Only recently we were checking the appointment of an officer reported to be in Malaya, but as a visitor to the office remarked, 'I have very recently seen him doing Staff Captain in Aden'.—EDITOR.]



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REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS



Since the last number of the JOURNAL reached proof stage Lieut.-Colonel Gerry Spencer has arrived at Exeter and immediately found himself immersed in Cricket Week arrangements. Raising the team has taken years off his life, particularly with the 1st Battalion talent not available. However he managed to bribe one School Commandant to release Jim Hewitt for the Foresters match. We have had a steady flow of Regimental visitors, news of whom appears elsewhere in this JOURNAL. We have had visits from our opposite numbers, Brigadiers Chandler, and Grazebrook.

In the last number of the JOURNAL we made some mention of the combined silver of the two Regiments and how it was proposed to dispose of it. We can now make our first progress report: Geoffrey White, Ned Windeatt and Paul Freeland, sent back from Cyprus specially for the job, prepared lists of both Devon and Dorset silver which the 1st Battalion hope to have allocated to the Officers and Sergeants Messes. With the silver sent to the 1st Battalion was a fine picture of the Battle of the Boyne which General Hugh Borradale has presented to the Battalion. The next stage will be to obtain agreement for the silver to be allocated on loan. The two Territorial battalions and the Wessex Brigade Depot have had their pick, we shall go on to consider other units and organisations who are to receive silver on loan. Also, on the Devon side, we shall be selecting suitable silver for permanent loan to our affiliated battalions, which already possess pieces of Dorset silver. It is a slow process, but, we hope, a sure one.

Those of you who have recently been into the Devonshire Regiment Chapel in Exeter Cathedral may have noted that some of the Colours are looking rather the worse for wear. This is being put right as we have started having them repaired. The 1st Battalion Colours, which were replaced in 1956, have also been repaired and netted and are now ready for laying up.

As usual, we had good weather for the Devon Cricket Week At Home, an account of which appears elsewhere in this JOURNAL. Rupert Wheatley was able to come down to Exeter during Cricket Week, having just finished a course at Old Sarum, so we were able to do some very useful Regimental business with him and the Colonel of the Regiment whom we were delighted to see at R.H.Q. again.

We congratulate Mrs Putt, our typist, on passing the Grade I test.

The activities of the Regimental Headquarters in Dorchester are more than adequately covered elsewhere in this number. Like Exeter we have enjoyed a constant flow of visitors. These are our life blood, without the return of our friends to their old haunts life would be dull indeed.

For the benefit of those who have not been able to get to Dorchester this summer, we would say that the Barracks is recovering from the paralysis which set in when the old Depot marched out a year ago. With the help of Mr Sheppard, Head Gardener of the Borough Gardens, we have been able to reproduce that fine display of flower beds for which the Depot has become renowned. We only hope that in this drought they will last out until 26th September. The Territorials have now taken over the former Officers Block and the gymnasium which is being converted into a very good Drill Hall for the Dorchester Company.

Captain Bob Hodge has been seriously ill and has been in hospital for treatment. We were all very pleased to see him out and about for Cricket Week and looking much like his old self. Our latest news is however not so good and Bob is back in 'dock' again. We all send our sympathy to Mrs Hodge at this time and join with her in wishing Bob a speedy recovery.

THE BAND OF THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT

Notes from the Band

At the time of writing these notes, we are well into our second year as the Band of The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, and are building up an excellent reputation for ourselves and the Regiment. During the summer we are visiting Bournemouth, Brighton, Dartford, London, and of course several resorts in our own two Counties. The Fanfare Trumpeters have been 'spotlighted' playing at several important functions, including Princess Margaret's visit to the Exeter University, and we journeyed to Cardiff where we were featured at the World Premiere of the John Mills film *Tiger Bay*.

Recruiting, under the guidance of the Wessex Brigade Recruiter, Captain Alderman, has occupied much of our so-called spare time. For the information of the Corps of Drums, it is possible to beat Retreat on a Postage Stamp. The net result of our efforts will probably mean an increase in the establishment of the Battalion, but a decrease in our own numbers.

Certain well-known members of the Band have decided to further their careers in other departments of Army Music: Cpl Begam with the Irish Guards, Cpl Rickard with the Grenadier Guards, and Cpl Dance with the Life Guards. Others who are leaving on posting to other Bands are Cpl Frost to the Worcestershire Regiment and Cpl (Unpaid) Moiser to the Royal Hampshire Regiment. Sgt Howell has decided to seek his fortune in the Outbacks of Australia. We wish them all every success in their new careers.

Preparations are now going ahead for our move to join the Battalion in Cyprus. Bdsman Sheppard, after two years with the Wessex Brigade Bandmaster Unit, has already left as our advance party. We are very pleased with our new Music Stand Banners and look forward to showing them to the Battalion.

Our stay at the Wessex Brigade Depot has been a most enjoyable one, and we trust we have done our little bit to get it off to a fine start. We are all very interested to learn how the problem of obtaining a Band for a minimum of eight rehearsals prior to each Passing Out Parade, is to be solved. Come on Drum Major Choules, now is your chance to shine.

SPORT.—We hope the Battalion teams are suitably impressed by the bald statement of this one word, and take this opportunity of warning the Battalion that the Band rejoin them late in October.

Postscript from the Band President

I would like to support the Bandmaster when he says that the Band is building up an excellent reputation. I have received a number of letters and personal messages congratulating the Band not only on their playing, but also on their high standard of turn-out and conduct on all occasions.

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DEVONSHIRE REGIMENT MUSEUM

Silver Drums

Whilst going through some old papers recently we came across an account of the presentation to the 2nd Bn The Devonshire Regiment of their four silver side drums which are now in the Devonshire Regiment Museum.

The presentation took place on 29th May 1903 at Higher Barracks, Exeter, and a detachment 100 strong from the 2nd Battalion came down from Bordon to take part in the Ceremony.

Three sides of the Barrack Square was lined with representatives of the various Volunteer Battalions in the county as well as men from the Depot. In the centre were the silver drums and the detachment from the 2nd Battalion under the command of Colonel Batson, C.B. The fourth side of the square was formed by a distinguished company including representatives of the leading county families. Many ladies were present and the sun shone brilliantly.

The Earl of Morley, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Devon, made the presentation. On entering the square he was accompanied by the Bishop of Exeter, the Bishop of Marlborough, the Bishop of Crediton, Brigadier-General Lord Clifford, Major-General Kekewich, Colonel Viscount Ebrington, Colonel the Right Hon. Sir J. H. Kennaway, Bart., C.B., M.P., Colonel Sir Robert White-Thomson, Colonel Kinder, O.C. Depot, the Mayor of Exeter (Mr C. E. Rowe) and Captain Radcliffe, D.S.O.

The Earl of Morley addressed the parade, and handed over the drums to the Battalion on behalf of the County of Devon. Colonel Batson, having replied to the Earl, handed the drums to four Drummers of the 2nd Battalion, L.-Cpl Rice, Drummers Reading, Norwood and Kilgannon. The report described the drums as regulation side drums, inscribed with the Royal Arms and a record of the various engagements in which the Battalion had taken part. They were strung with gold coloured silk cord and bore the inscription: 'Presented by men and women of Devon to the 2nd Battalion Devonshire Regiment to record the county's pride in the valour of her sons'. The drum sticks were silver mounted. After the presentation, the parade marched through the principal streets of Exeter, the silver drums leading. The Battalion received a very hearty welcome from the people in the crowded streets, cheers being again and again raised.

Other Officers of the 2nd Battalion present at this ceremony were: Bt Lieut.-Colonel Briggs; Captains Ingles, Law, Gardiner and Lafone; Lieutenants Milne, Woolcombe, Elliott, Lewis, Lloyd, Spencer, James, Jenkins, Ching, Mitchell and Worrall.

The 1st Battalion's silver drums, which were not presented at this ceremony as the Battalion was in India at the time, are now with the 1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment in Cyprus.

THE DORSET REGIMENT MUSEUM

The 1st Battalion serving overseas and one of the two Territorial Battalions camping out of our counties meant that this year the only really visible evidence of the existence of a Devonshire and Dorset Regiment was provided by the two Regimental Museums. On this account we are very pleased with the record attendance of over 3,000 visitors to this Museum in July and August. This not only represents a tenfold improvement on the figures for the first two summer months but something like a hundredfold increase on the average number of winter visitors, but it also means that a very considerable number of people of all ages and nationalities who have

never heard of the Regiment have returned from their holidays with a very fair idea of who we are. These visitors represent a very fair cross section of the holiday-making public. We welcome them all but there are four kinds of visitor who we are specially pleased to see.

First the old soldier of the Regiment. It is most encouraging to find so many of our old soldiers continue intentionally to include Dorchester in their holiday itinerary. Not a day has passed in recent months without some former member of the Regiment dropping in to see us. We haven't the space to record these by name, but suffice to say that through these visits a number of old soldiers have been encouraged to renew their contacts with their regiment.

Secondly there is the expert military antiquarian who is always a welcome visitor. Lieut.-Colonel Charles Applebee, Curator of the new National Army Museum which is being formed at Sandhurst, Mr H. Y. Carman, Assistant Director of the Imperial War Museum, Mr Haswell Miller, the expert on military pictures of all kinds and numerous collectors have been among those who signed our visitors' book this last quarter. These visitors are always more than welcome as it is seldom that they leave without some sage and expert advice on how we can improve our displays or conduct our researches.

Thirdly there are the Cadets and School parties. We believe that we can be of considerable use to the county education authorities in their teaching of the history of this nation in the last two and a half centuries. Certainly a number of history masters seem to think so and now combine a visit to the County Museum with one of Mr Avery's conducted tours of the Regimental Museum. When the time came for other youth bodies, cadets and scouts to go into camp it was encouraging to find a number of their officers and masters finding in us a suitable means of imparting instruction or affording recreation. Organised attendances in July alone amounted to over 400.

The fourth especially welcome guest is he or she who having seen what we have got and noted what we still require goes away and rummages around his or her possessions to produce what we want. Often one overhears such a remark as, 'Oh, I've got that bayonet that will fit that Jap rifle', from a former warrior of the 54th. 'Well for heaven's sake send it along to Colonel White and get it out of the house', answers his wife. A recent visitor on being shown round the Wood Library noted our need for books on military subjects and something with which to build up the Indian section, an obvious interest of ours. Some days later he returned with a selection of books for which he had no further use but which fit our requirements admirably. The return of this particular benefactor coincided with a visit by the Colonel of the Regiment. They found that they had served in the same Brigade together in '18. We can't always guarantee to arrange these little unexpected meetings but we do like to see our visitors again especially when they bring with them some useful contribution whether it be of a material or advisory nature.

Perhaps the outstanding feature of this quarter has been the development of the section dealing with the non-Regular forces of the County of Dorset, the Militia, the Redcoat Volunteers of the Napoleonic Wars and the Rifle Volunteers who some half century later rallied to frustrate the inimical intentions of a later Napoleon. That we have been able to make such headway with the Militia and Redcoat Volunteers is due to the kindness and help of the Council of the Dorset County Museum, to whose generous loans we are indebted for the elaborate Militia shako of George IV's reign, the Volunteer Drums and the Colours of the 1st Battalion The Dorset

ACQUISITIONS TO THE MUSEUM

Item	Presented by
The late Lieut.-Colonel (Q.M.) A. Brown's Medals	} His son—Mr A. Brown
O.R.s Helmet Centre Plate and miscellaneous Badges and Buttons	
Three Shell Fuses from the Battlefield of Kut el Amara	} Major J. R. H. Bolingbrooke, M.B.E., D.C.M.
One brass Candlestick from an 18 lb. shell	
4th Battalion Dorset Regiment (T.F.) Cap Badge	} Mr J. Barrett
(1908-14, without Marabout Honour)	
Officer's Sword (WR. IV)	} Mrs Richardson
Indian General Service Medal (Bar Ava)	
54th Embroidered Coatee Skirt Ornament	
Unidentified Mameluke Sword	
All above the property of Captain (Q.M.) J. Willox, late 54th Regiment	
Colour Print of The Barracks, Dorchester, 8th April 1856	Lent by Lieut.-Colonel O. G. W. White, D.S.O., O.B.E.
Naga Tribal Dress	Presented by Major F. J. Reynolds
Major H. Beveridge's Medals	Presented by his Widow—Mrs Beveridge
The late Colour-Sergeant F. W. Collins' Long Service and Good Conduct Medal	Presented by his Widow—Mrs Collins
Coconut Shell Tobacco Jar—made by an unknown Soldier of the Regiment	Presented by Mr Miles, Dorchester
1914-18 Poster—47th Division	Presented by Mrs Denyer
Japanese Flag inscribed with Stations and Battles of 2nd Dorset 1941-46	Lent by Lieut.-Colonel O. G. W. White, D.S.O. O.B.E.
1st Battalion Dorset Volunteers—hand-painted Colour—presented Blandford 1805	} Lent by Dorset County Museum
Dorset Volunteers (Evershot), Drum c. 1803	
Dorset Volunteers (Bridport), Drum c. 1803	
Dorset Militia Shako, c. 1824-29	
The late Sergeant George Clarke's Drummer's Tunic wings and Green dress cord	Presented by his daughter—Miss Clarke of Farnham
Metal reproduction Dorset Cap Badge—8 ins x 9 ins—inscribed 'Rembrance Catania 1944 (Believed made by Italian P.W.)	Major C. Chettle, M.C.

Wood Library

The Curator gratefully acknowledges gifts of books from:

Major J. R. H. Bolingbrooke, M.B.E., D.C.M.
 Brigadier J. S. Hewick
 Mr A. E. Glassey of Parkstone
 Mr A. Brown
 Lieut.-Colonel L. Strange, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., D.F.C.

Purchases

Amongst recent purchases have been Medals, Badges and a .577 Enfield Bullet mould.

Volunteers presented by Lord Digby on Chettle Heath near Blandford on 23rd May 1805. That was five months before Nelson's victory at Trafalgar put an end to serious French invasion hopes and the annual training of these Volunteers that year must have been carried out with an earnestness which contemporary cartoonists have somehow failed to convey in their prints.

This Colour has been most successfully restored by the Royal School of Needlework. It was certainly no easy job to preserve not only the tattered silk, missing in some places but also the magnificent royal arms. The total cost of restoration and setting up these colours is about £40 which we have borne. We would welcome any contributions which will help fill this hole in the Purchase fund which we are raising and which will enable us to acquire other items as and when they appear on the market. It is thought perhaps that former Rifle Volunteers and Territorials might like to associate themselves with the preservation of this rare and valuable relic of former Volunteers of the County.

The Militia Section has been greatly enhanced by the reproduction of contemporary photographs taken by Captain John Warry of Holwell, to which kind donation by Mrs Warry we referred in our last number. Mrs Warry and her daughter have now visited the Museum and head the list of our fourth category of special guests, for not only did they invite the curator to visit Holwell and photograph John Warry's unique set of uniforms which are in splendid condition, but have since kindly agreed to allow us to display these uniforms, which we shall do as soon as we have arranged a suitable case.

Another kind benefactor is Mrs Richardson of Sutton who has kindly presented us with Captain Willox's sword, Indian General Service Medal with its clasp for Ava and a skirt ornament. James Willox was Quartermaster of the 54th from the late twenties to the mid-forties of last century. His personal regimental sword with its William IV cipher is a rare addition to our collection. Mrs Richardson has been in hospital for some time and we appreciate very much the trouble she has taken to ensure that these relics of this gallant old Quartermaster have at last been returned to the Regiment in which he served for nearly forty years. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

We cannot close the Notes without a reference to the Misses Clark, sister and daughter of the late Mr George Clark, former drummer of the 1st Battalion, whose death at Farnham we recorded in our last number. They brought with them Mr Clark's old full dress tunic and dress cords, a survival of the days when the really smart soldier saved up and purchased his own dress tunic. It is a pattern which the Ordnance have no longer in stock and were unable to provide us for the 250th Anniversary celebrations. It was Mr Clark's wish that this tunic be preserved with the Regiment and his family and friends are assured that the best possible use will be made of this rare gift.

The Wood Library

Within the limits of our funds we have made some interesting additions to the library, among them contemporary accounts of the Egyptian Campaign of 1800 and the Pyrenees Campaign and break out into France at the end of the Peninsula Wars.

We have made a start with the new card index of the library, but we badly need some volunteer helper who has the time to drop in to the Museum and keep that task in hand.

As a result of our appeal in these columns a number of contributions have come in. We would like, however, once again to remind our readers to think of us when

they contemplate rejecting or storing books. Such periods of contemplation must come often to the serving officer who is for ever on the move and wonders what he can do with his ever increasing library of military books. One suggestion we would make to those who are hesitant to dispose entirely of their books but who dislike meeting increased storage costs, is to let us store your books for you—on long loan on our shelves and available to a greater circle of readers than they would be lying in their packing cases. That offer goes also for prints and other valuable items which readers may treasure but do not wish to lug round the world with them. Items on loan are carefully recorded and will be instantly available for return to their owners when requested.

CRICKET WEEK 1959

The Exeter Week took place on the County Ground between 22nd and 24th July in perfect summer weather.

For the first time for many years the 'Week' was reduced to three days. This was partly because of expense and partly because the Regiment has another 'Week' at Dorchester.

Once again we struck a really good day for the At Home, doubtless due to the fact that pessimism at R.H.Q. had caused us to take out a wet weather insurance policy. As it was, had there not been a good breeze blowing across the ground, the guests would have been roasted. The Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General G. N. Wood, and Major-General and Mrs Borradaile received the guests who numbered about 500. We would like to thank the Officers' wives who arranged the flowers and the silver, and also Major Leslie Smithers and his working party who made such a good job of putting up the tents.

There were two games—the first, a one-day match against the Free Foresters and the second, a two-day fixture against the Devon Dimplings. These two matches have for long past been played in an atmosphere of friendly, but keen, rivalry, with a dash of badinage! This year they resulted in two splendid games—cricket as it should be. In the first, the Regiment had to capitulate to the Free Foresters by 2 runs. Set to get 219 runs to win the Regiment was all out for 216 in the penultimate over of the day. Garnham's lusty hit (he 'holed out' to another Devonian, Captain Selley) was only just short of a 6!

For the Foresters, Wells played a good innings of 70, full of attractive strokes and Holladay scored a forthright 52—despite his physical infirmities! Davey bowled well for the Regiment to take 5 wickets for 61 runs. When the Regiment batted Spencer and Pitts put on 75 for the first wicket, but despite an excellent 38 from Lonton, victory just eluded them.

In the second game, the Regiment won the toss and decided to bat. By 3.30 on the first day they were all out for 222. Davey was top scorer with 42 and Pitts and Lonton made 39 and 36 respectively.

The Dimplings started none too well and had lost 2 wickets for 32 runs at the tea interval. By close of play they had carried their score to 147 for 4 with the game poised slightly in their favour, but with the prospect of a dusty wicket for their second innings. Chignell had batted well for 71.

The next day after the fifth wicket had put on 73 runs, wickets began to fall steadily and with one wicket standing Dimplings led by only 11 runs. However, now followed a splendid partnership between Daniel, the Dimplings skipper, and Nicholson, which was ended when Daniel was bowled for 30 leaving Nicholson six runs short of his century. A fine knock.

When the Regiment went in again disaster, aided and abetted by bowlers, Tremlett, Daniel and Robertson

was avoided by a beautifully judged innings of 80 not out from Pitts. However, despite his efforts, the Dumplings had but 81 runs to get to win. These they failed to get—failed amidst intense excitement and the rumbling chuckles of a distinguished regimental supporter from the pavilion!

The Dumplings started well and had put on 29 before the first wicket fell. Then in fifty minutes Avent and Garnham went through the Dumplings like a—like two avenging Assyrians. Supported by some very good fielding and excellent catching (Northam's catch of Robertson at mid-wicket is memorable), these two bowlers took 5 for 17 and 5 for 18 respectively. The last wicket fell and the Regiment had won by 8 runs.

The weather was not so kind at Dorchester and the first match against the Royal Hampshire Regiment had to be abandoned without a ball being bowled. Despite a wet 'reveille' on the Friday, the weather changed and a strong breeze so dried up the ground that it was possible to start play in the match against the Rangers later in the morning.

By the end of the first day the Rangers had declared with a useful score of 234 for 8 wickets. The Regiment in this match were exceptionally weak in bowling; this point is not made in any lack of appreciation of Woodhouse's very pleasant century but to indicate how hard King and Brierley had to work to get any wickets at all. Overnight Drayton and Hewitt set the Regiment off to a fair start. The next morning however, before our younger batsmen had had a chance of recovering from the Ball (at which few Rangers had been present), they found themselves dismissed for a meagre 104. Following on they made a better showing thanks to a useful 86 from Drayton, a half-century from Hill and a nice contribution of 34 from Lynden Moore and were able to leave their opponents with 108 to make in about as many minutes. Unhappily Frank King had suffered an injury and our entire attack was vested in Geoffrey Brierley who with the help of Drayton obtained Deacon's wicket for 29. Woodhouse and Rose however, had no trouble in making the required number of runs without further loss.

The chief lesson learnt this year with the 1st Battalion abroad is just how much we rely on the goodwill and co-operation of unit commanders in the case of serving officers and men and civilian employers to those no longer with the colours if we are to field strong representative teams. It was perhaps not fully understood by at least one employer that the team managers may require both old Devons and former Dorsets for any of the four matches, whether they are played at Exeter or Dorchester. This might be more clearly understood were we to appoint only one team manager, responsible for raising sides for all matches. Perhaps also the proposal to re-organise the Dorchester week to coincide more closely with that at Exeter, may make it more obvious that the teams which play in these matches are representative of the whole Regiment and not merely the former Regiments in whose old homes the 'Weeks' continue to be held.

