

L. to R. (5th Battalion) C/Sergt. L. Moxon, B.E.M., Lieut. J. N. Napier-Ford, Cpl. J. J. Playford (1st Battalion) 2/Lieut. P. S. Field, C/Sergt. J. Rodgers, C/Sergt. J. Norman, Sergt. W. Redford, 2/Lieut. P. M. Stamper (6th Battalion) Sergt. J. Beckett, Capt. W. W. B. Rodger, Cpl. C. Bowden



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## HER LATE MAJESTY QUEEN MARY

SINCE the last JOURNAL was published the Regiment has suffered a grievous loss by the death of our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Mary. Her Majesty was appointed on 11th May, 1937, on the occasion of the Coronation of His Majesty King George VI, and had been, therefore, our Colonel-in-Chief for just under sixteen years.

During all this time Her Majesty took the keenest interest in the welfare of the Regiment and, although advancing age prevented her lately from visiting units of the Regiment, Her Majesty always required to be told what battalions were doing. The Colonel of the Regiment had to send reports of any visits he paid to units. In the late war Her Majesty gave instructions that she was to be kept constantly informed of the fortunes of the battalions of the Regiment, and on several occasions officers who had taken part in the various campaigns were summoned to Badminton, where Her Majesty lived during the war, to give first-hand accounts of the actions in which the Regiment had been engaged. Her Majesty presided over a working party at Badminton, and comforts, many made by Her Majesty's own hand, were sent to officers and men of the Regiment. Her Majesty signed on the last afternoon of her life a photograph for 622 (Queen's) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.) It was the last signature she ever gave. We shall miss very greatly Her Majesty's kindly, sympathetic and lively interest.

The following message of condolence was sent by the Colonel of the Regiment to Her Majesty The Queen when the death of Her late Majesty Queen Mary was announced:

"All ranks of The Queen's Royal Regiment, of which Her late Majesty was Colonel-in-Chief, send with their humble duty their sympathy and sincere condolences."

Her Majesty was graciously pleased to send the following reply:

"I am sincerely grateful for your message. Please assure all those for whom you speak that I deeply value their sympathy.—ELIZABETH R."

The Colonel of the Regiment was a pall-bearer when the body of Her Majesty was taken from Marlborough House to Westminster Hall for the lying-in-state and at the funeral at St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Three officers and eighteen other ranks from