DEVONSHIRE & DORSET REGIMENT v. FREE FORESTERS Played at Exeter on 22nd July 1959

FREE FORESTERS	
H. Parr, c Spencer b Davey	24
F. A. Parker, c and b Davey	11
M. Chignell, c Spencer b Davey	0
T. Selley, b Brierley	1
J. Arundell, lbw b Avent	38
C. M. Parker, c Garnham b Davey	0
T. V. Wells, b Garnham	70

S. S. Rogers, b Davey	2
A. Holladay, b Brierley	52
A. Glyn-Percy, c Northam b Brierley	18
P. H. Jackson, not out	0
Extras	2
Total	218

BOWLING: F. Davey 5—61, G. J. Brierley 3—51, H. Garnham 1—57, C. W. Lonton 0—15, J. F. Avent 1—34.

DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT

G. N. B. Spencer, c Parker b Arundell	38
R. G. Pitts, c Arundell b Glyn-Percy	28
J. M. Northam, b Glyn-Percy	1
J. M. Hewitt, b C. M. Parker	26
B. Hebden, b Parker	14
R. E. R. Robinson, c Jackson b Parker	8
F. Davey, b Arundell	31
C. W. Lonton, c Parker b Arundell	38
G. J. Brierley, c Jackson b Arundell	8
H. E. Garnham, c Selley b Arundell	8
J. F. Avent, not out	0
Extras	16
Total	216

BOWLING: Glyn-Percy 2—61, M. Chignell 0—16, Selley 0—23, E. R. Arundell 5—57, C. M. Parker 3—30

DEVONSHIRE & DORSET REGIMENT v. DEVON DUMPLINGS Played at Exeter on 23rd-24th July 1959 DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT

1st innings

G. N. B. Spencer, b Daniel	3
R. G. Pitts, run out	39
J. White, b Sutton	4
J. M. Northam, st Holladay b Rogers	21
R. E. R. Robinson, c Robertson b Sutton	26
F. Davey, c Tremlett b Robertson	42
C. W. Lonton, c Nicholson b Robertson	36
M. Ford, st Holladay b Daniel	16
G. J. Brierley, lbw b Robertson	16
H. E. Garnham, b Daniel	0
J. F. Avent, not out	0
Extras	19
Total	222

BOWLING: G. H. Nicholson 0—36 M. Chignell 0—28, W. H. Daniel 3—29, M. A. Sutton 2—51, P. B. Acland 0—26, S. S. Rogers 1—13, A. E. Tremlett 0—0, W. Robertson 3—14.

2nd innings

G. N. B. Spencer, c Chignell b Nicholson	8
R. G. Pitts, not out	80
J. White, b Tremlett	0
J. M. Northam, b Tremlett	2
R. E. R. Robinson, b Daniel	8
F. Davey, c Rogers b Daniel	11
C. W. Lonton, c Daniel b Robertson	9
M. Ford, st Holladay b Rogers	6
G. J. Brierley, lbw b Robertson	0
H. E. Garnham, b Robertson	13
J. F. Avent, b Robertson	0
Extras	10
Total	147

BOWLING: G. H. Nicholson 1—14, A. E. Tremlett 2—24, W. H. Daniel 2—24, M. A. Sutton 0—17, W. Robertson 4—22, S. S. Rogers 1—24.

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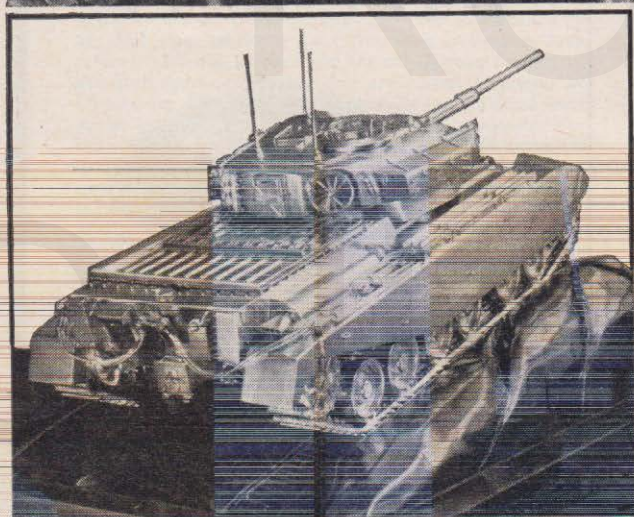
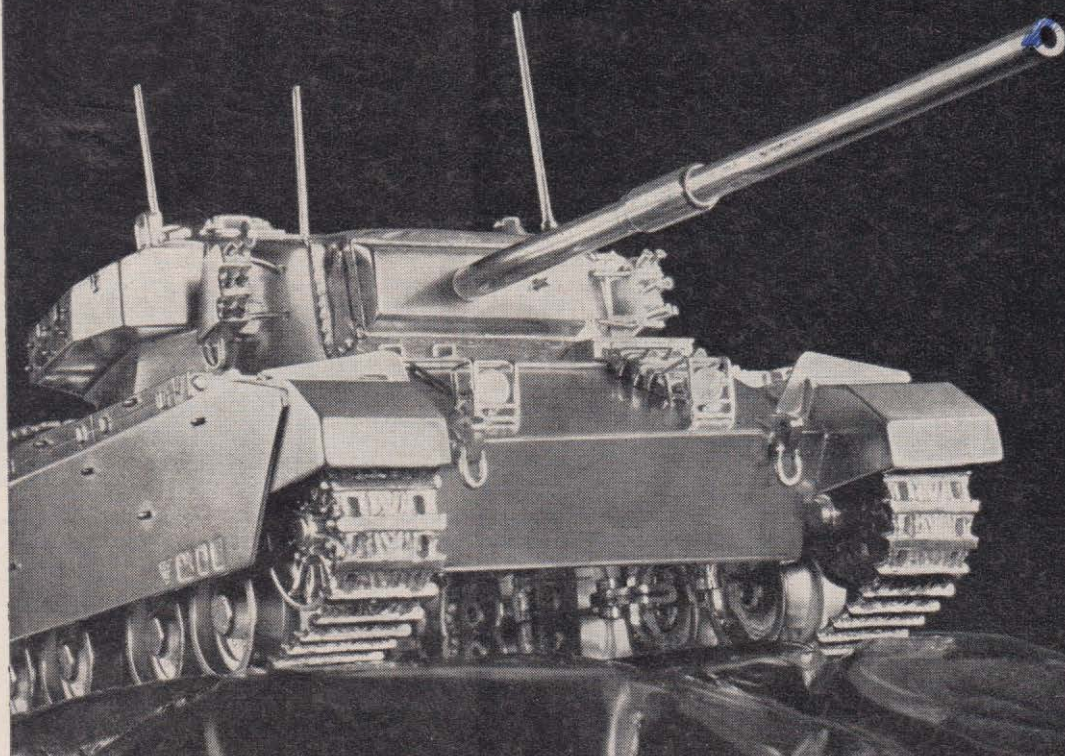
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DEVON DUMPLINGS

1st innings	
W. Robertson, b Avent	29
A. E. Tremlett, c Spencer b Brierley	4
S. S. Rogers, c Spencer b Brierley	0
M. Chignell, c Northam b Garnham	71
G. Nicholson, not out	94
A. H. Holladay, run out	41
J. Michelmores, b Avent	0
P. Acland, st Spencer b Avent	3
M. H. Elliot, b Avent	3
M. A. Sutton, b Avent	5
W. H. Daniel, b Avent	30
Extras	9
Total	289

BOWLING: F. Davey 1—68, G. J. Brierley 1—48, J. F. Avent 6—88, H. E. Garnham 1—67, J. White 0—4.

2nd innings

W. Robertson, c Northam b Garnham	39
A. E. Tremlett, b Avent	9
S. S. Rogers, c White b Avent	0
M. Chignell, c Davey b Garnham	0
G. Nicholson, b Garnham	3
A. H. Holladay, b Avent	9
J. Michelmores, not out	10
P. Acland, lbw b Avent	0
M. H. Elliot, lbw b Garnham	0
M. A. Sutton, b Garnham	0
W. H. Daniel, lbw b Avent	1
Extras	1
Total	72

BOWLING: G. J. Brierley 0—11, F. Davey 0—25, J. F. Avent 5—17, H. E. Garnham 5—18.

2nd innings

G. E. S. Woodhouse, not out	51
C. F. Deacon, c Drayton b Brierley	29
N. R. Rose, not out	28
N. Hills	
J. Taylor	
C. C. Ormiston	
W. J. Pinney	} Did not bat
D. Scott	
W. H. Mayo	
E. Tarleton	
J. R. Benson	
Extras	3
Total	111

DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT

1st innings

Lieut. A. E. J. Drayton, c and b Pinney	30
Lieut. J. M. Hewitt, b Pinney	28
Lieut. J. C. F. Hill, c Tarleton b Mayo	9
Major W. E. Lyndon-Moore, b Scott	9
Major F. King, b Scott	0
Major W. N. Hayes, b Scott	2
J. N. Northam, hit wicket, b Mayo	2
2nd Lieut. J. F. W. Wilsey, not out	11
Lieut. G. J. Brierley, b Mayo	2
2nd Lieut. P. J. Robson, b Scott	0
Lieut. J. O. Taylor, run out	3
Extras	8
Total	104

BOWLING: Mayo 3—28, Scott 4—36, Ormiston 0—8, Pinney 2—14, Hills 0—10.

THE DEVONSHIRE & DORSET REGIMENT V. THE DORSET RANGERS

Played at Dorchester on 14th-15th August 1959

THE DORSET RANGERS

1st innings

G. E. S. Woodhouse, not out	118
N. Hills, b King	0
C. F. Deacon, lbw b King	10
N. R. Rose, b King	0
J. Taylor, c Drayton b Brierley	2
C. C. Ormiston, c Hewitt, b King	13
W. J. Pinney, c Brierley b Northam	46
D. Scott, b Hill	11
W. H. Mayo, c Hewitt b Hayes	7
E. Tarleton, not out	2
J. R. Benson, did not bat	
Extras	25
Total (for 8 wks)	234

BOWLING: King 4—25, Brierley 1—33, Northam 1—34, Hill 1—49, Hayes 1—34, Lyndon-Moore 0—15, Hewitt 0—19.

2nd innings

Lieut. J. O. Taylor, b Scott	4
2nd Lieut. J. F. W. Wilsey, b Mayo	6
Lieut. A. E. J. Drayton, c Mayo b Scott	86
Lieut. J. M. Hewitt, lbw b Ormiston	9
Lieut. J. C. F. Hill, b Deacon	51
Major F. King, b Pinney	6
Major W. E. Lyndon-Moore, lbw b Deacon	34
Major W. N. Hayes, c Scott b Taylor	11
Lieut. G. J. Brierley, b Pinney	13
J. N. Northam, c Scott b Pinney	16
2nd Lieut. P. J. Robson, not out	0
Extras	2
Total	238

BOWLING: Mayo 1—4, Scott 2—30, Pinney 3—58, Taylor 1—80, Ormiston 1—15, Hills 0—18, Deacon 2—31

Result: Dorset Rangers won by 9 wickets.

WHERE BE YON BLACKBIRD TO?

Openings in Africa. His many friends who were distressed to hear of his early difficulties in settling himself in deepest Africa will be pleased to hear that Ian ('Bunny') Ramsay has found himself a job after his own heart with the Game and Tsetse branch of the North Rhodesian Government. As he says it's 'an independent bush-whacking job after my own heart'.

Another whose difficulty in obtaining employment at the other end of the world was causing his friends some concern was Colonel Tim Wood. After all he had been in the country of his adoption for some time now and it seemed that the New Zealanders were passing up a good thing. However, our latest news is that he too has got a post for which he must have been waiting for years—the secretaryship of a golf club. Well done, Tim, we all wish you the best of luck in your new job.

Another former C.O. of the Dorsets, Colonel Tom Affleck Graves, has been to see us a couple of times recently. His tour as President of the War Office Selection Board at Barton Stacey has been extended until March. Kitty severely injured her foot playing tennis with Tom earlier in the season but we are happy to say was recovered enough to join us at the Regimental Cricket Week At Home at Dorchester.

We heard recently from St John Hartley who now lives in Australia. St John says, 'I should be glad to correspond with any ex-officer or soldier of the Regiment who thinks about coming here. It is going to be a great country for their children. Even for impecunious over-sixties like myself, this is a good place. One can always count on a job up to seventy-five!' His address is: Lieut.-Colonel R. St J. Hartley, Brookings Street, Upwey, Victoria, Australia.

Raymond Coate, who has been at the R.A.P.C. Depot for some while is off to Cyprus in early August. As a very consistent diner at the Regimental Dinner, we shall miss him during his tour overseas.

Sam Pyne is now at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell as an Executive Officer. He has bought a house (heavily mortgaged) called Foxwood, Slanting Hill, Hermitage, Nr Newbury, where anyone passing that way would be welcome. We congratulate Sam and Aldena on the arrival of a daughter. That goes too for Jerry and Gillian Blake, and Edward and Berenice Tremlett.

Bob Reep, who in his day kept very useful records of the old 1st Dorset Athletics team, asks who is keeping these records now? Should they not be maintained at R.H.Q. he suggests. A very good idea if they can't be kept in the Battalion—but come on the Officer in charge of Athletics—our Editor has written and cabled you until blue in the face but nary a list of performances by the champion athletics team of Cyprus can he elicit from you.

Another Dorset athlete who was overjoyed to hear of this year's successes was last year's team captain, Gerald Blight, who writes from the wilds of Perak that '... commanding an operational company which entails spending at least twenty days a month in the jungle and at the same time attempting to master both Japanese and Chinese chess restricts my athletics to an occasional performance—made regrettably without any training ...'

One of Yon Blackbird's most faithful correspondents has been Captain Vic Duffield—since retirement he has been pursuing this business of employment with his customary zest—his friends will be glad to hear that he has now taken over the Crown Hotel at South Petherton, Somerset (Tel. South Petherton 203), and asks us to say how pleased he and his wife will be to welcome any member of the Regiment.

Wally Barrow, now District Officer at Molo, sends news from that Devons' home from home in Kenya. He says, 'I now know every settler in the Molo, El Burgon, Londiani, Eldama Ravine area and never a week goes by without me hearing something very complimentary about the Devons. There is no doubt that the men of the old 1st Battalion made a name for themselves out here.'

John Parlbys is enjoying his new job as Office Manager of the Domestic Oil Department of Charringtons. The Parlbys' address is Cadney, 145 Bradbourne Park Road, Sevenoaks.

We had a visit recently from Jim Hempstead, now Director of Music Nigeria Police, who was home on leave and about to fly out to New Zealand on a visit. 1st Devons before the war will remember him as Band Sergeant and a fine athlete.

Val Adams has retired and is living in London. He hopes to have a job with the T.A. John Bahin has recently moved from his T.S.O. job in Woolwich and is now in Room 218 Shell Mex House, where he is responsible for development of small arms and their ammunition.

We had hoped to see John Smith on his return from the United States—this was not to be and so we must wait for a first hand account of his experiences in the New World until he gets his 'R & R', or whatever leave from Cyprus is called. Our next visitor to America is Adrian Rouse, who has returned from his tour with 4th King's African Rifles and has now left for the U.S. Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he expects to remain until May next year.

John Speller is off to Malta as Training Major to the 1st King's Own Malta Regiment. Malta, which has so many contacts with both former Devons and Dorsets of the Malta Brigade, should provide him with a large circle of friends.

We have come to recognise at R.H.Q. two main streams of officer movement. There is the young officer joining, who invariably follows up his posting order with a personal visit and the veteran retiring whose final act of departure is too often merely observed as a paper transaction. One such is Harold Jones who by the time these notes appear will have taken his bowler and will be studying earnestly for his new civilian career. Harold, since being first commissioned in 1941 has shared his favours about equally with the Dorsets and the Airborne Forces. As a young officer he caught the eye of General Wood, then commanding 2nd Dorset, and when after arrival in India the Battalion was ordered to form a 'Tiger' patrol, which we came to call a guerilla platoon, it was Jonah who was given the task of raising and training this elite force. The guerilla platoon was the first sub-unit of 2nd Dorset to be allowed to wear the Bush hat and well had they earned it—their marches over the Ghats made history even in 2nd Division, where one had to walk very hard far and fast for a performance to be considered worthy of note.

An unfortunate mortar accident kept him out of the Kohima battle but he rejoined the Battalion later and was making a very good name for himself when he was wounded at Kodazeik when 'do' Dorset was clearing up the South Bank of the Irrawaddy during the final advance to Mandalay.

After serving a spell with the Battalion in the occupation of Japan he returned home and directed his energies into service with the Parachute Brigade where both at regimental duty and on the staff he made a great reputation for himself in this form of warfare.

To the Exeter At Home came the brothers Dorrien and Guy Young. Guy and Jill are living in quarters at Bushey from where he commutes daily to Stanmore. Dorrien and Anne are thoroughly enjoying their home on the Thames in this delightful summer before he makes an earnest attack on future employers.

Douglas Nation looked in when he was down for the Devon County Show, and he was down again for the Cricket Week At Home.

As many of you know, George Cope returned to Kenya to farm near Molo soon after the 1st Battalion came back to England in 1955, it was, therefore, with great concern that we heard he had been seriously injured in a gliding accident. He is now back in England getting himself straightened out—he broke sixty bones in his body—and has been a close neighbour of ours in Ward 3A of The Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital. Undoubtedly he had a remarkable escape, but in spite of his injuries, is in splendid form. We wish him a speedy recovery and a quick return to the seat of his tractor. We are filled with admiration for the way in which Comilla Cope has run the farm since George has been out of action.

Charles Metcalfe, we hear, has been given an extension in his War Office appointment until January 1960. His future, as the medical officer would put it, is still 'NYK'. His brother officer in the Military Operations Directorate, John Archer, leaves any time now to go on the next course at the Joint Services Staff College. Well done, John! We hope that will not prevent you from continuing your hobby of gliding.

It has been suggested that Yon Blackbird fails to record the activities of Warrant Officers and men of the Regiment. The answer is that these are in the main covered by Battalion Notes for those still serving at Regimental duty and should be remarked upon by Branch Secretaries in the Old Comrades' Notes for those who have left the service. As for the activities of the Warrant Officer or soldier at ERE, our net is pretty widespread but we do rely on you to send us news of yourselves or better still come and see us in our hideouts. At Exeter we are very near the main gate and at Dorchester you will find 'Yon Blackbird' perched somewhere on the Keep.

We have been very pleased to see both R.S.M. and Mrs Webber during the summer. Last reports of Mrs Webber from G.H.Q., F.A.R.E.L.F., was that she had been very seedy. Her many friends in the Regiment will be pleased to hear how well she now looks. Mr Webber is now R.S.M. on a Trooper and is constantly in touch with many members of the Regiment. He is seriously considering leaving the service, but meanwhile they have a quarter in the Movement Control Married Families Camp and their address is 13 M.S.Q., Baddesley Common, Botley Road, Baddesley, Romsey, Hants.

Another welcome pair of visitors were R.S.M. and Mrs Howe. The latter, after rather a lonely winter on Portland, was overjoyed that her husband had been given not only a shore posting but one in the sun. They have just left for Malta where he is to be Garrison Sergeant-Major. We have forgotten whether he served in Malta with 231 Brigade (he came to the Dorsets from the Royal Hampshires), but whether he did or not he will be assured of the same welcome from our many friends in the Island as Major Spellar.

We had news indirectly of Martin Hastings (not from the newspapers this time) that he was holidaying on the north coast of France and since then he has been back for the Minden Dinner in London.

Jimmy Butts, who was in 'D' Company of the 1st Battalion in Kenya, was down for the cricket week At Home, whilst appreciating the brilliant sunshine from our point of view, he badly wanted rain for his market garden in Somerset. Other strangers in these parts who were at the At Home were Steve Murphy, Archie Kettle, Garnet Hicks, Freddy Legg, Peter Clarke, who goes out to the Battalion in Cyprus shortly, and Freddy Hingston. Bill Edgar could not make the At Home but was down for the Old Comrades' Dinner.

Those of you who were with the 1st Battalion in Celle may be interested to hear that Peter Falkner brought Colonel Tony Sanger to the At Home. Tony is no longer an R.O. being, in his own words 'a Re-tread who has worn down to the canvas!'

It is always exciting to see who will turn up at the Regimental At Homes—one who has not been to one of these occasions for a very long time but who we were

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pleased to see this year was Captain C. O. Lilley, who won the Army Officers' Cruiser Weight Boxing Championships in 1912, was a platoon commander at Mons and wounded in the second gas attack at Ypres on 6th May 1915. Before that however he had, still as a subaltern, won one of the earlier D.S.O.s of that war. His many friends hope, now he has found his way back to Dorchester, that he will continue to join us at the At Home. In our picture section you will see an interesting photo of the Adjutant, Machine Gun Section Commander and an 'A' Company Platoon Commander of 1st Dorsets in 1914 assembled together forty-five years later.

General Ransome's book, *The Fine Fighting of the Dorsets*, has been received with enthusiasm by the veterans who like to fight their battles over again and interest by those who never tire of reading of these exploits. The Curator of the Dorset Regiment Museum tells me that he still has a number of copies for sale to those who have not yet got their copy. It is a really good three bobs' worth.

Another old soldier to put up a good regimental performance is Colonel Tom Rendall. Whether this is an all time record or not we don't know, but it will take some beating for Tom achieved his hat-trick of having been at Oliver White's wedding in Coonore in 1907, his son Geoffrey White's in Wyke Regis in 1934 and Jenny White's at Coombe Bissett this year.

Jenny White's wedding to Tony Jeapes was, as only to be expected, a great regimental occasion. The change of the official celebration of the Queen's Birthday from Thursday to Saturday unfortunately meant a number of old friends could not make the journey to Salisbury. However a great many did manage to slip away after their garrison parades and Coombe Bissett Church was packed—so was the lawn at Sundial Cottage which was completely covered by a huge marquee. The bride and groom were given a guard of honour by their brother officers of the Regiment and 22nd Special Air Service Regiment with whom Tony is seconded. Among those wearing beige bonnets we were pleased to see Roger Woodiwiss with his wife Peggy.

Among the more senior of the guests were Colonel Jackie and Mary Thwaytes, whilst we all missed General and Tommy Wood. Owing to S.A.S. training there had been a change to a date on which the Colonel of the Regiment already had an engagement out of which he could not slide. 'It's an ill wind' however and one nice effect of the change of date was the announcement of Geoffrey White's O.B.E. on the very day of the wedding.

A month later a number of the Regiment assembled together a few miles further down the Chalke Valley for Caroline Chilton's wedding. We were all very pleased to see Felix and Bee Wilsey. They had had a very

exciting week which they started by listening in to John Wilsey's efforts to get from Arc to Arch in the Bleriot Air Race. Observers at Sandhurst had reckoned that he had thought up nineteen different ways of getting himself killed in that competition and so we can appreciate Felix and Bee's anxiety. They then crossed over from Jersey to attend John Wilsey's passing out parade. As Senior Under-Officer of Waterloo Company the part he played was not insignificant. Two days later Felix was busy making cine shots of Caroline Chilton's lovely country wedding before returning to a well earned rest in his delightful island home.

It is many years since Dick Chilton last served with the Regiment and so it is not surprising that the friends he and Pat had invited bore a strange resemblance to the old Officer Corps of the old 2nd Dorsets of Bad Schwalbach days. Bolly was in particularly good form as were David and Peggy Simmonds. Bobby Radcliffe looking well sunburnt and Charles and Stella Woodhouse and Johnny Gifford were all there. Finally, one must say how pleased we were to see Mrs Carter from Beaminster looking so well—it only made one realise how much Jimmy and Barbara Carter would have liked to have been able to accompany his mother to this wedding. The latter has incidentally had a quick trip home for the CIG'S conference, but was unable to get over to Dorchester. Now that Prime Ministers and Heads of State have become so mobile his must be a very busy job indeed.

As we go to press we hear that John and Judy Hewick's long planned Far East trip really is coming off at last. They plan to leave on the Blue Funnel *Peleus* on 7th January returning to the U.K. on 7th April, having been round Malaya, Hong Kong, Manila and Japan. More details next time.

His many friends in the Regiment will be glad to hear that Mr D. S. Pratt, one time Orderly Room Sergeant at the Depot and for some time Civilian Employment Personnel Officer at Bovington, has got a posting after his own heart. He has been appointed to the Senior Executive Post in the F.A.R.E.L.F. Command Works Office in Singapore with an R.T.M. date of 15th November. His departure will be our loss. All the time he has been at Bovington Mr Pratt has never lost his interest in his Regiment and there are a number of old soldiers in the County who have good cause to remember the assistance he has been able to afford them.

Where be yon Blackbird to?
Where oh where be 'ee?

He is out looking for news for our next number. Please help him continued his search by dropping him a line.

THE 'DAILY MAIL' BLERIOT ANNIVERSARY AIR RACE FROM LONDON TO PARIS

By 2nd Lieutenant J. F. W. Wilsey, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment

[It is not every day that a newly-commissioned officer makes news before he joins the Regiment. Only a few days before passing out of Sandhurst Senior Under-Officer John Wilsey, as he was then, made a stout effort to secure one of the subsidiary prizes awarded for the best original efforts in the 'Daily Mail' Air Race. Pursuing our policy of inviting young officers to relate their experiences we are grateful to 2nd Lieutenant Wilsey for this account of his adventures on 20th July. This officer's parachuting experience had previously been limited to the short course at Abingdon given to Cadets during the Easter recess.]

It was only three days before the closing date for entries that a small syndicate consisting of an officer-instructor of the Royal Tank Regiment, a fellow cadet and myself decided that I should enter the London-Paris Bleriot Air Race. In deciding our method of getting from Arc to Arch we were governed by the fact that with our own private resources, we would be unable to compete with the fastest and therefore we must do something practical and original in an attempt to win the £1,000 subsidiary prize for the best effort.

We finally decided that I should leave the Arc de Triomphe at 1.30 p.m. on the back of a motor-cycle driven by a D.R. from the Royal Corps of Signals Squadron, which had been part of the Royal Signals team, to the airport at Toussus le Noble about fourteen miles outside Paris. There I would board a de Havilland Rapide biplane flown by a friend of mine from the Fairoaks Aero Club in Chobham, and fly direct to Hendon; do a 'free drop' by parachute and then speed the remaining seven odd miles to Marble Arch on another motor-bike.

Having complimented ourselves on what we considered to be a sound practical plan, our enthusiasm was rather shattered by the Air Ministry who said that on no account would I be allowed to use Hendon, but if I wished I could drop at Hornchurch in Essex. The effect of this was to add at least fifteen minutes to the time as Hornchurch is fourteen miles from Marble Arch. These Air Ministry officials then pointed out that if I intended to do a 'free drop' I would require a licence and a fully qualified instructor. We eventually found Lieutenant Keith Fuller of the Airborne R.A.S.C., who very kindly joined the syndicate as parachute trainer and adviser.

The plan having been made the remaining free time was used to perfect it. Countless times we travelled the distance between Hornchurch and Marble Arch trying to find the quickest route. The traffic was so bad that we decided we must produce our own traffic control organisation along the route. This we manned from the cadets of my own Waterloo Company and many other helpers, provided them with wireless sets and posted them at all the key points to help me get through the worst of the jams.

Finally, there was the problem of Edward Bear the Sandhurst Parachute Club mascot. It was obvious that he must come with me as I was by now a member of the

Edward Bear Club having qualified at Abingdon a month or two previously. It was eventually decided that I would tuck him into my leg strap and he could make his jump that way.

The great day, Monday, 20th July, arrived and laden with *Daily Mail* reporters and spectators, our plane took off from Blackbushe at 8 a.m. We were threequarters of an hour late because the machine wouldn't start. On arrival in Paris we all went shopping and then had a vast lunch. I then checked in at the Arc de Triomphe and after being photographed, wished good luck and Bon Voyage I punched the time clock at 1.30 and we were off. The driver was brilliant and although we went screeching through Paris, sometimes at 70 m.p.h., I felt surprisingly safe on the back of his machine. I arrived at the Airport twenty-two and a half minutes after leaving the Arc and after clearing customs, a three second token procedure, we were in the air. The hour and threequarters in the plane appeared to me to be a lifetime, however I did manage to go to sleep and woke up in time to don my equipment. As we approached Hornchurch I climbed out on to the wing of the plane, the door having been removed in Paris, and clung there with all my might. It was an unpleasant sensation, very noisy right behind the engine and very draughty with the wind whistling past at 90 m.p.h. Keith Fuller, my despatcher, thumped me on the shoulder and releasing my grip I was swept off the wing and began to count as I had been taught, 'one thousand, two thousand, three thousand—Pull' and there I was floating in mid air. I now launched Edward Bear but unfortunately poor chap he did a Roman Candle and plummeted to the ground without his parachute opening.

I myself did a shocking landing and the next thing I knew was that I was being pulled out of my harness, having my passport stamped, set on a motor-bike and away all in one. In fact it only took six seconds from the moment I landed until I was on the back of the motor-cycle being driven away at great speed by one of my brother cadets. He was another expert rider and must have excelled himself that day for he sped through tiny gaps and round corners in spite of very heavy traffic. However, thanks to our traffic controllers stationed along the route we were only topped twice in the whole fourteen miles from Hornchurch. Unfortunately we had a crash in Parliament Square. The leading bike skidded on a wet patch, we crashed into him and the reserve bike into us. However, picking ourselves up quickly I leaped onto the back of the third machine and was away again within forty-five seconds. In Hyde Park the police trailed us at a steady 20 m.p.h. and there suddenly there was the check point where I jumped off and stamped my check card. It read 2 hours 39 minutes 2 seconds.

The whole thing had been the greatest fun and I was sorry it was all over. We were all most grateful to the Commandant and all at Sandhurst for what had started as a three-man syndicate ended up in an operation involving some hundred or so willing assistants—a great combined attempt from Sandhurst.

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF TWO YEARS IN RUSSIA

By Brigadier D. A. D. Young

WHEN I was told that I was going to Moscow as Military Attaché I received the news with mixed feelings. I thought that it would be a very interesting assignment, but that it would also prove a very frustrating experience. In the event I was proved right on both counts.

I already had some experience with the Russians, first for two years in Vienna, where quadripartite control of the city was being carried out, and 'Four Men in a Jeep' was indeed a fact. After that I was a member of the British Liaison Mission in Berlin, attached to the Russian H.Q. in East Germany. Here I had one house in West Berlin and another in Potsdam, which was in East Germany, and we used to alternate between the two. Much time and quantities of vodka had to be consumed in settling the various incidents that occurred between the British and Soviet armies of occupation.

This experience stood me in very good stead when I reached Moscow late in September 1957. I was received by an Army General, who was polite but reserved, as the conversation progressed he unbent a little, and then he launched into a diatribe against the English newspapers. He said he had read in the Soviet Press that we in England firmly believed that there were bears on the streets of Moscow! I eventually calmed him down by asking if he believed all that was written in the newspapers.

Each year on 7th November the Soviet Union celebrates the 1917 October revolution with a big parade on Red Square. In 1957 there was a very big parade, with a number of new weapons that were profusely photographed by the press, and by civilians attending the parade. Service attachés however, were strictly forbidden even to produce a camera while the parade was on! At these parades security is very strict, and you have to pass through no less than about five or six security checks before you reach your allotted space. Service attachés are treated in a special way, and they are herded rather like cattle into a small square pen just to the right of the Mausoleum on the top of which Khrushchev and the others stand—there are no seats and you just stand. In the next pen to the right are all the marshals and generals of the Soviet armed Forces, except for the most senior ones who join the party on top of the Mausoleum. Civilians stand on the left.

A large band of 1,000 musicians plays for the marching troops and the standard of marching is very good indeed. Then the mechanised part of the parade drives past, and after that come all the civil displays. Finally, thousands and thousands of Soviet citizens about twenty abreast walk past Khrushchev. The parade starts punctually at ten o'clock and they finally finish walking past about 3 p.m.

Shortly after this parade—about 9th November—I went in company with another attaché to the Mausoleum to see the 'Gruesome Twosome'. When we got to the Red Square we found it all barred off by militia, who form the local police. We noted on our way up that the queue of people waiting to go in stretched for about one and half miles. However, we found a militia officer, and he took us right to the head of the queue. We had only been there about two minutes when we started to move. We quickly dropped back several places as we found that wreaths were being carried, and that we were facing a battery of television cameras. The wreaths were

duly laid, and to our horror we found that we had got mixed up in the World Federation of Trade Unions. Luckily we were in plain clothes.

My first trip out of Moscow was a visit by road to Leningrad, about 450 miles away. It was in late March and road conditions were very bad. We skidded right round facing the wrong way on one occasion, and had to dig ourselves out of snow drifts or be pulled out on three other occasions. However, in the end we got there and back successfully.

On another occasion I took my wife and family from Moscow to Yalta by car. The distance is about 900 miles and during the whole of the journey there are only about twelve petrol stations. There are always long queues at the petrol stations, but our chauffeur, who was a Russian, would always drive to the head of the queue, saying firmly that we were diplomats. It worked, and we would get away after about twenty minutes with a full tank. It took that long because all petrol is by coupons, and there is an awful lot of red tape about getting them honoured.

We took it very easily, doing about 200 miles a day and stopping off at hotels in small towns on the way. Most of the hotels are very antiquated, and in Kharkov the amount of red victorian plush had to be seen to be believed. As a contrast the hotel in Yalta was quite modern and comfortable. Yalta itself is quite a pleasant little town, but it suffers from having no nice sandy beach but is all shingle.

One British diplomat nearly got arrested because he tried to walk about in shorts. This is frowned on officially, and he was told it was very uncultured to walk about in that kind of dress.

An exasperating thing about Russian restaurants is the amount of time that it takes to get a meal served. The same menu is produced in every restaurant throughout the length and breadth of the country, and you will seldom get a meal in under one and a half to two hours. At Simferopol in the Crimea on the way to Yalta, it took us three hours to have a three course meal.

Similarly, shopping in Russia is a matter of infinite patience and strong elbows. To make a purchase you have to queue four times. There is usually a large crowd standing round the counter, so a liberal use of one's elbows is required. Having got to the front the next thing to do is to attract the attention of an assistant and enquire the price of the article you want. When you know that, you then join a long queue and go and pay the amount indicated to the cashier. She gives you a ticket to say you have paid that amount and you then have to queue again to get back to the assistant. You hand the ticket to her, she checks it and hands it back to you, and you then queue again at the packing counter where eventually you receive your purchase in exchange for your ticket from the cashier.

A number of goods are in very short supply and it is no uncommon sight to see a shop with a queue spreading for hundreds of yards outside.

One interesting trip I made was to Stalingrad. Rebuilding here is on a vast scale, and the new houses are very fine. A Museum is situated near the main railway station, and prominently displayed in it is the sword presented to the people of Stalingrad by King George VI.

During the whole time that we were in Russia we were never invited into a Russian house. Building large blocks of flats is going on in most areas and around Moscow they were working a twenty-four hour shift. However, despite this rebuilding programme it is no uncommon thing to have a family of mother, father and two children living in one room, and sharing a communal kitchen, W.C. and bathroom, with several other families living in the same block. The housing problem is a very real one.

However, to show the Russian mentality, I saw a television news picture. This was about a family moving into a new house. Having moved in, the grandmother wanted somewhere to hang her coat. The father, therefore, jumped up, found a nail and a hammer, and drove the nail into the wall. Grandmother could now hang up her coat. This is typical of the whole country.

The Russian ballet is beautifully staged and we paid a number of visits to the Bolshoi Theatre. Russian opera

on the other hand is not so good and, except for excerpts on television, we did not see much of it.

As a sober assessment of whether the Russian wants war, I would say most definitely that he does not want it. War will only come as a miscalculation. He will, however, try every trick of the trade, short of war, to achieve his object, the imposition of the Russian way of life on western civilization.

My ten-year-old son used to fly out, quite on his own, from his school in England for the holidays. He and my seven-year-old son appeared to be quite unimpressed with everything they saw; but one comment, after their trip to Yalta, was very revealing. They took me on one side and said, 'Daddy, why don't the Russians use proper lavatory paper instead of newspaper', and they were quite right. They don't!

[A photograph of Brigadier Young visiting a Russian Establishment appeared in our last number.—EDITOR.]

DEVON AND DORSETS LEAVE THE CYPRUS MINES

By 2nd Lieut. D. A. Harris, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, P.R.O., G.H.Q., Middle East Land Forces

ONE day recently a group of soldiers from the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment came out of a black hole in the side of a hill in Cyprus, pushed their miners' helmets to the back of their heads and put out their safety lamps for the last time.

So ended the strangest duty the Battalion has had since its arrival in Cyprus. For the last few months the Devon & Dorsets have been responsible for controlling the explosives used in the island's main iron pyrites mine in the south of the island.

Taking it in turns, several of the platoons have been stationed at the mine. Three times a day the platoon commander has had to issue the explosives and then a handful of men have had to go down the shaft to make sure that it was all used.

Now the restrictions have been lifted and the duty platoon has been withdrawn from the mine.

The 'honour' of being the last platoon of the British Army to carry out duty in these mines fell to Number 7 platoon of 'C' Company. It was their second tour there and the soldiers had become quite familiar with the labyrinth of galleries. They had also made friends with most of the Greek miners.

The commander of Number 7 platoon is 2nd Lieut. Martin Lewis, whose parents, Mr and Mrs E. E. Lewis, live at 'The Elms', Old Barnstaple Road, Bideford. A National Service officer, Martin was following in the steps of his father, a bank manager at Bideford, and started working in a bank two years ago, but now instead of counting money, Martin has recently been counting sticks of dynamite.

The counting over, Martin, who plays cricket for the Devon Dimplings, handed the leather satchels crammed full with explosives to the miners. Outside the magazine, Corporal Ernest Weldon, a Regular soldier, whose home is at 12 Winsor Place, The Hoe, Plymouth, measured off lengths of fuse wire.

While all this was going on the 'grimy face parade'—the three men who actually go down the mine—had been forming up outside their tents. Wearing old clothes and miners' helmets, the soldiers carried in one hand their

safety lamps and in the other their sub-machine guns. Two more men from Plymouth were in the party: Private Dave Merrett, whose wife lives at 55 Onslow Road, Peverell, was a marine fitter in the dockyard for five years before he was called-up for National Service. With him was Private Ken Lock, a Regular soldier, of 27 Grassendale Avenue, Swilly, Plymouth, who has been in the Battalion just over a year.

Making up the group was Private Douglas Batting, of 53 Milton Road, Burnthouse Lane, Exeter. After leaving St Luke's School, Exeter, he started work on the Southern Region. Before long he was a fireman on a shunting locomotive at Exmouth Junction. He signed on with the Regiment for three years.

At a word from the platoon sergeant, Sergeant Ernest Chidgey, a Regular soldier whose wife lives at 2 Booberry Cottage, Sampford Peverell, Tiverton, the soldiers set off with the miners, leaving the camp compound for the shafts a few hundred yards away. A pause at the entrance to light their lamps, and the little group was swallowed up in the darkness. A flight of steps plunged them down four hundred feet to the main gallery.

It was a long walk to the face, lasting nearly an hour. The galleries were dark, eerie, sometimes hot, sometimes cold. As they went along the soldiers and miners carried on a joking conversation in a queer mixture of Greek and English phrases. Their laughter echoed up the gallery.

At the race the miners placed the charges and pressed the plunger. The explosive erupted its own earth tremor. It blasted out the lamps. The tunnel became a frightening place, but, like the miners, the soldiers had become quite used to the blasting. Suddenly it was quiet, the party got up and left the face to the miners who dig out the ore and load the small hand-pushed railway trucks.

Back through the shaft, damp in places, went the group. Nearly three hours after vanishing into the ground the soldiers came out into the daylight again, the harsh sun blinding them after their mole-like wanderings. For the last time the echo of West Country voices dies in the galleries.

OUTWARD BOUND TRAINING STARTS IN CYPRUS

By Captain J. H. Wilson, Military Observer

Photograph on centre pages by Sgt J. Jefford, R.A.O.C. and L.-Cpl C. Wain, R.A.O.C.

FIFTEEN officers and men of the Royal Navy, the Army, and the Royal Air Force in the Middle East, have recently completed five days adventurous training course over some of the toughest country to be found in Cyprus.

The exercise was part of the first of many courses arranged to take place in Cyprus as a result of a War Office policy to promote activities which develop resourcefulness, and power of endurance among junior officers and non-commissioned officers.

The powers of endurance and resourcefulness were certainly tested by the exercise organized by the Second-in-Command of the 1st Battalion Devon and Dorset Regiment, Major D. A. Gilchrist.

The students took the part of the remains of a defeated Army making their way (with the help of friendly agents) to a pre-arranged rendezvous on the coast, where they found rubber dinghies which took them to an awaiting submarine and so to safety.

Tough Country

Their route took them a hundred miles over some of the toughest country to be found anywhere in the Middle East, with the additional hazard of a patrolling enemy provided by the 1st Devon & Dorset Regiment.

During the five days the men were split up into syndicates of three, and were given a rendezvous for each phase of the exercise, where they contacted the friendly agent, 2nd Lieut. Martin Lewis, who provided food and water.

The syndicate leader changed daily to give all the students the opportunity to command, but usually the enemy patrols split the syndicate which left the men to their own initiative.

At the end of each day the syndicates would discuss the day's activities in their hides brewing a well deserved 'cuppa', often laughing at their antics in avoiding capture.

The men worked themselves up to a point where they almost believed that they were fleeing for their lives.

Big Jump

Lance-Corporal Hayden Davies of Ynysmardy, near Cardiff, jumped over a terrifying precipice to avoid

capture and tumbled away to hide in bushes whilst the enemy looked for, what they thought, must be the remains of Hayden. Later he made a large detour, arriving safely at the rendezvous.

Lance-Corporal Jim Scowen, of St Helier, Jersey, avoided capture by waving down a passing car, jumping in and asking an amused driver to put his foot down.

It was stories like these over which they laughed before they settled down for the night, so tired they did not even notice or care about the hard, often uneven ground that provided their beds.

No Blankets

By the end of the exercise the unshaven adventurers looked well-tanned and tired, but nevertheless full of an overwhelming sense of achievement.

They had lived hard, they hadn't taken blankets because of the weight, they slept in the open on ground sheets, with their boots for pillows. Many of them had to do without pillows because they knew if once they took off their boots they might never get them on again. Two members of the party walked for two days in P.T. shoes.

The main difficulties the students found was keeping their feet in condition and the conservation of their water—never knowing when they would be able to replenish it.

Good Spirit

Corporal Jock Leiper of 8 Luthrie Terrace, Aberdeen, when interviewed over his first cold beer in five days said, 'It's been very tough, but I enjoyed it, especially the wonderful spirit that we have developed among ourselves in such a short time'. These were the sentiments of all the students on the course.

It's a tough way to see Cyprus but the adventurers are sure to have seen many parts of the Island not normally visited by tourists.

The course included rock climbing instruction in the Buffavento Castle area, under the capable supervision of Flight-Sergeant Harry Appleby and Sergeant Jack Emmerson, the leader and deputy leader of the Royal Air Force mountain rescue team.

A NOTE ON NORSETS

THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE ROYAL NORFOLK AND DORSET REGIMENTS

BEFORE 1881 the county Regiments of Norfolk had been the 9th (East Norfolk) and the 54th (West Norfolk) Regiments of Foot. That is how it came about that when the 54th returned home from India it was to Norwich they came in 1867 to lay up the Colours which had been rescued from the saloon of the *Sarah Sands*. Under the Cardwell re-organisation of the Infantry of the Line the 54th became the 2nd Battalion The Dorsetshire Regiment and the old 9th became the Norfolk Regiment.

Thirty-three years later the 1st Battalions of each Regiment found themselves in the same Brigade quartered in Ulster. In the spring of 1914 the political situation necessitated the re-grouping of troops in the Belfast area and the Dorsets marched out from Victoria Barracks in the city to share Palace Barracks at Holywood with the

Norfolks. Sharing was the operative word, the two Regiments doubled up the available accommodation, a Norfolk giving up half his limited space to his Dorset opposite number. When some six weeks later the Dorsets set out on their famous thirty-six miles march to Ballykinlar, it was the band of the Norfolk Regiment which accompanied them for the first of the fourteen wet and weary hours it took to complete the distance. Three months later on Friday, 14th August, SS. *Anthony* sailed from Belfast with the Dorsets and Norfolks (less two Companies) on board and it was together in the 15th Infantry Brigade of the 5th Infantry Division that these two Battalions were to fight the fierce early battles of World War I.

Meanwhile at the other side of the world the two 2nd Battalions found themselves in the same Division, the 6th (Poona) Division which landed in Mesopotamia in October 1914. It was in this formation that they fought

the big battles from Shaiba to Ctesiphon and in which in December 1915 they found themselves invested by the Turks in Kut el Amara.

With Townsend's force locked up in Kut, there were in January 1916 few British and Indian troops left in the country to come to their rescue. The expected 3rd (Lahore) and 7th (Meerut) Divisions had not yet arrived. All able bodied men were hurried up-river to the front from the bases and hospitals in the rear. Sometime during that month two drafts, each about 400 strong, arrived out from the home destined for the 2nd Norfolks and 2nd Dorsets respectively. For obvious reasons they never reached the Battalions but at Oran on 4th February these two drafts, together with all available Norfolks and Dorsets in the country, were formed into a composite Battalion known as the Norsets.

The Norsets mustered at first some 16 Officers and 1,000 Other Ranks commanded by Major Carroll of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, who very shortly afterwards handed over to Major C. V. Lanyon of the Norfolks. 'A' and 'B' Companies composed of Norfolks and 'C' and 'D' Companies Dorset men. In those days there were no such sub-units as Headquarter and Support Companies; battalions consisted of a 'thousand bayonets'. The Regimental Sergeant-Major of this battalion was R.S.M. J. R. H. Bolingbroke of the Norfolks, who was later to serve for eighteen years the Quartermaster of the 2nd Dorsets.

The Norsets were posted to the 21st (Bareilly) Brigade of the 7th (Meerut) Division which had by now arrived and within four days of being formed had taken over a section of the line at Um el Haurah which was at the time about 1,000 yards from the enemy. The weather was atrocious and most of the next cold and wet fortnight in the line was spent in digging and sapping forwards towards the enemy's line.

On 29th February the Norsets were sent on a reconnaissance in force to find a passage through the Suwada Marsh in order to turn the Turks' left flank; frontal attacks in that flat featureless country being, in the words of one historian, 'extremely problematical'. Their efforts to find a way through the Marsh were unsuccessful which meant the proposed left hook was not possible. Early in March command again changed, the new C.O. was Major H. A. Case of the Dorsets, who remained in command of the Battalion until it was disbanded nearly six months later. For the remainder of the month the Norsets were in the line steadily digging themselves forward until only seventy-five yards separated them from the enemy.

The advance to relieve Kut began on 5th April and the Turks withdrew to their strongly prepared Sannaiyat position. When the attack by the 13th Division failed the Norsets were hurried up in support and re-organised in a most unpleasant flooded position some 400 yards from the enemy where they remained for the next fortnight. Both friend and foe were kept busy fighting the encroaching waters which made the trenches so untenable that fresh ones had constantly to be dug. The final attempt to relieve Kut, the forlorn hope attack, went in on 22nd April over flat featureless ground covered with two feet of flood water and, even more hazardous was that it was intersected with old trenches, into which heavily laden men fell and drowned. The composite Highland Battalion (Black Watch and Seaforth Highlanders) made gallant attacks under heavy fire but for some unfortunate reason the attack by the Indian Battalions of their Brigade (19th Dehra Dun Brigade) failed to come off, whereupon the Norsets seeing the plight of the Highlanders rushed to their support and carried their attack through to the Turkish front lines. Here they came up against an obstacle which finally

brought them to a halt. Two lines of deep trenches across which waterfilled obstacles the overloaded infantry could not scramble. These obstacles were covered by heavy and accurate fire from the Turkish positions and from which there was neither protection nor was it possible for the men to lie down in the two feet of water which covered the ground. It is hard to picture a nastier situation facing any Battalion at the end of an attack.

In this heroic failure to relieve Kut the Norsets lost 5 Officers and 288 Other Ranks, but for the enemy mistaking a field dressing station flag for a flag of truce and consequently according them an unofficial armistice during which the Norsets were able to extricate themselves, their casualties must have been much heavier. The Kut garrison was forced to capitulate on 29th April but the Norsets continued in being for many weeks yet. During this time they did not have any serious fighting, but their worst enemy was the climate and the sick rate increased as alarmingly as the shade temperature, which at times reached 130 degrees. The statisticians record that the evacuated sick rate in the Dorset Companies alone between February and the end of June was 337. A large proportion of these invalids would however have been among the unacclimatised reinforcements fresh out from home who formed the bulk of these Companies.

The Norset's 'dis-united' themselves on 24th July and as the re-constituted 2nd Battalions of their Regiments continued to pursue a vigorous campaign against their enemies. Although the attempt to relieve Kut had failed, those who served in the Norsets forged a very real and lasting link between the two Regiments. It is significant that of all the many irregular titles which were used during World War I, the only one to attain any official recognition in the War Office History was that of the Norsets.

This connection between the two Regiments on the field of battle did not cease with the Armistice of 1918. Twenty-one years later the same two 2nd Battalions again found themselves in the same Division. This time it was their turn to serve in the British Expeditionary Force in the 2nd Infantry Division. They did not share the same troopship to France, but when it was the Royal Norfolks turn to man a sector of the Maginot Line during the first winter of the war they were reinforced with a Company from the Dorsets. These two Battalions which had fought the Mesopotamia war together were able in the Second World conflict to claim to have fought every major battle in which 2nd Division took part from the River Dyle in Belgium to the River Irrawaddy in Burma. It fell to the lot of each Battalion to be the rearguard of their respective Brigades on the La Basée canal—these were the infantry which caused Field Marshal Rommel no small concern as is recorded in his 'Papers'.¹ This was the same battlefield over which the B.E.F. had fought so strenuously in that first October of the Kaiser's War. In Assam both Battalions made distinguished and decisive contributions to the success of 133rd Indian Corps at Kohima, the Norfolks high up on Aradura spur and the Dorsets in the fighting round the District Commissioner's Bungalow.

However, it was during the race to relieve another invested garrison that history repeated itself and once again an integrated Norset force fought a battle. Although Kohima had fallen it was imperative that the Manipur Road, the main supply route into Burma and the besieged garrison of Imphal, be opened before the monsoon really got under way. Early in June 2nd Division was held up at Viswema. 2nd Dorset, very reduced in numbers after the casualties at Kohima, was lent to 4th Infantry Brigade in which the 2nd R. Norfolks were deployed high up the mountain on the right of the road. In answer to Lieut.-Colonel Jock Carroll's cry for more men the

¹The Romell Papers, edited by Captain Liddel Hart.

Brigadier ordered the Dorsets to render what help they could. Lieut.-Colonel Geoffrey White was reduced to three weak rifle Companies of two platoons each and so all he could send was Major Peter Feeney's 'B' Company and the Guerilla Platoon under Captain Alexander Mackenzie. At the same time he undertook to keep the route to the Norfolk's position open and to supply them with their needs. If the original Norsets in the desert had suffered from lack of cover, it was the very thickness of the jungle which proved to be such an embarrassment to the Norsets at Shaving Brush Spur above Viswema. To this day survivors of that battle still argue out the difficulties of accurate map reading in that thick country and if the Norsets achieved no decisive success in their efforts at Viswema, they did much by their aggressiveness to reduce the length of time that the Japanese were prepared to hold this strong natural position. Mackenzie's Guerilla Platoon earned especial commendation for its contribution to the Norset effort.

Before leaving the Burma front, mention should be made of the visit paid by a Norset representative party from both Battalions to the Mahratta Training Centre at Belgam. During the campaign in Mesopotamia both the Norfolks and the Dorsets had made especial friendships with the two Mahratta Battalions in their Brigades the old 113th and 117th Mahrattas. Though both the successors of these two battalions were fighting in Africa at the time, the Training Centre gave the Norsets a splendid welcome. The Norsets brought with them a silk flag in yellow and green to commemorate the friendship with the Mahrattas and it is understood that this banner still hangs in the Officers' Mess at Belgam.

Meanwhile at home Infantry Training Centres responsible for more than one Regiment had replaced

the old infantry Depots. By good fortune No. 2 I.T.C. at Norwich was formed to serve the Norfolks and the Dorsets. Here under the command of John Hewick of the Dorsets a really first class and happy integrated Norset unit was built up. It was a serious loss to the East African Division when Brigadier John Hewick was invalided out before he could take his Brigade into action. It was however a tremendous gain to both the Royal Norfolks and Dorsets, in whatever theatre their Battalions were fighting, that the responsibility for training of their recruits came to be in such excellent hands.

No. 2 I.T.C. has faded along with the Norsets into the limbo of other war-time improvisations to be remembered only by those who were concerned with its short but vigorous existence and to be stumbled upon from time to time by the occasional historian delving through the records. A more permanent reminder is to be found in Sherborne Abbey where, thanks to the active interest and help of the Royal Norfolk Officers of the I.T.C., the old colours of the 54th now hang with every other traced stand of Colours of the Dorsets. Space precludes further reference to the jollier aspect of this alliance, the Norset days at Kigwema and Milestone 82 during those weeks of re-organisation in the autumn of 1944, the celebration of Shaiba Day in Hong Kong nine years later and the splendid playing of the massed bands and drums of both regiments at the *Primus in Indis* bi-centenary Tattoo at San Wai Camp the following spring. May the restored Candlesticks in Norwich Cathedral and the Sarah Sands Colours in Sherborne Abbey serve as a reminder of this particular bond of friendship between the two Regiments and long may it be preserved in their successors, the 1st East Anglian and the Devonshire and Dorset Regiments.

O.G.W.W.

A NORSET OCCASION

By Major Clive Chettle, M.C., The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment

ON 4th July this year I was lucky to be one of a party of Dorsets who attended a memorable service in Norwich Cathedral. As all former Dorsets know a very special link has existed between the Royal Norfolk Regiment and the Dorset Regiment since before the day in 1881 when The 54th (West Norfolk) Regiment became the 2nd Battalion The Dorsetshire Regiment.

In order to provide a permanent reminder of this link a pair of very fine Renaissance Altar Candlesticks were jointly restored by the two Regiments and placed in the Regimental Chapel in the Cathedral. On one of the candlesticks is the inscription, 'Restored by The Dorset Regiment in 1959 to commemorate their close friendship with The Royal Norfolk Regiment since 1914'.

Our Regimental party consisted of Brigadier A. E. C. Bredin, Major J. R. H. Bolingbroke (the original Norset!) and myself. I was unable to reach Norwich until late on the previous night but the other two arrived in time to see a most impressive Beating of Retreat which was followed by a Cocktail Party.

The service in the Regimental Chapel in Norwich Cathedral the next day was a most impressive one. First the Colours of the 3rd (Militia) Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment were laid up. Then followed the dedication of two Royal Norfolk memorial stones laid in the floor of the Chapel and the candlesticks. There followed an address by the Bishop of Norwich who spoke at length of the close ties of the two Regiments with special reference to their alliance in the First World War

when a 'Composite English Battalion' was formed from reinforcements destined for the 2nd Battalions of the two Regiments. This Battalion, which was promptly christened the Norsets, fought as a Battalion from February to July 1916.

Here I should explain my reference to the original Norset. 'Bolly', as we all know him, was at the time a Company Sergeant-Major in The Norfolk Regiment and became Regimental Sergeant-Major of The Norsets. When the Norsets ceased to exist he returned to the Norfolks but the Dorsets put in a very strong bid for him and some four months later he transferred to the Dorsets and became Regimental Sergeant-Major of the reformed 2nd Battalion. He continued to serve with the 2nd Battalion until 1939.

It will be remembered that the two 2nd Battalions were together in the 2nd Division throughout the last war. On a small scale history repeated itself during the Burma campaign when for a short period Dorsets fought under command of The Royal Norfolks.

I myself was very glad to be back in Norwich, having spent a very happy year there in 1946 when the I.T.C. of the two Regiments was commanded by Brigadier John Hewick. His many friends in Norwich were most disappointed that he was unable to be there.

Finally, I would like to say a special word of thanks to Major Murray Petit, the Depot Commander who did all he could to make our short visit such a pleasant one.

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1st BATTALION THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT

DESPITE the end of the Emergency in Cyprus, the Battalion has been as busy, if not busier than it was during the first six months of its tour on the island. The background to this activity has been the re-deployment of the island's dwindling garrison to meet the continuing responsibility for Internal Security duties and the need to train up to the high standard required of a battalion in the M.E.L.F. Reserve, liable to have to deal with almost any sort of situation anywhere in the Middle East. As heretofore the Battalion has met this difficult period with cheerful efficiency and at the same time achieved some considerable success in the sporting field.

In May the Battalion left Waterloo Camp at Episkopi and moved into the 1st Greenjackets camp at Polemidhia on the outskirts of Limassol—in terms of comfort, this was probably a retrograde step, as the Battalion had worked hard to make itself well found in Waterloo Camp. However, from mid-May the Commanding Officer became the military Commander of the Limassol District, so that the battalion is better placed to carry out that rôle and is also much nearer the area where the married families live. A number of Internal Security duties have been shed—the guards in various mines have been removed but, with the departure of 1st Battalion, The Durham Light Infantry, from Paphos, a company (initially 'B' Company), has to be located there until next February. We have also some other miscellaneous guards and duties in the Limassol area as well as the honour of providing the Governor's Guard at Nicosia. During the period companies have been detached—'A' Company at Gibraltar Camp, Limassol, on town duties since 20th May, with 'B' and 'C' Companies there up to 20th May—'B' Company on town duties and 'C' Company on mine guards.

One of the highlights of the period has been the last Cyprus Queen's Birthday Parade at Limassol on 13th June, in which the Battalion played a leading rôle. The Parade was taken by the District Commissioner with guards found by the R.N., other Army units, the R.A.F. and the Cyprus Police. The Commanding Officer was the Parade Commander with Nos 5 and 6 Guards found by 'B' and 'C' Companies respectively, on parade with the Colours and the Corps of Drums. The Parade was an extremely good one and the drill and turnout of the Battalion earned considerable praise from a number of sources—praise not ill deserved considering the amount of hard work that had been put into rehearsals.

For a week at the beginning of June, the Battalion acted as host to H.M.S. *Defender*, a large destroyer of the Mediterranean Fleet. An extensive programme of training demonstrations, sporting and social activities was arranged and both 'matelots' and 'pongos' of all ranks enjoyed the programme.

On 20th May 1959 the Commanding Officer announced with deep regret that 23330891 Lance-Corporal Horlock of the Battalion Orderly Room had died at Episkopi.

With the advent of the Cyprus summer, the working day has been organized on an 'Indian Routine' basis. Training Parades from 0700—1300 hours daily, recreational training (swimming at Ladies Mile—a first-class bathing beach) in the afternoon, and games in the evening. From 18th July the Battalion joins 3rd Infantry

Brigade, as part of the M.E.L.F. reserve and is liable to have to fly anywhere in the Middle East. After some months of EOKA-bashing, some considerable amount of training has had to be carried out to fit the Battalion for this new rôle; to date emphasis has been on individual and section training, with the maximum amount of variety and adventurous training thrown in.

During May and June a number of Battalion Signal exercises set by the Second-in-Command, have got main Battalion H.Q. out on the ground for the first time since Germany. The Regular Soldiers' Cadre has proved a great success and, as the climax to its four months work, is shortly off to Benghazi for some desert warfare. Support Company has reverted from its rifle company rôle and has run weapon cadres for all support weapons. 'C' Company and Support Company have both had company march exercises up in the Troodos mountains and the Paphos Forest—where, though hot by day, the nights are pleasantly cool and the scenery, pine forests with a panorama of the whole island in the background, is remarkably fine.

An Inter Platoon Map Reading and Initiative Competition has just been won by the Anti-Tank Platoon, with 2 Platoon 'A' Company second, and the Mortar Platoon third.

A considerable amount of training in air portability has taken place. It was hoped that this could have been practically tested, by flying the Battalion to Tripolitania in October for desert warfare training; that unfortunately is now not to be, but air portability still remains a most important aspect of training.

In the sporting field, the outstanding achievement has been the winning of the Cyprus Athletic Meeting, where we defeated 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, our victors in the British Army Championships at Aldershot in 1958. Cyprus offers an amazing variety of sports and apart from the normal activities of football, hockey, cricket, athletics and boxing; small but enthusiastic bands of all ranks have been sailing, swimming, deep sea fishing, goggle fishing, water skiing and cycling.

June saw the welcome arrival of the families, who are spread equally between quarters in Berengaria Village, near Limassol and in private hirings in Limassol itself. In all there will be about eighty families in Cyprus by the end of July—a fairly strong contingent.

The other notable social activity has been the succession of excellent company dances, largely made possible by the really splendid work of our W.V.S. lady, Mrs Margaret Wilson. Despite the fact that we have left the W.R.A.C. girls of Episkopi behind, there never appears to be a shortage of partners.

A number of officers and men are taking advantage of the excellent Army schemes for travel in the Levant with visits to Israel, Jordan, the Lebanon, Turkey, Greece and Malta—and one enterprising party of officers and soldiers is motoring home via Southern Turkey in a second-hand Land Rover.

Soldiering in Cyprus for the Battalion is therefore a busy life, but a most varied and stimulating one—with a programme of every kind of training and sport and with a considerable choice of off-duty activities.

THE BATTALION NET

Headquarter Company

A BUSY PERIOD

The last few months have been unusually busy for the Company. The move from Episkopi to Polemidhia, like any other major move, placed a heavy burden on the Company and the Q.M. Group and the M.T. Platoon in particular. While settling in at Polemidhia a major portion of the camp fatigues fell upon the Company, while the other Companies were rehearsing for the Queen's Birthday Parade.

A series of Battalion Headquarter exercises over this same period kept the M.T. Platoon, Signal Platoon, and the Drums even further occupied.

THE COMPANY OFF DUTY

In Episkopi, the Signal Platoon, M.T. Platoon, Q.M. Group, and Company H.Q. and the Drums each held their own All Ranks Dance. Each was voted a great success and we shall continue to hold these Company Dances at Polemidhia.

The arrival of families was a great relief to those who had experienced some six months separation. The exodus of married personnel returning to their quarters on the stroke of one o'clock each day show who is now in control of the domestic scene.

We wish all our families an enjoyable time in Cyprus and we hope to see them at our Dances and other Social Functions.

A number of men in the Company are planning to spend their local leave making bicycle tours of the island. This enterprising idea will enable them really to get to know the island which has a number of interesting places to visit.

SPORT

The Company won the inter-Company Athletic Championships and some fifteen members of the Company were in the Battalion Team which won the Island Athletics Championships. We reached the final of the Western Area seven-a-side Football Competition only to be beaten by 1 point by the R.A.S.C. The Signal Platoon won the Western Area Inter-Platoon Football Competition beating 6 Platoon 1st D.L.I. in the final 1-0 having negotiated ten previous matches—a creditable performance. They also won the Battalion Inter-Platoon Football Competition beating 7 Platoon in the final 7-1. The Company Cricket side is a formidable one in which Major Freeland, Lieut. Green, Private Floyde, Private Smallbone, Private Berry and Private Culver are all playing regularly for the Battalion XI. We have just defeated 'B' Company by 5 wickets.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Major Freeland is now in command having taken over from Major Edgar in March. C.S.M. Cleverley has also joined us.

Lieut. Green joined us in May as Assistant Signals Officer, and Captain Hope, in June, and has taken over P.R.I. Captain Tong handed over I.O. to Lieut. Cann in April.

Sergeant Bradfield has left the I Section to start taking over Officers' Mess Sergeant from Colour-Sergeant Richardson who, we are sorry to say, leaves us at the end of the year. Sergeant Groom is now Intelligence Sergeant, and Sergeant Violet has left the M.T. Platoon en route for a Rifle Company and is at the moment attending a Small Arms Course at Hythe.

Sergeant McGoldrick left the Signal Platoon for recruiting duties in England, and Sergeant Taylor has arrived to take his place.

Private Arnold, the Quartermaster's faithful driver-batman, left for N.S. Release in June.

N.S. Release is nothing but a regrettable nuisance; no sooner do men settle down as a friendly team when they have to think of departure. The M.T. and the Signals have recently lost a particularly good bunch of N.S. men and in a few weeks time the old Platoons that were with us in Germany will have faded away.

The Regimental Police, under Sergeant Wright, have put on a new look with the arrival of Lance-Corporals Roberts, Charlo, Teague and Rennell.

Lance-Corporals Lees and Davies are now in England attending a Signal Instructors Course at Hythe, and the Drums have welcomed a new recruit, Private Bennett.

PROMOTIONS

We congratulate the following on their recent promotions: Sergeant Coates (M.T.), Sergeant Laing (Signals), Corporal Webb (M.T.), Corporal Osborne (M.T.), Lance-Corporals Davies, Carter, Groves, Lees, Morris and Rosser of the Signal Platoon, Lance-Corporal Vinson in the Officers Mess, Sergeant Gratton (Q.M.), Corporal Squibb (Q.M.), Corporal Marett (Q.M.), Corporal Nicol (Q.M.), Lance-Corporals Greenaway and Strong both of the Q.M. Group.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

The *M.T. Platoon* have had no major accidents since February this year, and they are now the proud owners of a new electrical greasing machine. This is operated by Corporal Harris and Private Payne and is a wonderful labour saving device.

The *Signal Platoon* believe in Anglo-American relations and Corporal Turner has married his pen pal, Miss Helen Hepburn. The best of luck to them both.

The *Drums* have twice beaten Retreat, and are making steady progress under Drum Major Young. They looked extremely smart in their white Uniforms on the Queen's Birthday Parade and their team, commanded by Corporal Barlow, are proud of coming fifth in the Battalion Map Reading Competition.

The *Q.M. Group* have been really hard worked and their efforts are much appreciated. Major (Q.M.) Titterton seems to be everywhere at once, unfortunately. He leaves us shortly for an appointment in Aden.

The *Pay Office*, under Captain Clarke, R.A.P.C., have welcomed to their staff, Privates Walne, Hindley and Baker, and are proud of the fact that both Staff-Sergeant Prime and Sergeant Richards represented the Battalion on the Athletics Track.

'A' Company

Since April there have been many departures and arrivals, and on parade to-day there are few faces that made up the ranks of the Company at the Amalgamation one year ago.

There are too many names to mention them all, but it would not be unfair to the remainder, if just three were mentioned—Major M. J. Reynolds, Corporal Fowler, and Lance-Corporal Greenfield.

Major M. J. Reynolds, second in command from the Amalgamation and Company Commander since our arrival in Cyprus, left us in May to attend the Company Commanders' Course at Warminster. It was hoped that the Company would be able to give a warm welcome to his successor, Captain D. Stone, but his arrival is shrouded in mystery, and after six weeks he has yet to appear.

Corporal 'Tom' Fowler will be remembered for his singing and guitar playing by all who heard him. He brought immeasurable pleasure to the whole Company whether listening to him by the camp fire in Germany or at the Company Dances held in Episkopi.

Lance-Corporal Greenfield was the king of Company Clerks, who had the mind of a memory man.

Thanks to Mrs Wilson of the W.V.S. it was possible for Companies to hold their own All Ranks Dances. 'A' Company were lucky enough to have two dances at Waterloo Camp, both of which were most successful. Colour-Sergeant Tuck and his helpers are to be congratulated for the excellent decorations at the second dance.

During April and May several competitions, both sporting and military, were held within the Company. Beer prizes were given and several soldiers found themselves an easy method of supplementing their pay.

The Inter-Platoon Football Competition was won easily when 1 Platoon defeated 3 Platoon. However, in the Six-a-side Competition the result was reversed. Corporal Fowler's section (3 Platoon) won an inter-Section Shooting Competition at Pissouri, and in an Inter-Section Map Reading and Weapon Training Competition, his section tied with those of Lance-Corporal Steer and Lance-Corporal Sanders, both of 1 Platoon.

The Company moved to Gibraltar Camp in Limassol at the end of May to resume the Duties of Stand-by Platoon and to take over the guard at the Middle East Broadcasting Station. Training therefore was brought to an abrupt halt, but it is noteworthy that the Company was placed second in the overall position for the Map Reading Competition held in early July. At Platoon level No. 2 Platoon were placed second and Lance-Corporal Bain, newly promoted, did remarkably well to bring his team home in third position.

'B' Company

Major Steve Elvery was very relieved to hear that his successor Major Jimmy Lynch had at last left England for Cyprus; however, experience told him to anticipate the worst until Major Lynch actually set foot in Gibraltar Camp to assume command. Fresh from the fleshpots of Paris-tented life could have been a problem to the Major, but he was remarkably quick to adapt himself. The Company showed both their old and new Commanders that a good spirit was rampant in the Company by their efforts on the athletics track. Although we had set ourselves to win the 'Battalion Athletics Meeting', we in fact finished third with over a hundred points. This was a good company effort inspired by 2nd Lieut. Tim Slater and 2nd Lieut. Martin King, who by their own good performances got the best out of others such as Corporal Reeve (sprints), Corporal Gove (shot), Private Conquest (half-mile) and Private Butler (javelin) all of whom put in some remarkably good performances.

The Western Area Major Units Meeting saw the Company well represented in the Battalion team, with 2nd Lieut. Slater and 2nd Lieut. King well to the fore in the sprints. Private Hawkey and others, with the Pentathlon in mind, gave some scintillating 'rodeo' performances on a local Cypriot nag—much to the amusement of all and particularly Corporals Collihole and Marrison who offered loud applause from the beer tent.

Corporal Gove had never putt the shot before, but through sheer brute force he won the Battalion meeting with a putt of 33 feet and a week later tied for first place in the Western Area with 36 feet. Private Conquest ran beautifully in an exciting last lap with Private Taylor in

support, to win the Half-Mile in 2 mins 12 secs. Conquest also ran successfully in the 4 x 880 Relay team for the Battalion in the Major-Units Final. Corporal Reeve finished fourth in the Battalion 100 Yards to Lieut. Cobb, 2nd Lieut. Slater and 2nd Lieut. King—all past or present members of the Company.

There have been no Internal Security incidents at 'Milcom' and although we were still obliged to maintain a quarter-hour and one hour standby platoon to deal with any communal trouble in Limassol, all has remained quiet. For several day we sent soldiers to stiffen the civilian port guards, whose rather unorthodox methods were so confusing to the private soldiers that we were relieved to finish this task.

The Company have been to the excellent ranges at Dhekelia near Larnaca. Making an early start at 0530 (provided the range warden is punctual) the Company finishes firing by midday, and is able to swim on the way back to Limassol. In anticipation, the local ice-cream vendor moves ahead to await our arrival on the beach. The company did a simple night exercise on the range and it was inevitable that the re-organization should take place actually in the sea, unbelievably warm throughout the night.

Platoons have been also busy with some simple Map Reading. The knowledge of many individuals was appallingly low but we will see the results of the training in the Battalion Map Reading competition now taking place. In this competition good stamina besides good map reading means much.

Fire risk has been high both in and out of camp. Quick action by the guard one night at Gibraltar Camp saved Mohammed Hussein's canteen tent and extensive damage was averted. Considerable importance is attached to preventing and if necessary fighting forest fires, and the company has been practising the drills, and cutting traces. This may well be severely tested at Paphos where the fire risk is high in the forest area.

Prior to moving to Polemidhia the Corporals' Club spent Whit-Monday up at Kyrenia, without doubt the most attractive town from all respects on the island; their only casualty in an excellent day was one unfortunate with an ulcer, for which alcohol was no cure. To our dismay the C.S.M. won eight pounds in a company raffle. In spite of our hope that the second-in-command could fix the draw, the Sergeants' Mess again picked the winning ticket the following week, with Sergeant Bradfield taking ten pounds. Latterly to make it all square Private Gore won a handsome new Philips wireless. The company account on each occasion made no more than a few shillings.

Efforts were made before our departure to control and destroy some of the wild dogs, which roamed the camp and the town. One or two dogs have been officially licensed and at last seem to be losing their wilder characteristics.

Congratulations to the company and in particular Lance-Corporal Rennel and Privates Whiston and Bargery, the arms storemen, on gaining an excellent report on the quarterly Arms Inspection by a visiting R.E.M.E. team.

The Queen's Birthday Parade on 13th June was a notable success for 'B' and 'C' Companies who represented the Battalion; we were honoured to fire the 'feu de joie', which was most effective. All those watching were very impressed by the excellent marching and turnout of the companies' guards. Certainly everyone pulled out all the stops to make this final Birthday Parade a memorable one.

The married families were out by this time and it was refreshing for all, to see familiar faces in summer dresses at the Parade; they all seem to be settling down well in

their hirings. Corporals Hilling, Knight and Collihole can be seen leaving for lunch when most of us are taking our coffee break.

Some old faces have left the company. The list looks interesting: Privates Tidball and Turner 87 acquired advance information on two vacancies as grooms at the Episkopi Saddle Club, and no doubt they will soon graduate to the polo field too. Private Nias has recently left for the U.K. to get married (first) and become a batman (second) at the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion at Plymouth. He believed he was due for release last May but on checking with records a day before his release it was discovered he was obliged to serve a further six years so perhaps he deserves a change of fortune. In the opinion of many, Private Martin has the pick of most jobs; he has been the C-in-C's boatman at Episkopi since arriving on the island. We only see him when the company needs a good goalkeeper.

Lance-Corporal Richards is shortly to take up a job on the House Staff of Maj.-Gen. P. Gleadell in England. Lance-Corporal Hall, the company clerk, went on release in May and it was good to see him hitch-hiking his way home across Europe; the Navy helped and lifted him to Malta on H.M.S. *Thankerton*, a minesweeper on coastal patrol here; 2nd Lieut. Tony Donne also went on leave in this way and so we are told, experienced a terrific buffeting on high seas. The second-in-command has been in Nicosia for the Island Tournament—a ten-day affair in exceptional heat. Major Lynch has put in many sailing hours in the Bay at Ladies Mile, both racing and instructing. He will remember his first pupil out here for sometime, a Private Gibbings who in an enthusiastic mood, put his instructor in the drink three times in as many minutes.

There are many attractive leave schemes to Middle East Countries. 2nd Lieut. Martin King spent a week in Ankara, but we have heard very little about it. Privates Donaghue, Brooking, May, Harvey and Treleven have just returned after a fortnight at the N.A.A.F.I. run Golden Sands Leave Centre at Famagusta. They seem to have left no stones unturned—a report to this effect lies in the in-tray awaiting investigation. 'Golden Sands' is no exaggeration—everyone marvels at its magnificent golden sands and fine swimming.

The company gave a Dance in June which proved a great success. This took place in the other ranks dining hall, which looked very different, strewn with flags, bunting and plants and made an excellent dance hall. Music in inimitable style was provided by 'The Drumbeats' (R.S.M. Coombe, C.Q.M.S. Foster, Drum Major Young and Sgt Deane). It took an hour or so to persuade everyone to get on the floor, but after a drink or two and further persuasion from the M.C., R.Q.M.S. Nunn, the floor filled up. Girls were sought from all corners of Episkopi Garrison and Limassol and continued to arrive at the dance until five minutes to midnight and seemed to go home satisfied. They were in firm hands with Private Headley, the company runner, both on and off the floor, and Privates Turner and Robbins put them through some unusual dancing on the floor.

We move to Paphos in July for six weeks to replace the Durham Light Infantry who return to the U.K. This will prove an enjoyable change as detachment life seems to suit the company very well. We will be going without Sergeant Solman who goes as P.S.I. to the T.A. at Poole. At some risk to us all we hope to teach him to drive before he leaves. He has been filling the C.S.M.'s role for the last eight weeks and has always kept the company office in good spirits; we all wish him the best of luck and know the 'Shipwrights' will be happy to see him again. Also leaving us is C.Q.M.S. Allen, off to the Trucial Oman Scouts after some U.K. leave. Since joining the company

in February he has had to cope with one move after another; it is fortunate his system is so efficient as to give him time to learn Arabic and to train a stray hound into a promising gun-dog. With his knowledge of Urdu he has proved a useful interpreter and has saved the company pounds.

We welcome Sergeant McNaught to the company. He has come to us from R.M.A. Sandhurst, where as C.Q.M.S. he trained several of our recently joined officers. Lastly congratulations to 2nd Lieut. Tim Slater who within days, after his arrival back in U.K. for release, announced his engagement.

Up till now the company is finding life in Cyprus very enjoyable and there seems no reason why this should not remain so.

'C' Company

Events in the last quarter have been by no means spectacular and with the emergency now a matter for the history books, 'C' Company has settled down to the peaceful life.

A great thinning out has taken place and we have lost all our friends among the signallers, drivers and cooks, who have returned to H.Q. Company. Only Ridout remains as the Company Commander's driver—at least that is what he does between cricket matches.

The officers remain the same except that we welcome 2nd Lieut. Hurst. This officer's arrival was celebrated with a fine bonfire at Asgata mine when 9 Platoon saw the buildings, their rifles, ammunition, magazines, Sergeant Cummings' kit and some mutton scotch style go up in smoke. The instigator of this welcome has, at the time of writing, fifty-nine days to do before returning to Glasgow. We wish him and the Glasgow fire brigade the very best of luck.

Before this issue is published we expect however, to have changed all the officers, Captain Lovejoy hands over to Major Smith and Lieut. Willes disappears to the depot. Lieut. Lewis and Lieut. Grey are both thinking in terms of civilian life—although the former is to go back into uniform—as a copper (colonial type).

Marching in one form or another has occupied much of our time recently; we started with the Queen's Birthday Parade on 13th June. This was a great success and we are glad to report that the company received congratulations from a number of spectators. Even the rear rank was in step, so we must have been good.

Then there was the three-day march through the Paphos forest, which as the mountain crow flies was over forty miles of mountains, but with hills, doubtful tracks, ravines, bushes, trees and expensive errors on our maps eventually measured twice as much. At one stage it was only the circling buzzards which showed where the late-comers were. Rumour had it that some parties were late at the R.V.s in an attempt to avoid the C.S.M. who was giving his impression of Florence Nightingale. Actually with the needle poised and the plaster ready, he resembled Count Dracula to most people. Still he kept most people on the road, if only to get away.

Preparations are now in hand for more marching, this time ceremonial again, because on 14th July the Company takes over the Government House Guard. This will be the first time for many of our members that we shall have been in the island capital so we look forward to this job with interest.

In closing we would remind old members that our address is B.F.P.O. 53, and we would like to hear how they are getting along. We wish them all the very best of good fortune wherever they may be.



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'D' Company

The company is stationed at Pissouri Jetty and since the Battalion moved twenty-five miles away to Limassol, we are even more isolated than before. It has been pleasant down here during the summer as there has been a permanent sea breeze and we are fortunate in being housed in stone buildings, which are considerably cooler than tents.

A large number of improvements have been made around the camp, which is now so comfortable that we even have one officer who preferred to spend his leave at Pissouri Jetty rather than in the fleshpots of Beirut, Kyrenia or Istanbul. C.S.M. Elgie who has recently left us for civilian life has been mainly responsible for the improvements in the conditions of the camp, ably assisted by Private Cowell, who for his good work has now been promoted Acting Lance-Corporal.

The company has spent many enjoyable, but fruitless hours, building rafts and diving boards which somehow only to seem to last for a couple of days. This work has been directed by Private Milne, our Company Clerk, from Torquay.

Our company entertainments have included weekly film shows, socials and Tombola sessions, an outing which took us to the top of Mount Olympus, and a dance cum barbecue which is being organized by the Regular Soldiers.

Since the publication of the last notes, the Regular Soldiers' Cadre course has finished. Apart from the more normal training, of a rifleman, these soldiers were given an insight into the three support weapons, driving and signalling. We have not attempted to make them experts at any one of these things, but we have tried to give them a basic knowledge of the main aspects of battalion life. Broadly speaking, if in a dire emergency there is an M.M.G. or a vehicle, etc. not manned, any regular soldier who has done the course should be able to take over. Also during this Cadre they have been encouraged to show their powers of leadership, as we have made a point of giving them responsibility.

As a climax to their training they will be going to North Africa for fourteen days to do some field firing in the desert near Benghazi. While they are over there they will naturally visit some of the more interesting places of military and historic importance in Barce, Apollonia and Giovanni-Bertha.

Amongst arrivals during this period, we welcomed Capt. J. W. Tong, our new Company Commander, Sergeant Thacker, who joined us from the Small Arms School, Hythe, and Privates Parminter and Mitchell, new arrivals to the Battalion.

We also welcome to the company, the 'Gent'. Now the 'Gent' is a pig, not a boar as you might think but a sow. Under the watchful eye of Private Forder, she has grown from a little eight-week-old to a 'gurt sow' of a score and a half, in two months.

We have said good-bye to C.S.M. Elgie, and welcome C.S.M. Burgoyne who takes his place. We are sorry to lose Private Tithecott, who maintains that civilian life holds more for him than the Army. We must also welcome to the company, the wives of Corporal Winsor, Privates Herd and Bean and we hope to see Mrs Sims within the next fortnight. Talking of wives, we are very pleased to record the wedding of Mr and Mrs Godbeer, which took place on 4th July at St Nicholas Church, Polemidhia.

She was given away by the Company Commander, and the Battalion Padre, the Rev. Powe officiated. The service and reception was attended by the majority of the company who presented a table lighter to the couple. The honeymoon was spent in Troodos.

Support Company

We are getting well into shape now in our Support rôle, with Lieut. Baxter and Sergeant Gordon M.M.G.s, Lieut. Bullocke and Sergeants Course and Hale Mortars, Lieut. Hewitt and Sergeant Randall Anti-Tank (plus 2nd Lieut. Donne Anti-Tank and 2nd Lieut. Hill M.M.G. while the Platoon Commanders are on courses) and our latest addition, the Assault Pioneers under Sergeant Riggs [Yes, he's got a beard true to tradition and its shaping up very well indeed]. As before, the company is commanded by Major J. P. Randle, M.C., with, in the company office, C.S.M. Lambie, Lance-Corporal Boulden and Private Light continuing to baffle with bags of paper. In the stores Colour-Sergeant Rogers, Corporal Scott and Private Hamilton are busy as ever while Colour-Sergeant Granger, recently arrived, is quickly picking up 'Q' delaying tactics and learning how to make a quick three-point landing after a Q.M.'s conference.

The company was well represented in the Battalion athletics team by Capt. Chiswell, Lieuts Bullocke, Reid, Hewitt, Baxter, Corporal May and Private Coombes. In the Battalion shooting team we had C.S.M. Lambie, Sergeant Course, Corporal Cann and Private Page.

In May we moved from Episkopi to Limassol and settled down to normal life of guards, fatigues and training of all descriptions. All Platoons have had a fair amount of firing and are secretly praying for live targets to prove their worth; each platoon spent a week by the sea at Pissouri Jetty, helping to broaden the knowledge of the Regular Soldiers' Cadre.

Our next event of interest was the company march from the south to the north coast of the island over the Troodos mountains; this gave a break from the Support Weapons Training and, enabled everyone to see more of the island, albeit under our own steam. Some of the scenery was beautiful, though one C.S.M. was heard to remark that all he saw was a cloud of dust and the heels of the Company Commander disappearing ahead. All honour to those who completed the march. Our route was via Korphi/Kapilio (the area of earlier 'B' Company operations where Sergeant Randall learnt to paint out EOKA signs in contrasting colours), Mesapotomos Monastery to Troodos, where we lost to the Black Watch at soccer, then on to Kykko Monastery, Limniti sawmills and down to the sea again at Zeros, where we had a day's rest and plenty of swimming, before the journey by transport back to Limassol. Thanks to the 'Q' department the food was good and without doubt added to the success of the march. All drivers deserve a pat on the back, particularly Private Johnson (3-ton), for the skilful handling of the vehicles along a narrow mountainous track with at times a drop of many hundreds of feet into the valley below.

The officers took to the mountainous country like Eagles and were to be seen at dusk settling to roost on the higher rocks in order of seniority, with the Company Commander, much to Private Page's 'delight', always on the highest point. Whilst at Troodos old Dorset graves in the Anglican church were visited, namely Corporal Mead W. (July 1886), Private Sparshott (July 1886) and we would like to learn some of the history of the Dorsets at that time.

[In 1886 1st Dorset were engaged on operations in the Nile Valley. During May of that year a party of 268 sick men and boys were evacuated to Cyprus. Cpl Mead and Pte Sparshott must have been two men who failed to recover from a period of rehabilitation at Troodos. The original intention was that the whole Battalion was to be sent to Cyprus to recover from the effect of a sickly season by the Nile. Instead they were sent home to Portland where, to quote from the official record: "... the

battalion, in a very short time, attained a high degree of good health and physique, in the invigorating climate of that exposed spot, and few would have recognized the men as the ones who had spent such a miserable existence up the Nile, but a few months before . . .—EDITOR.]

Thanks to the Anti-Tank Platoon we won the Battalion Map Reading Competition. They have now stolen the M.M.G.'s thunder, who during April won the Sarah Sands Gallop. Out of thirteen Platoons in the Map Reading we had three in the first eight, the Mortar Platoon being third and M.M.G. Platoon eighth. All the N.C.O.s of the Company having done two days Air Portability Course, have extended their vocabulary and are now using words like 'C of G', 'Standard load', 'Chalk Number', and so on. It would be interesting to know what 2nd Lieut. Donne said to the Military Policeman who asked him to produce his Identity Card while on the beach dressed only in swimming trunks.

A very excellent company dance was held at Waterloo Camp in April; Capt. Chiswell and his committee worked like beavers to make arrangements and arrange for girls. Some of our more lethargic members suddenly came to life and surprised everyone with their activity on and off the dance floor. We hope to have another dance early in September.

We bid farewell to the M.M.G. Platoon 'old sweats', Privates Rowe, Dewhirst, Heard, Lance-Corporal Salter, Privates Haycox, Cox, Dyer, Marriott and wish them all good fortune.

To conclude we are looking forward to welcoming back anybody who has been demobbed and misses the boys. We are still here and you'll be very welcome back with the specialists, spelt with a capital 'S'.

WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

Never has Limassol Docks seen a more eager group of faces than on 10th June. The great day had arrived! Somewhere beyond the thick blanket of fog lay the *Devonshire* loaded with its precious cargo of families. Within a very short period, the *Devonshire* was being invaded by a hoard of Mess Members and happy reunions were taking place. Of course some members had already been reunited a few days earlier when their families had arrived by air but the majority came on the 10th. One or two new arrivals are still waiting for their wives to arrive, but it will only be a matter of weeks before they are here, and any member arriving from the U.K. now can be assured that their families can be with them in a very short space of time.

The proposed move from Episkopi to Limassol, mentioned in our last notes is now over, but we are faced with yet another move within the next few months to the Camp at present held by 37th Field Regiment, Royal Engineers, which fortunately is in our present area.

Preparations are now on the way for the Salamanca Ball which will take place on 25th July. It has also been decided that the Mess will give a Sarah Sands Ball in November.

A distinguished old soldier to leave the Battalion for civilian life during this quarter is C.S.M. Elgie, M.M., B.E.M. He will be a great loss to the Mess and will be remembered for years to come. Sergeant Lucas is another who has left us for civilian life whilst Sergeant Wilkinson has been posted to the T.A. All members wish them the best of luck in their new appointments.

We have also had several new arrivals: Colour-Sergeant Granger, Sergeants McNaught, Thacker, Evans and Taylor, who have already settled down and have got their knees brown.

Our congratulations go to Staff-Sergeant Prime and Sergeant Richards, both of the R.A.P.C., on their fine and several performances with the Battalion Athletics Team. Well done! Also it would be wrong not to mention the outstanding performances of the Mess Tug-o'-War Team; well chaps, you did look pretty good when you marched round the track carrying all that beer before you, even though you only had one pull!

One final thing and that's to ex-Members of the Mess. You all enjoyed your service and love to talk over the 'good old times' and, when you think seriously about it, you often wish you were serving again. An encouraging word from any one of you to the local youths would do much to encourage the potential recruit. Do see what you can do about it in this matter as much as you possibly can. You, the ones who have served and enjoyed it, can do more than any Recruiting Poster to help the Regiment to get its men.

SPORTS NOTES

Association Football

The tail-end of the season saw a well deserved victory by the Signal Platoon in the finals of the Western Area Inter-Platoon Football Competition against 5 Platoon, 1st Durham Light Infantry, by one goal to nil.

Tennis

2nd Lieut. Spink entered the Cyprus Open Lawn Tennis Championships in Nicosia and succeeded in reaching the final of the Men's Singles where he was narrowly beaten by the local Turkish Champion.

In the Western Area Services Tennis Tournament in Episkopi, 2nd Lieut. Spink won the Men's Singles. In the same tournament, Major Freeland and 2nd Lieut. Spink reached the semi-finals only to scratch because of Major Freeland's sudden departure to the United Kingdom on temporary duty.

Shooting

The Battalion came second in the Western Area Rifle Meeting held at Polemidhia on 1st and 2nd May, where we won the S.M.G., Pistol and Falling Plate (one team) Matches and were second in the Rifle Match and Falling Plate (another team). We were runners-up to the 1st Green Jackets in the Unit Championships.

Congratulations go to C.S.M. Lamble, Support Company, for becoming the best W.O./Sgt in the S.M.G. shoot and to Private Bain, 'C' Company, for being third in the General Overall Match and Runner-up in the Young Soldiers' Competition.

Cricket

Matting wickets and dust—that is the formula for cricket in Cyprus; but this has proved no damper to the Battalion cricket team who have won six out of eight matches by a comfortable margin. At the time of going to press we have reached the final of the Western Area Knock-out Competition. Private Smallbone and 2nd Lieut. Lewis have been scoring consistently, and to a lesser extent Privates Rideout and Floyd. The bowling is varied with a five-prong attack from Private Corbin (slow left-arm), with Major Freeland and Private Stephens usually opening and supported by 2nd Lieuts Lewis and King.

Within the Battalion, cricket has been much limited owing to only one pitch being available in Limassol.

Nevertheless the Company Competition is now underway—the favourites being 'C' Company, who field six of the Battalion team. The ultimate hope is of course to win the all-island Major Units Competition.

RESULTS

Played 8. Won 6. Lost 2.

R.A.F., Akrotiri, 246 for 7 dec. Bn 117.
G.H.Q., M.E.L.F., 101 (2nd Lieut. Lewis 6 for 45).
Bn 103 for 5 (Pte Smallbone 33).
H.M.S. 'Defender' 87 (Corbin 4 for 9). Bn 123 (Pte Rideout 31).
3rd G.H.Q. Signals 111 (Corbin 4 for 36). Bn 112 for 2 (Pte Smallbone 61).
H.M.S. 'Defender' 37 (Corbin 6 for 15). Bn 125.
Black Watch 121 (Stephens 5 for 38). Bn 202 for 8 dec. (2nd Lieut. Lewis 45).
1st Royal West Kent 123 for 7. Bn 121 (2nd Lieut. Lewis 26).
37th Field Engineer Regt 52 (2nd Lieut. Lewis 5 for 3). Bn 53 for 4.

Athletics

After last year's triumphs in Germany culminating with the Battalion Team competing in the Army Inter-Unit Team Athletics Championship at Aldershot, 1st Devon & Dorset continued to show its athletic ability in Cyprus.

In November 1958 the Battalion embarked from Southampton for active service in Cyprus. With prior knowledge of the general state of tension that existed upon this island and of the tasks with which the Battalion was going to be confronted, participation in athletic competitions, or indeed in any other form of sport seemed very unlikely—however, due to the lessening of tension in the early months of 1959, sporting activities were again encouraged by the Director of Operations and with no less than twenty-seven Major Units upon the island (which included 2nd Battalion Parachute Regiment and our old rivals from Aldershot, the 1st Battalion The Black Watch) athletics was going to prove the Major Competition.

Preliminary meetings and the Inter-Unit Finals were all to be held in May, so the problem now facing the Battalion was the selection and building of a team. It should be mentioned that up to now the Battalion was employed in various parts of the Island on Company and Platoon detachments, and thus it was extremely difficult to organize any form of team, since some of the potential athletes were still employed with Internal Security duties. Many of last year's stalwarts had left the service or disappeared to other appointments, and so the old problem arose of finding the competitors for the events.

On 17th and 18th April, after previous attempts failed, a Battalion Athletic Meeting took place on the athletic track in Polemidhia; the meeting proved a great success; not only was new material discovered, but the remainder of the previous year's team showed that they were running and jumping better than ever—and without any training.

The Battalion Meeting, aimed essentially at the discovery of new material, took the form of an individual championship. Winning competitors scoring both points for themselves for the Individual Championship Trophy, and points for their companies for the Inter-Company Trophy—The Lieut. Colonel O. G. W. White Baton.

Heats were run off on 17th April, each company, terribly athletically minded, submitting almost every member of the company for some event or other, with the result that most heats resembled a mass start!

Saturday, 18th, saw the finals, when with the exception of the Half-Mile, Mile and Three Miles, each event was narrowed down to six competitors. Each and every event was most keenly contested and a great struggle ensued for the Individual and Company Trophy. There were many highlights during the day's proceedings—in particular the Hammer where Private Jackson of the Signal Platoon astounded everyone with an outstanding throw of 128 feet; mention should also be made here of Private Scriven (A), who although finishing third in the Battalion meeting with a throw of 85 feet, steadily improved in subsequent competition, and eventually threw 115 feet.

The Three Miles proved the most exhausting race of the day, twelve gruelling laps on a bone-hard track, and under a boiling hot sun. The race was eventually won by Private Dunford (Signal Platoon) closely pursued by Staff-Sergeant Prime (Pay Office) and Private Caddy (Signal Platoon).

The 880 Yards was won by Private Conquest (B) after a breathtaking tussle with two of the most experienced and capable half-milers on the island, Sergeant Richards, R.A.P.C., and Capt. Chiswell (S.P.).

Two fine doubles were achieved during the day: Lieut. Bullocke (S) winning the Triple Jump and 440 Yards and Lieut Cobb (B) winning both the 100 Yards and 220 Yards. The Mile was won by Capt. Chiswell (S) who was closely followed by Sergeant Richards, R.A.P.C. and Private Ford (B).

Companies and individuals fought desperately for points throughout the day, and on the close of the meeting the Inter-Company Trophy was awarded to the inevitable H.Q. Company, 142 points, followed by Support Company, 116 points, and 'B' Company, 106 points.

The Victor Ludorum was awarded to Lieut. Bullocke (S) 8 points, who in a very keen struggle just beat Lieut. Cobb and 2nd Lieut. Slater who both tied with 7 points.

With the results of the meeting a Battalion team soon took shape, although time and facilities for training were still going to prove a problem; however the enthusiasm was there. Part of the M.T. yard in Episkopi was dug up and made into a jumping pit; and in fact similar pits appeared behind various police stations where 1st Devon & Dorset were employed. Athletes forsook rifles and bayonets and instead used hammers and javelins as their personal weapons.

The first competition the Battalion entered was the Episkopi Cantonment Sports Meeting on 1st May. Here were represented all three Services. In previous years the R.A.F. had always carried off the Championship Trophy without any difficulty, but 1st Devon & Dorset had other ideas.

The green athletic vest of the Battalion proved prominent throughout the day, much to the pleasure of the spectators, who had seen the R.A.F. dominate the arena so frequently in the past.

The prize giving after the meeting became very much a Regimental concern, for with the exception of the Three Miles and Medley Relay, the Battalion won all other events. Throughout the meeting all Battalion competitors achieved distinction and it would be difficult to single any particular person out. Yet the highlight of the day from the Battalion point of view was the discus throwing of the Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel Wheatley. The Colonel, an outstanding athlete in his subaltern days, still showed he was someone to reckon with in field events. However, due to a troublesome Achilles tendon, sustained through hockey, the Commanding Officer selected the discus as his event, which indeed he made his own by consistent good throwing.



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Encouraged by its overwhelming success the Battalion team then competed in the Western Area Athletic Finals at Polemidhia; this meeting served as an eliminator to all those Major Units stationed in Western area, the winning team going forward to Army Inter-Unit Finals in Nicosia. Without appearing too pompous the meeting proved a repetition of the Episkopi Meeting, although the opposition included 1st Green Jackets and the 37th Field Engineers Regt, both strong athletic units. The 'West Countrymen', as we now were affectionately named, swept the board, winning all events with the exception of the 440 Yards Relay, and Three Miles. Again it would be too difficult to single out any particular performer, especially as the meeting was a team event and track events taking the form of a relay, yet mention should be made of the One Mile relay team (Lieut. Bullocke, Lieut. Baxter, Pte Speir, Pte Foley) and the Two Miles relay team (Capt. Chiswell, Sgt Richards, Pte Conquest, L.-Cpl Lippiett); so strong were they in their running that both teams finished over one hundred yards ahead of their nearest rivals. Mention should also be made of 2nd Lieut. Turrall who through no fault of his own, is the proud possessor of a long thin body, and was listed as a high jumper. Having never cleared five feet before in his life, he astounded everyone by clearing 5 ft 3 ins, and later cleared 5 ft 5 ins—well done, Dickie! So at the conclusion of the meeting the Battalion added yet another Trophy to its collection, and more important had won its way through to the Army Inter-Unit Finals in Nicosia.

One week only, separated the Western Area meeting and the Army Finals, but despite our convincing wins, much improvement was required by the relay teams in the baton changing, and more practice in technique for the field competitors. The need for more training was really brought home, when the winners of the other Cyprus area finals were announced. Yes, to be sure, for there again on the field of battle we were to meet our old rivals the 1st Battalion The Black Watch; they, together with 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and the 1st Battalion Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt, were to be the opponents in the Army Finals. Little attention was paid to the latter two Battalions, 1st Black Watch was our only concern and to beat them was our first task.

The Battalion Team arrived in Nicosia the day before the finals, in order to save ourselves the tiresome task of travelling on the day of the competition, and to allow a check of the track before the competition. The draw took place on the day prior to the competition; Lieut. Cobb, team captain, found drawing for lanes more nerve-racking than actual competition. For once the draw favoured the Battalion, giving them in most instances an inside lane.

The following day battle commenced; the Pole Vault and Three Miles were the first two events. From the start it became very obvious that this meeting was not going to be a walk-over for any team; too much was at stake and competition was so high that by the end of the morning's events all four teams were level pegging, with 12½ points each. The afternoon promised to be even a more exciting struggle, and indeed it did, and through sheer guts and stamina 1st Devon & Dorset pressed home. By inches green vests shot first over the finishing tape, and gradually the points and the scoreboard began

to tally up. Without exception each event brought spectators to their feet, and with yet another outstanding victory by the One Mile Relay Team in the final event the 1st Battalion Devonshire & Dorset Regiment were acclaimed Cyprus Army Champions, beating into second place the 1st Battalion Black Watch by 96 points to 64. The Grand Challenge Cup and prizes were presented to the team by Lady Foot, wife of the Governor, Sir Hugh Foot. The Battalion's success was loudly acclaimed by the Governor and his wife, Devonians both.

The Battalion, with the exception of the Three Miles, won all the track events, and with the exception of the Discus and High Jump won all Field events.

The highlight of the meeting was undoubtedly the Hammer event in which the two competitors from the Black Watch have together almost shattered the existing Army record; yet even they had to be content to take second place to the Battalion pair, Private Jackson and Private Scriven, who, excelled to win the event for the Battalion with 127 feet and 115 feet respectively.

Next event upon the Athletic Calendar was the Army Individual Championships, but owing to a number of commitments the Battalion were only able to forward three competitors. However, these proved creditable representatives of the Battalion.

Lieut. Bullocke won the 440 Yards Hurdles and came second in the 120 Yards Hurdles; Private Jackson finished fifth in the Hammer and Private Scriven finished ninth in the Hammer.

May 30th heralded the Inter-Services match against the R.A.F. The Battalion provided six members of the Army Team and were all later awarded their Army (Cyprus) Colours.

Lieut. Bullocke, Lieut. Cobb, 2nd Lieut. King, Private Jackson, Corporal Ralfs, Private Turner.

For the second year in successions the Battalion improved its athletic ability and now awaits the next season.

Finally we have to say good-bye to some of our old stalwarts, in particular to 2nd Lieuts Slater and King, who continually excelled in their particular events and always formed a solid and reliable nucleus to the team.

BATTALION TEAM

4 x 110 Yards.—Lieut. Cobb 2nd Lieut. King, Cpl Ralfs, Pte Turner.

4 x 220 Yards.—Lieut. Cobb, 2nd Lieut. King, 2nd Lieut. Slater, Pte Turner.

4 x 440 Yards.—Lieut. Bullocke, Lieut. Baxter, Pte Speir, Pte Foley.

4 x 880 Yards.—Capt. Chiswell, Sgt Richards, L.-Cpl Lippiett, Pte Conquest.

Mile.—Capt. Chiswell, Sgt Richards, Pte Dunford, Pte Conquest.

Three Miles.—S.-Sgt Prime, Pte Dunford, Pte Pluck, Pte Caddy.

4 x 120 Yards Hurdles.—Lieut. Bullocke, 2nd Lieut. Slater, 2nd Lieut. Turrall, Cpl Ralfs.

Shot.—Cpls May, Gove.

High Jump.—2nd Lieut. Turrall, Pte Jackson.

Long Jump.—2nd Lieut. Slater, 2nd Lieut. King.

Discus.—Lieut.-Colonel Wheatley, Cpl May.

Javelin.—2nd Lieut. Hewitt, Pte Coombes.

Hammer.—Pte Jackson, Pte Scriven.

Pole Vault.—Lieut Bullocke, Pte Thake.

THE DEVONSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

(THE FIRST RIFLE VOLUNTEERS)

ANNUAL CAMP 1959, WEYMOUTH

Exercise 'Drake's Drum'

The Order rang out, 'Ramp down—troops out' and over 100 men of the Devons (T.A.) raced ashore to the beaches of Arne for the climax of this year's sunshine camp in Dorset—an assault landing from Royal Marine L.C.A.s.

Some were lucky and landed dry. Others had to wade ashore after jumping waist-deep into water. But whether wet or dry the Devon Territorials in their battle kit quickly cleared the beaches and swarmed up a thirty foot high cliff and moved into the heathland around the little village of Arne across from Poole harbour.

The landing could not have gone smoother and from the Commandant of the Joint Services School of Amphibious Warfare at Poole, Brig. H. C. Ries, came this fully-meant compliment.

'The dash and enthusiasm of the 4th Devons was quite first class', he said. 'It was most impressive.'

The landing was the start of Exercise Drake's Drum which began on the afternoon of 3rd June and continued throughout the night until 6.30 the following morning. It involved sending a raiding force commanded by Major Kenneth Wilkinson, from Ilfracombe, to the Arne peninsula to find British agents who had been working in 'enemy' territory.

The force split up into four patrols which laid up in woodlands until it was dark. The patrols were commanded by Capt. Michael Drake (Crediton), Capt. Alan Butt (Tiverton), Lieut. David Ashley (a former parachutist) from Exmouth, and Lieut. Clifford Coxe from Budleigh Salterton.

There was no moon that night for the move across six miles of heathland which contained a mass of cross tracks and marshland. But all the agents were picked up on time.

With this phase over, the second—a nine mile march to Studland Bay—began. Altogether some of the patrols covered between twelve and fifteen miles and although tired and footsore, not one Territorial dropped out.

It was a tough exercise for men who had left offices and work-benches for fourteen days training which had not included any preliminary foot-hardening marches.

The Devon's commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel Hugh Clifford, was impressed with the battalion that he was commanding for the first time at camp.

'The men really put some enthusiasm into this exercise and the maintained a wonderful cheerful spirit. One man told me that even before he started the exercise he had blisters on his feet and he went on the march without a grumble.'

Support Company Firing

While Exercise Drake's Drum was going on, 'S' Company from Plymouth were firing their medium machine guns, three-inch mortars and anti-tank guns at Lulworth and the doctor, Capt. Gerald Bigwood, showed his marksmanship with a seventeen-pounder by scoring three knock-out shots with three rounds.

The padre, the Rev. Michael Ingram, was not to be outdone. He went on the range with a Bren gun and got a score of 54 out of a possible 60.

The Machine Gun Platoon under Capt. Peter Strickland—a banker for fifty weeks in the year—laid on their own

night scheme, Exercise Two Taps. Sgt Paul Xerri and a party laid out positions with tape and marking posts for a night shoot.

Everything seemed set but when the twenty-five machine gunners moved up just after midnight they found tapes and posts gone. In the area was a herd of cows and the men were just in time to see the last pieces of tape being chewed up. Still, the exercise went on, if indeed with a certain amount of chuckling.

Cadre Training

We went to Camp at Chickerell, near Weymouth, 286 strong. It was a Cadre Camp with the recruits, trained soldiers, N.C.O.s and specialists of H.Q. and Support Company carrying out separate training—the idea was to provide attractive training in pleasant surroundings.

Camp Visits

The Battalion visited the H.Q., Royal Armoured Corps, at Bovington and the Gunnery Wing at Lulworth on Wednesday, 27th May. We watched Centurions firing, rode on them and visited the Museum. Everyone enjoyed an interesting and worthwhile day.

The Royal Navy at Portland very kindly arranged for small parties to spend the day in frigates and submarines. The parties on the submarines were submerged for over eight hours whilst their companions aboard the frigates saw the latest weapons the Royal Navy possesses for killing submarines with 'homing' depth charges.

Drum Head Service

Our new padre, the Rev. M. I. Ingram, conducted a service for us on the middle Sunday. The service was followed by a presentation of trophies by our Brigade Commander, Brig. J. E. S. Stone, C.B.E. The prize winners were:

130 Bde First Aid Competition.—'B' Coy Team: Cpls Veale, Clarke, Harry, Pockett, L.-Cpl McKay.

Exeter Cup.—Support Company.

Barum Cup.—Major D. S. Phillips (Shooting Officer).

130 Bde Shooting Competition.—

P.S.I's Cup: Sgt Alderman.

Cpls and Ptes Cup: Cpl Hooper.

Young Soldiers' Cup: Pte Widdicombe.

Falkner Cup.—'D' Coy.

Recruiting Cups.—

Champion Recruiter: Cpl Cole.

Inter-Coy Challenge Cup: 'D' Coy.

Sgts Mess Challenge Cup: H.Q. Coy.

T.A. Efficiency Medal.—Sgt Lonton.

Lord Lieutenant's Certificate.—C.-Sgt Moates.

After the Prize Giving Brigadier Stone took the salute as the Battalion marched past.

This was followed by an event which was dreaded by those who had to organize it, a battalion photograph. It seems, that such a thing had not been attempted for many years. Thanks, however, to the expert organization of R.S.M. Pollard, everyone was in position in a matter of ten minutes. Unfortunately the photographer proved unequal to the occasion, and his photograph left much to be desired.

Devon Army Cadet Force Visit

On Sunday, 31st May, we were the hosts for the day to 100 boys from Army Cadet Force Contingents from all over Devon. After lunch they were taken in small groups on a quick tour of the camp. Amongst other things, they saw the Corps of Drums, Support Weapons, S.L. Rifle, demonstration of the Intelligence and Signals offices, and finally a realistic demonstration of the work of the Assault Pioneer Platoon arranged by Capt. F. K. Carter, T.D., from Plymouth. It is said that the realism produced 100 rather shaken boys and six broken mirrors, however . . . we heard indirectly they enjoyed their outing with us!

The Band and Corps of Drums

We congratulate Bandmaster V. Staddon and Drum Major G. Kerswill on the high standard achieved. The Band and Drums were very much appreciated by everyone, and even the 'Long Reveille', followed by a tour of the camp with the Corps of Drums was such a success that it had to be repeated! For many it was the first time that they had heard the 'Long Reveille'.

The Civic Authorities of Weymouth very kindly arranged for the Band and Drums to beat Retreat on the Front at the end of the first week. The Deputy Mayor, and the Town Clerk and Mrs Jones appeared much impressed as were many others. A soldier of the 4th Devons standing in the crowd was heard to remark to his girl friend, 'Us belongs to that there lot!' Many spectators took some convincing that we were Territorials.

Our Visitors

Colonel J. N. Oliver, C.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., our Honorary Colonel, was able to visit us on our first day. We were very pleased to see him and were very sorry that he was unable to remain with us longer.

Lieut.-General Sir Nigel Poett, G.O.C. Southern Command, visited us during the second week. Having inspected the Guard of Honour he was shown various aspects of our Cadre training.

Our Divisional Commander, Major-General H. A. Borradaile, visited us on our return from 'Exercise Drake's Drum'. Having attended the summing up of the exercise, he saw 'Beating Retreat' and a demonstration of the S.L. Rifle.

The Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General G. N. Wood, spent a night with us and next day saw the start of Exercise Drake's Drum after lunching with the Commandant of the Joint Services School of Amphibious Warfare.

The Officers' Mess

We were lucky in having a comfortable and extremely well organized officers' mess. Our thanks are due to Major F. G. Baker and his excellent staff. We survived two Guest Nights, one Dining-in Night and a Cocktail-Buffer lunch party. Our evening exercises were many and varied, ranging from exploration of Maiden Castle, near Dorchester, to a Max Miller variety show.

Conclusion

Undoubtedly the weather helped to make this a thoroughly successful camp. The thirteen out of fourteen days sunshine contrasts sharply with the camp at nearby Corfe Castle twenty years ago when for four nights the tents were under water.

But this year the camp was enjoyed by everyone. 'It has been one of the best camps both for training and recreation that I can remember', said C.S.M. Oscar Farmer from Newton Abbot. He should know. He has been a soldier for thirty years.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess Notes

The last issue of notes saw us feverishly preparing for Camp at Chickerell in Dorset. We all, with the exception of some C.-Sgts and employed staff, had a pretty hectic and hard life at camp. The weather was more than kind to us and the one time that rain threatened the instructions in Part One Orders that B.D. will be worn was more than enough to bring the sun blazing forth again.

The sight of the Company Sergeant-Majors' faces when they were asked each day to produce all those men for guard and duties was a sight for sore eyes. Anyway, the old adage that 'you can't get blood from a stone' has been completely gainsaid—this was done daily at camp by those finding fatigues and duties.

From the mess side our thanks are due to C.S.M. Oscar Farmer, our P.M.C., and to C.-Sgt Percy Rothschild Moates for his hard work on the messing side, especially his arrangement of the mess dinner, our first for a number of years. Sgt Timo Richardson acted as our caterer and kept his sense of humour in spite of those rushes at closing time. C.S.M. George Sherborne, C.-Sgt B. Lock and Sgt G. Beer, formed our entertainments committee whose Derby Draw was suspected as soon as the draw was made. However, it couldn't have been a fiddle (so they say) as they only took first prize themselves. The other prize went to C.-Sgt Jimmy Blencowe who also did sterling work as our treasurer, at least we hope he did. To the many who worked hard to try and make the mess life a success including cooks, waiters, washers up and all helpers, goes our unstinted praise for their excellent spirit in tackling a pretty thankless task and we do hope you'll join us again next year.

Our invitations to guests were restricted by the size of the mess, but we hope in future years to be lucky enough to get a mess more suitable to our size (numbers we mean) and also allow for invitations.

The lunch time visit from our officers and those of Bde H.Q. took quite a lot of organizing—how do you get 100 people in a room 30 ft by 15 ft? Anyway our plan worked and we trust with not too much discomfort to our guests.

We were very pleased to accept an invitation to the officers' mess on the last Friday of camp, at which there were some rather pointed remarks by the Doctor concerning those who ignored his advice to go on the Exercise to keep their waist lines down! Nevertheless an exceedingly good time was had by one and all and quite a few war stories were told once again.

It was a great pleasure to see a number of families arrive on the middle Sunday of camp, but we know quite a few members who are worried lest their visit has destroyed those 'hard work and rough it' stories for this and future camps.

One thing we should have mentioned earlier in these notes was how pleased we were to have Bde H.Q. members in mess with us, we hope their stay was a happy one. We should hate the Brigade Commander to find out who, when reminded that he had refused to join a raffle club when he left the Army, remarked 'Ah! but if you can't break a racket, join it'.

The potted sports convinced us more than ever that we are too good for the rest of the unit—we were not even asked to compete! The Basket Ball match against the Officers was called off by mutual consent, but should anyone be searching for the 'trophy' we can produce it.

For the second year running our darts champion is Sgt Frank Toulcher.

Mess life was as a whole pretty quiet as Weymouth was so close and had more to offer. One notable exception was the evening when H.M.S. *Grafton*, in the shape of four Petty Officers, appeared from nowhere. We would still like to know where they store the drink, as they did a very good turn in clearing up the stock completely. The sight of the Chief P.O. of robust proportions rendering 'Don't go down the mine, Daddy' at 1.30 a.m. was really worth seeing.

One thing we learnt at camp was that to open the bar at 2300 hrs would be much more sensible than closing it at that time—just ask the Band.

We must relate the story of the Champion Recruiter who, when presented with his £10 prize for getting three recruits in a couple of months had this conversation with the officer who presented the prize from his own pocket. *Recruiter*: 'Thank you, sir'.

Officer: 'Now, this was a very short period, let's make it twenty or thirty during the next year, eh?'

Recruiter (excitedly): 'Oh, thirty sir?'

Officer: 'No! I mean thirty recruits, Nor £30.'

The general opinion seems to be that this was our best camp ever. Immediately on our return from camp we had the Devon County Rifle meeting to attend to. This was the finest range day for years, the temperature was at least eighty degrees. Part of the organization for future years for this meeting has already been detailed by a certain coy commander. As requested, the Sergeants Mess will supply Ostermilk, Dried Milk, nappies and other babies' sundries at all future meetings.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Major G. G. Baker, M.B.E., on his well deserved award in the Birthday Honours List. We also congratulate Sgt Charles Lonton on his T.A. Efficiency Medal, readers will find him as our personality No. 2 elsewhere in these columns. We were pleased to see Sgt Mead on his visit to the camp.

May we also offer belated but sincere congratulations to the 1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment on the great athletics victory in Cyprus.

At the moment we are busy preparing to shoot against 4th Dorset (T.A.) where once again we shall meet R.S.M. Bill Harris, now R.S.M. of that Battalion. Bisley approaches and we hope to report in our next notes that the China Cup has come to Devon.

Our Mess Personality

No. 2. SERGEANT CHARLES LONTON

It was thirty-two years ago this month that Charles Lonton enlisted in the Devons at the old Depot in Higher Barracks, Exeter.

As a Recruit he quickly displayed a proficiency in work and a skill in games above the ordinary. Before completing his recruit training he had become recruit bantam weight champion of the Depot and also winner of the medal for small bore shooting.

For the next ten years he served with the 2nd Battalion moving with them from Plymouth to Bordon and later to Dover. In those days he not only represented the Battalion at Football, Hockey, Cricket and Boxing, but was also selected to play for the Army against the Royal Navy and Royal Marines at Home Park.

He specialized as a Regimental Signaller and became Signal Sergeant at Dover when both 2nd Devon and 2nd Dorset were serving in the same Brigade but lived on opposite Heights. When the 2nd Battalion sailed for Malta in 1938 Sgt Lonton accompanied them but very soon was on his way farther east with a draft to join the 1st Devons in India. Soon after his arrival in Rawalpindi he was promoted Colour-Sergeant.

In the early days of the war he had his share of active service with the remainder of 1st Devons on the North-West Frontier, during which time he was promoted C.S.M. and posted to H.Q. Company. Then in 1941 for the first time in fourteen years' soldiering he found himself posted from the Regiment to join the Movement Control Staff in Poona. Before long he was sent to Iraq, a much more active theatre. Movement Control was now to become Lonton's speciality, a department in which he was soon to achieve distinction, because on 25th February 1942 he was commissioned into the 4th Bombay Grenadiers of the Indian Army but remained seconded with Movement Control in Iraq and Persia.

Early in 1943 he started on a journey westwards that was to take him across the Syrian Deserts through Palestine and Egypt to Sicily and Italy. As a member of a beach organization he took part in the Assault Landings on the coast of Sicily and Italy and ended up in Naples.

In July 1944 he returned to India to become Officer Commanding No. 6 Section Movements, Lahore, graduating later to Staff Captain 'Q' at G.H.Q., New Delhi, where he remained until Partition.

After his return to England he left the Regular Army in which he had served with such distinction for twenty years and joined the Clerical Staff of the old 5th Bn The Devon Regiment (T.A.). After amalgamation of the two T.A. Battalions he continues to soldier on in the new The Devonshire Regiment (T.A.) in the same capacity.

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THE DORSET REGIMENT (T.A.)

4th BN THE DORSET REGIMENT (T.A.)

AFTER the date of the move to camp had been altered twice, the Battalion finally entrained, on Saturday evening 16th May, and arrived at Millom in Cumberland on Sunday morning after a comfortable overnight journey.

In spite of brilliant sunshine and encouraging remarks by the Advance Party everyone looked on the semi-demolished buildings and debris on the camp training site with the gravest suspicion wondering how a T.A. unit could possibly survive two weeks training at the Army School of Civil Defence. However at the end of two weeks, aided and abetted by good weather and trips to the Lakes and Blackpool, everyone agreed that the C.D. instruction was well carried out and most interesting and that Millom must go down in the records as a good camp.

Immediately after camp the Battalion shooting team began preparing itself for Bisley. On 21st June a match was fired against the Devons at Sydling and a most enjoyable day was spent by both teams. We managed to win this time and this match will be an annual event now. Next year we look forward to a return match in Devonshire. At Bisley the team fired well but not well enough to bring home any trophies. Cpl Wareham is to be congratulated on coming twenty-fifth in the T.A. 50, and being selected for the T.A. Revolver team. The Bren-gunners fired very well too.

At the beginning of July another visit was made to Alderney on H.M.S. *Warsash*. This year the exercise was called 'No Quells' and as a result the weather was fine and a smooth passage was enjoyed by all. As last year the visit was a great success and no doubt a detachment will visit the island again next year.

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

Battalion H.Q. is now installed in the former Officers' Mess block of the Depot Barracks and it is hoped that the new H.Q. Company T.A. Centre in the Gymnasium will be complete by November.

Finally, it is with regret that we say good-bye to Major James who has now moved to London, and on the regular staff to Major Freer-Smith, Sgt Pearce and Sgt Daniels. We wish them all the very best of luck for the future.

We are delighted to welcome back Major Elvery as Adjutant for the second time and welcome C.S.M. Marsh and Sgt Solman.

Whilst regretting the departure of R.S.M. Marquis after rather less than a year with us, we send him off with our heartiest congratulations on his being appointed to a short service commission which we hope will lead to a more permanent Quartermaster's commission in the Regiment. Lieutenant Marquis has left us for the 1st Battalion in Cyprus where he will become the second Quartermaster in Captain Duffield's vacancy. Having previously been R.Q.M.S. of the 1st Battalion, Marquis will be no stranger to his duties. Whilst he has been with this Battalion his prowess on the range has proved invaluable. Our loss is the 1st Battalion's gain and we anticipate hearing of the Devon and Dorsets successes in the Cyprus equivalent of a Bisley meeting.

[Lieutenant Ken Marquis joined the 1st Bn Dorset Regiment at Chiseldon in August 1952. He was one of the many N.C.O.s sent to bring the Battalion up to strength for the Far East. From the moment he joined the Battalion he completely identified himself with his

new Regiment. He did not have to wait long before he was promoted to Warrant Officer and by the time the Battalion returned home from that overseas tour he had been appointed R.Q.M.S. His promotion to W.O.1 followed last year when shortly after amalgamation he was posted as R.S.M. to the 4th Dorsets. We know that all his old friends of the old 1st Dorsets and the Royal Hampshires and indeed all the regiments in which he has served will join the Dorsets (T.A.) in their congratulations on his commission and wish him every good fortune for the future.—EDITOR.]

'H.Q.' COMPANY

Since our last notes several changes have taken place. First we welcome our new Company Commander, Major W. E. Lyndon Moore, who has come to us from Weymouth, his change of civilian employment having necessitated the move—however, we hear that the Annual Camp at Millom has stood him in good stead in 'civvy street', it doesn't often happen that way. We also welcome 2nd Lieut. Pritchard, a chip of that very active 'old block' our Second-in-Command. He is assistant R.S.O. and will have much to learn from his Company Commander who was at one time R.S.O. and who in conjunction with Lieut. Taylor should be able to teach him a thing or two. 2nd Lieut. Hudson is another who we welcome into the important post of Intelligence Officer. Last but by no means least, we welcome R.S.M. W. Harris from Exeter. We hope his stay with us will be long and happy. Annual Camp was enjoyed by all; the weather having much to do with the enjoyment. We are looking forward to going there again in four years' time (old Territorials never die!). The North seems to be a'calling, as we have just heard that we are off to Barry Buddon in Scotland from 5th to 18th June next year—not far from Dundee (where the cake comes from), any golfers? the links at Carnoustie are next door.

Recruiting seems to be on the up and up again. We welcome Cpl Bearne back to our ranks and no doubt the shooting team are glad to see him. He was in the team when we last won the China Cup. The latest recruits are Ptes Tandy, Freak, Gallagher and Jago, the last two are 'Laddies from Lancashire', who found Dorchester a bit quiet in the evenings, so came along to join our ranks.

The night that Dorchester is not quiet is on Mondays when the Drums have their drill night, and they are coming along well—we have six engagements to date, and hope to have more. Anyone with experience of drumming or bugling should contact the Adjutant or Drum Major Dear at Poole.

Congratulations to those old faithfuls, C.S.M.s Felton and Colmer, on their bars to their T.A. Medals—jolly good show. Their record for attendances must be unsurpassed.

A number of the Company took part in the assault landing on Alderney in July, and thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful week-end. Arch Saboteur F. Smith was not captured, but got a wetting when a big wave washed him and the driver out of the Gemini craft which was taking him off the Island—some very nice bathing in lovely conditions and even better drinking conditions (and the prices!) were enjoyed by all—the weather was like the South Seas. We think they will be queueing up to go next year.

Finally, we are looking forward to moving into our new H.Q., the Gymnasium in the Depot in October. A large amount of money has been spent on making it really good, and we shall have an opening celebration. It would help if everyone brought in a new recruit, so look lively you chaps.

'A' COMPANY

We all enjoyed our annual camp at Millom tremendously. 'A' Company had taken the precaution of having several very good lectures from the Civil Defence people of Sherborne and Dorchester before attending camp, so much of the basic training was familiar that Sgt Crane and Cpl Craft both achieved very good results on the Instructors Course at Millom.

We had to say good-bye to Sgt W. Pearce whose tour with us came to an end in August. We marked the occasion with a Company dinner at the Crown Hotel and the Company presented him with a silver salver. Many kind things were said about Sgt Pearce after dinner but we should like to put on record the final words of Major Dover who said, 'I should like to thank Sgt Pearce for his quiet efficiency, nothing was too much trouble. I should also like to thank him for his loyalty to myself and the Company. I wish him and Mrs Pearce the best of luck for the future.'

We welcome C.S.M. Marsh as our new P.S.I. Formerly in the Wiltshire Regiment he had been in the Royal Regiment one day before being posted to us. He is settling down well and we are training him in the true 'A' Company tradition. In spite of his never having been in the Regiment before we think we can make a Dorset of him.

We should like to take this opportunity to congratulate Cpl White on the occasion of his latest arrival, and also Lieut. Labrum on passing out with first prize from his Agricultural College—a very good effort. We hope we shall see him again soon.

'B' COMPANY

After the first two or three days at Annual Camp, all ranks seemed to have settled down and thoroughly enjoyed themselves; the journey to and from camp this year was particularly comfortable—we now no doubt are ready for the atom bomb, with a refresher in four years' time!

We have to say good-bye to Major Lyndon Moore, whose new job has moved him to Bristol, but who seems obviously to have taken to C.D. like a duck to water, and now does it full time! We thank him for all the time and trouble he has given to the Company. We must also be ready to say farewell to Sgt Steadman who finds it impossible to sign on again through personal reasons. He has been of great value to us and whose cheerful personality will be missed. At the same time we greet Captain Negus, our new Company Commander, and wish him all the best with the Company, and hope he will enjoy himself with us. We also welcome 2nd Lieut. Robson, another valuable asset to the Company.

We congratulate Cpl Legg on his promotion, and also pass to him the Adjutant's thanks for all his hard work behind a number of bars during cricket week.

Since annual camp, the Company has been seen mostly on the range, either on the firing point or in the butts. We certainly worked hard for the County Rifle Meeting. Our young soldiers are coming on well, and are showing great keenness and interest.

We are looking forward to the new training season, as we hope to go from strength to strength—our recruiting figures are good at the moment, but we could do more—everyone must try and get a new recruit and then the walls of Bincleaves really will bulge!

'C' AND 'D' COMPANIES

It seems to be a case of 'All quiet on the Eastern Front' with 'C' & 'D' Companies as regards their journal notes for this number. 'C' Company's contribution was contained in a telephone conversation with our editor, and our Fleetsbridge effort, although obviously aiming at the statement in Field Marshal Montgomery's memoirs that every word was obviously written in somebody's own handwriting could not be said to emulate the bulkiness of that author's transcript—also the piece of paper was highly suspect. If not actually Army Form blank, it was the next best thing. However, it can be said that both companies thoroughly enjoyed their camp at Millom, and 'D' Company look forward to showing off their skill of rescue work in future exercises; congratulations to C.S.M. Stubbington and Sgt Nicklen, Sgt Price and Cpl Hicks on their fine results on the Rescue Instructors course at camp. This should stand the Battalion in good stead in the future.

Bisley was disappointing. Although had the riflemen fired as well as the Bren Gunners, we should have returned with the China Cup. The old story of not enough bulls; the 'A' team had six and the 'B' team had only two. Sgt Gover fired well, and in this form he should make the T.A. 50 next year.

'D' Company say farewell to Sgt Daniels who goes to the Wessex Brigade Depot, and welcomes Sgt Solman, who although originally a Devon seems to have been around these parts before—well, that's a jolly good thing. Perhaps, he has influence and will pull in some recruits for us.

Like Wareham our numbers seem to have gone down since the 'palmy' days of N.S. volunteers, but on the other hand the Swanage contingent is on the up and up, and maintains a good average for drills. There are also some boys coming on at Wareham. We shall be entering into the campaign of getting some of the old N.S. volunteers and N.S. men on the active lists again this autumn, when all companies are going into the attack. The numbers are really required at Wareham now, Captain Brayshaw has been a tower of strength in helping us out for everything except annual camp, when he returns to his beloved Seaforths, but we are looking forward to welcoming Lieut. Dougie Jenks, late of 1st Dorsets, to our ranks, as another officer to help the hard pressed Company Commander.

'S' COMPANY

Annual Camp was a great success and even the old 'diehards', who deplored the prospect of two weeks Civil Defence work, returned from Millom having thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Apart from the work the highlight of camp was a whole day's trip round the Lakes made by a party of thirty-four all ranks who went on the trip and saw much of the real beauty of England. The Company Soccer team was rather disappointing this year, but then we must give others a chance!

We were well represented at Bisley and Cpl Wareham is to be congratulated on being selected for the Territorial Army Revolver Team. Our Motor-Cyclists have done well to come fourth in Trials at Horsham and at Pirbright and also finished well up at Haslemere; in each of these trials Pte Welch collected a First Class Award. We are hoping for even better results at Bovington later in August. Our team consisted of Sgt McKee, L.-Cpl Hardiman, L.-Cpl Pullman, Pte Orchard and Pte Welch.

After Camp several promotions within the Company were announced and all concerned are to be congratulated on a good camp and a good training year.

In July Ptes Palmer and Cadnam of Gillingham joined the Regular Army and we wish them the best of luck in their new careers.

DEVON ARMY CADET FORCE

THE whole of our notes for this issue are devoted to that most important aspect of Cadet training, the Annual Camp.

As an experiment this year's Camp was held on 'Greenfields' scale but in permanent quarters, namely Tregantle Fort, Torpoint. The fact that the Camp was so successful is entirely due to the hard work and co-operation of those who formed the Camp Staff.

Tregantle Fort—built nearly one hundred years ago and known in company with its three sister forts as 'Palmerston's Follies'—stands high on the cliffs above Whitesand Bay with six long rifle ranges immediately in front of it, sloping down towards the cliff edge, which, in addition to their primary rôle, provided excellent training ground for the Cadets. During the first week, section and platoon training was carried out here in the mornings—whilst certain detachments held individual schemes of varying duration—and in the afternoons battalions were allotted the ranges in rotation for Bren and rifle firing. Monday and Tuesday of the second week were set aside for the County Twenty-six Hour Exercise, and at 0800 hrs—after a first week of glorious weather—the Battalions moved out to the training areas in a very heavy drizzle. By 1100 hrs the drizzle had given way to a thunderstorm of tropical dimensions with constant lightning which, amongst other things, struck and disintegrated a flagstaff on the ramparts of the Fort, put the water pumping station out of action, and tore strands of wire from a fence. The rain fell in torrents—there were six foot floods in the centre of Plymouth—and hasty arrangements were made to send all available transport to fetch the Cadets back. Cold and wet through to the skin, it was then that the accommodation of the Fort was most appreciated. Ancient and prison-like it may have been, but on a day such as this it provided dry and sound cover, and the Cadets were soon changed into dry clothes and enjoying a meal hastily prepared by their Detachment Officers and S.M.I.s.

Sunday, 9th August, had been Parents' Day, fortunately a day before the deluge. Some 700 guests and parents attended and witnessed the Ceremonial Parade at which the Salute was taken by Lord Roborough, Lord Lieutenant of Devon who, during the ceremony presented Cadet Forces Medals to Major F. M. Lane of Honiton, and Captain W. E. Bartlett, M.B.E., and Captain A. K. Hodson of Bideford. In the afternoon Potted Sports were held with teams from the visitors also taking part, and concluding with the final of the seven-a-side football championships—a new and very popular idea for Camp which had attracted an entry of thirty-two teams from the various Detachments. The final was between Topsham and Horrabridge Detachments, with the former winning by 3 goals to 2. Thanks to the efforts of an ex-Guardsman member of our Staff, we were favoured with a visit of the Regimental Band of the Coldstream Guards who were on tour in the Plymouth area, and they provided a selection of music during the afternoon sports, and later gave a display of marching and playing on the Parade Ground. Though following immediately after this, the Beating of Retreat by the Devon A.F.C. Corps of Drums was in no way an anti-

climax, and indeed their performance drew very favourable comments from the Coldstreamers. The Parents having departed, the day was rounded off for the Cadets by a professional variety show in the cinema.

For the whole period of Camp welfare, entertainments and games formed a large part of the programme, and Major Wheeler and his staff provided a very varied assortment of pastimes for the boys. There were sports, games, library, TV, a nightly cinema or entertainment show, organized sea-bathing, cruises in Plymouth Sound, a Barbecue—organized by Officers of the 4th Cadet Bn, at which a ram was roasted and 70 lbs of sausages with 1,000 bread rolls were consumed. Augmenting these activities were the services given by the Ladies of the W.V.S. who looked after the boys' sewing requirements (a job which kept them extremely busy as a twenty foot sloping grass bank outside the canteen provided an irresistible and exciting slide much to the detriment of trouser seats). They also organized the reading and writing rooms, the shop, ironing room, and ran the canteen. Evidence of the popularity of the canteen is shown by the fact that 1,300 bottles of minerals were consumed on the very first evening, with an overall total for the period of Camp of 16,000 bottles!

Among the many visitors to Camp were General Sir Montagu Stopford, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. (Chairman, Army Cadet Force Association), Brigadier G. Laing, C.B.E. (Deputy Commander South Western District), Brigadier J. E. S. Stone, C.B.E. (Commander, 130 Infantry Bde, T.A.), and also the Affiliated Formation Commander, Colonel D. A. Bullock, O.B.E., D.L. (Chairman Devon T. & A.F. Association), and Lieut.-Colonel E. J. Hatfield (Secretary, Devon T. & A.F. Association).

As happened in 1958 at Chickerell, the Commandant's Ceremonial Parade, which was to have been held on the day prior to departure, had to be cancelled because of torrential rain, but at Tregantle we were fortunate to have the cinema in which Colonel Hutton was able to present trophies won during the year and at Camp.

These included:

The Lucas Tooth Efficiency Shield and Zealley Banner.—
3rd Battalion, North Devon.

The Senior Drill Competition.—
2nd Battalion, Plymouth.

The Junior Drill Competition Cup.—
1st Battalion, Exeter.

The Fortescue Cup.—
Senior .22 Competition: 2nd Battalion, Plymouth.

The Zealley/Ross Shield.—
Junior .22 Competition: 3rd Battalion, North Devon.

The Roborough Cup.—
Senior .303 Competition: 2nd Battalion, Plymouth.

The Rich Cup.—
Junior .303 Competition: 1st Battalion, Exeter.

That the Camp was a great success we have no doubt for we have the evidence of the keenest judges and sternest critics—the Cadets themselves. Despite the sometimes unpleasant conditions of the last four days, their morale remained high and the majority voted it the best Camp of all—indeed many showed reluctance to go home.



**Poor
Mr. Long**



**Poor
Mr. Short**

Mr. Long and Mr. Short are both Men of Vision. But up till now their visions haven't shown any sign of materialising. Mr. Long longs for a car of his own—he has his eye on a 5½-litre AC/DC super-choked Newton-le-Willows Gran Turismo Special.

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THE DEVONSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

We were glad to have a letter from Colonel E. S. Willis, enclosing some trophies for the Regimental Museum and regretting the loss of his many Boer War photographs which would also have been most acceptable. Having enlisted in 1899 he keeps well and always takes great interest in his Old Comrades.

At the age of 81 years R.S.M. A. J. Tyrrell, M.C., passed on to join the Old Soldiers. He joined the Regiment in 1895 and completed 26 years' service, the latter part being with the Worcestershire Regiment. He was one of the holders of the Meritorious Service Medal.

A great character of Plymouth who passed on in March was Mr A. E. Day. He enlisted in 1894 but took his discharge after the Boer War was over and thereafter was a leading light in a great variety of sport in Plymouth.

We were sorry to learn that 'Khaki' Roberts had to be subjected to hospital treatment after pneumonia, but more sorry still to learn that he put his foot through the bottom of the hospital bed and twisted his ankle to add to his discomfort. Although his duties as the Recorder of Bristol prevented him giving us the pleasure of his company at the July dinner, we are glad to learn that he is again in good health.

Our Annual General Meeting for the year 1958 was held in March this year and so at last we have, or hope we have, caught up with the accountant and will be able to hold the A.G.M. soon after the accounts are audited each year. We did not expect nor did we receive a large attendance. Captain Handy brought forward a proposal to organise and create an Exeter Branch to be quite separate from our H.Q. office. The Chairman promised to consider the matter, which he did, and in May Capt. Handy called together a band of supporters at the Greyhound Hotel in Sidwell Street where the new branch was born and its officers and committee appointed. If you are visiting Exeter call in to see him as well as us—he can nearly always put you up for the night.

I believe that the late Colonel H. Street, D.S.O., was one of the most popular officers of the Regiment in his time and consequently his passing caused much sorrow to a great many Old Comrades. A memorial service was held in Exeter Cathedral which was well attended and at which his family were present, we were all very glad to see them. Colonel E. Labbett represented the O.C.A. at the funeral at Hythe.

The Old Comrades of the 1/6th Bn at Barnstaple held a reunion dinner which seems to have been well attended by 6th Bn personnel.

It was a great shock to learn that Captain E. Freeman, M.C., died suddenly at Plymouth. Only in the last issue of the JOURNAL we recorded the death of his father, little thinking that 'Tubby' would follow him so soon. He was in the 5th Bn (T.A.) in 1937 and served till the end of hostilities in 1946.

Miss E. H. Harris of Teignmouth, who died in April, left by her will to the Charitable Trust Fund of the Devon Regiment O.C.A. the sum of £1,000 in memory of her brother the late Major T. B. Harris. We are most grateful for her memory and will see that her brother's old comrades receive the money in due and proper course.

We learn from Newcastle that one of our veterans of the South African campaign—H. T. Garwood passed peacefully away—unfortunately we had not seen him down this way of late and so know little of him.

Saturday, 25th July, brought some 500 and more Old Comrades together at the Reunion Dinner in Exeter and the anxieties of your Secretaries and committees to a head. We are all very pleased with the smooth running of the dinner and all that goes with it, in fact we have not had a single complaint (so far). Of course we are lucky in being allowed the accommodation in Topsham Barracks by the courtesy of the Commandant of the Wessex Brigade Depot, Colonel J. R. Welchman, D.S.O., and in that respect have an advantage over the branches. I have not yet seen a balance sheet of the finances but I expect we shall be down a bit this year owing to the drop in numbers and the constant expenses of organisation. Even so we are fulfilling one of our objects of existence—the bringing together of Old Comrades and serving soldiers. Although the raffle did not sell so well as last year the takings will be a great asset to the funds and consequently to old comrades in need. We sent our respectful greetings to Her Majesty the Queen and were honoured to receive her reply of appreciation of our message. We also received a belated telegram from the 1st Bn Devonshire & Dorset Regiment wishing us all good luck. I gather from the abbreviated message that they were holding a Salamanca Ball that evening and hope they had a successful and happy dance.

We were happy to have Colonel Welchman and the Rev. E. Royle as our guests. Padre Royle very kindly preached a delightful sermon for us at the Cathedral where some 250 of us assembled after our customary march from Bury Meadow, led by the Band of the 1st Battalion, and they set a jolly good pace which suited

us all admirably. They also played in the Cathedral and during the dinner, giving great pleasure to everyone—we thank them very much.

Now I will pipe down and leave George White to add his usual amusing and friendly comments. Don't forget to give us your news—we try to give you ours.

R.H.C.

'YUR Tis'—my short account of the 1959 reunion. It was good, in fact, very good from its re-el object point of view, and I must admit that up to the present I have not heard one little bit of adverse criticism, everything appears to have gone off in a very satisfactory manner, except, except, except, that the attendance has fallen again, it has now reached the depth of around 500, and that is a drop of some 350 since 1955. Well 'why, oh why, oh why?' sez George. The answer to that problem will I am sure be thoroughly thrashed out at the Inquest meeting in November, and now before I forget it we will welcome any criticism, constructive or adverse, from anyone who is interested in this reunion. Send your suggestions to the Hon. Sec., O.C.A., Devon Regiment, Topsham Barracks, Exeter, before our first meeting in February 1960. The public once again demonstrated their appreciation of the Regiment's Old Soldiers, as Queen Street and High Street were packed to capacity. The Band of the 1st Battalion The Devonshire & Dorset Regiment were at their best and set an excellent pace for the march to the Cathedral. The service, which was also not so well attended as in previous years, was

just what was wanted. Now to the actual reunion, the general atmosphere was really grand, and just what the Doctor ordered. Again there were a lot of new faces and of course, which is always inevitable, there were a few of our good old soldiers who have passed over. I thought the Celebrity Spot was a great success. The old Chelsea Pensioner standing up on the dais with a strong spotlight on him was very impressive, he was a splendid representative of the Old Soldier. Here is one compliment to all of 'ee, the singing of 'Old Soldiers never Die' was tops, and I have never heard such volume. Well, our thanks to you all for coming. We, here at Headquarters, enjoyed your company very much, and look forward to seeing you once again in 1960 when we hope you will bring your pal with you.

GEO.

Birmingham Branch

The only branch to send us any news this quarter was Birmingham. Mr Tomlin records that attendances have been slight but puts this down to the weather which, as we all know has been fine enough this summer to keep us out and about. The Birmingham party that went to Bristol for their reunion had a good time as so it appears did the Exeter party who travelled to 'Brum' for theirs.

Steve Cheshire, about whom so many of his friends enquired at the Exeter Reunion, is unfortunately in hospital. We all wish him a good recovery and look forward to seeing him at our next meetings next year.



THE DORSET REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

'Tis common knowledge that Dorset men be too busy to put pen to paper in the summer months, especially such a one as we have had. We regret to say that only one branch has contacted us. We know that the summer is a slack season, but as the General Secretary said at the A.G.M., there is always news to record which our readers want to hear about. It may not be an account of meetings and parties, just a few words about each other. This JOURNAL is designed for you, but the pattern tends to become a little blurred if there is no news from the branches! so please Branch Editors get your pens out next time.

Our readers will be sorry to hear that, after his recovery from his recent illness, Bob Hodge has had a relapse and is back again in hospital.

At Headquarters we are all very busy putting the

final polish on the preparations for the Reunion. At the moment we expect over 350 to come to the Dinner.

Bath Branch report that their Secretary has been on holiday in Dorset. He visited us here in the Keep with Mrs Griffin and gave us some useful advice on amateur printing. Like all who come here he was shocked at the seeming emptiness of the Square and the Depot generally. However, believe it or not, there is plenty of activity in the Keep these days. The Griffins then went on to meet Mr Charlie Richards and Mr Fowler at Bridport. Driving a coach for the Bristol Omnibus Company Mr Griffin has a great opportunity of encountering old members. It is seldom that he misses contacting one when he is on the trail; he has even been known to have stopped his Leviathan in the City Centre to pass the time of day with the Association's President.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

You can always contact the Regimental Associations through their Headquarters at Exeter and Dorchester or by applying direct to the nearest branch. Secretaries names are as follows.

THE DEVONSHIRE REGIMENT O.C.A.

Headquarters: TOPSHAM BARRACKS, EXETER Telephone: Exeter 54245

Hon. Secretary: LIEUT.-COLONEL R. H. CREASEY

Assistant Secretary: MAJOR G. M. WHITE, M.B.E.

Branches

Barnstaple *Hon. Secretary:* A. STRIBLING and A. CHAPPLE, 25 Fair View, Barnstaple.
 Birmingham *Hon. Secretary:* T. TOMLIN, 'Old Cottage', Springhill, Birmingham, 18.
 Bristol *Hon. Secretary:* W. HEMMING, 12 Hardwick Road, Pill, Bristol.
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 London *Hon. Secretary:* W. J. ATKINSON, 259 Hounslow Road, Hansworth, Feltham, Middlesex.
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 Plymouth *Hon. Secretary:* W. J. BALDOCK, M.B.E., 19 Lipson Hill Terrace, Plymouth.
 Torquay *Hon. Secretary:* P. MOATES, 11 Mincent Hill, Watcombe, Torquay.

THE DORSET REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

Headquarters: THE BARRACKS, DORCHESTER Telephone: Dorchester 1066

Hon. Secretary: LIEUT.-COLONEL O. G. W. WHITE, D.S.O., O.B.E.

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Bath *Hon. Secretary:* MR J. P. GRIFFIN, Foresters Cottage, Greendown Place, Combe Down, Bath.
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 Gillingham *Hon. Secretary:* MR H. SIMS, 1 Turners Lane, Gillingham, Dorset.
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Areas

Nottingham *Hon. Secretary:* Lieut.-Colonel A. H. Mitchell, M.B.E., M.C., 57 Cambridge Road, West Bridgford, Notts.
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CHINTHE DINNER CLUB

THE Tenth Reunion of the CHINTHE DINNER CLUB and Thirteenth Annual Reunion of officers and members of the Women's Services who served in 33 Indian Corps and Twelfth Army, will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge on **Saturday, 17th October 1959**, at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m.

General Sir Montagu G. N. Stopford, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., will preside.

Dress: Dinner jackets or lounge suits (medals and decorations will not be worn).

The Reunion will be held in a private suite and will be run on similar lines to former years; a buffet supper will be provided.

All recipients of this Notice are asked to bring it to the attention of any of their brother officers who served in either of the formations mentioned above and to note that they are eligible to attend the Reunion, although they may not have joined the Club.

Tickets:

Members of the Chinthe Dinner Club 17/6
(excluding drinks)

Non-member 24/- (excluding drinks)

Cheques should be made payable to the Chinthe Dinner Club and sent to the *Hon. Treasurer, Lieut.-Colonel J. McCutcheon, O.B.E., 92a Broadway, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey.* Please complete the attached slip which will be returned receipted in lieu of a ticket.

WYVERN DINNER 1959

The annual Wyvern Dinner for 1959 will be held at the Naval and Military Club, 94 Piccadilly, London, W.1, on Wednesday, 25th November, at 8 p.m.

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Major A. E. Prout,
The Barracks,
Taunton. (Tel. 3956)

DEVONPORT (South Devon)—

Lieut.-Comdr W. H. Cole, R.N.
Royal Naval Port Library,
Devonport. (Tel. 53740. CB. 28)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following Regimental Journals and apologise for any inadvertent omissions.

The Wish Stream (The Journal of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst), *The Britannia* (The Journal of The Royal Norfolk Regiment), *The Back Badge* (The Journal of the Gloucestershire Regiment), *Mars and Minerva* (The Journal of the Special Air Service Regiment), *The Wiltshire Regiment Journal*, *The Cadet Journal*, *Empire and Commonwealth*, *S.S.A.F.A. Magazine*, *British Legion Journal*.

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE
OF CONTRIBUTORS

1. The Regimental Journal is produced by the Editor at

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS (DORCHESTER),
THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT,
THE BARRACKS DORCHESTER,
DORSET

Tel: Dorchester 1066

to which address all correspondence should be sent.

2. The Editor accepts no responsibility for the opinions expressed by contributors.

3. It will greatly assist the Editor if contributors will please observe the following simple rules:

- (a) All contributions should be typed.
- (b) They should be submitted on foolscap paper, double spaced with margins on both sides.
- (c) Abbreviations should be avoided. Should it be necessary to use them, please ensure that they can be understood by even the most uninitiated reader.
- (d) Drawings should be in Indian ink on dead white paper of good quality and be drawn to a scale of 5 ins wide by 7½ ins deep. Actual size does not matter as they can be easily enlarged or reduced.
- (e) Photographs should be submitted on glossy paper.
- (f) Captions should NOT be written on the back of photographs but should be sent in on a separate piece of paper attached firmly to the photograph.

4. Closing dates for contributions are:

15th April for the May number
15th July for the August number
15th October for the November number
15th January for the February number

These are the closing dates. You can greatly assist the Editor by sending in your contributions early.

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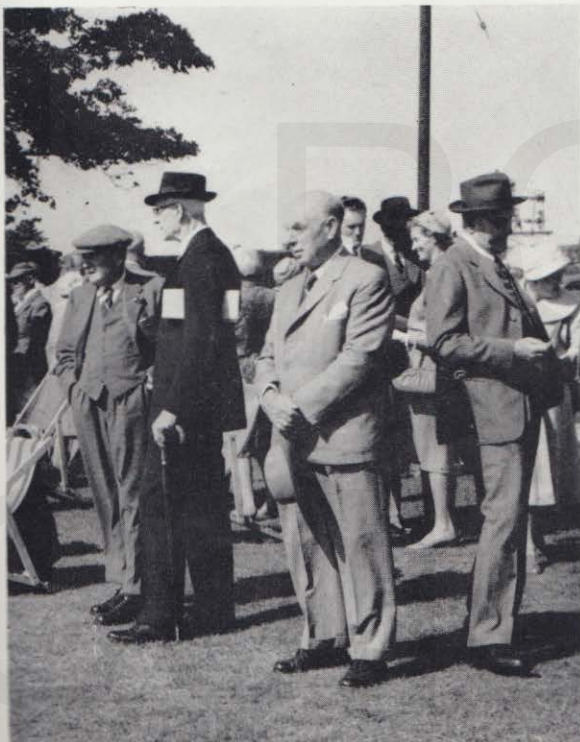
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THE DEVONSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION MARCH TO EXETER CATHEDRAL DURING THEIR REUNION, 25TH JULY 1959

Left to Right: P. Wing, L.-Cpl T. Hooper, Mr T. Veale, V.C., Major G. M. White, M.B.E., M.M., Mr T. Alsford, B.E.M., Lieut.-Colonel R. E. K. Pain, J. Buchanan

THE REGIMENTAL AT HOME—DORCHESTER



Three Officers who went to France with the 1st Dorsets in August 1914 meet again at Dorchester. Brigadier C. H. Woodhouse (then M.G. Officer), Captain A. A. Lilley (then Platoon Commander in 'A' Company) and extreme right Major-General A. L. Ransome (then Captain and Adjutant)



Lieut.-Colonel W. K. Barrett cornered by three distinguished Quartermasters: (from Left) Major L. C. M. Dutot, Major J. R. H. Bolingbroke and (on Right) Captain R. W. Hodge

THE BAND OF THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT

Bandmaster : MR K. BOULDING, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.



Prior to sailing to join the 1st Battalion in Cyprus

DUNKIRK

May 27th—June 3rd, 1940

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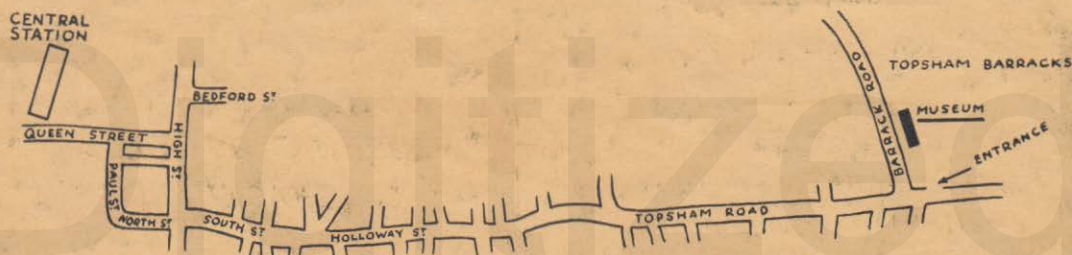
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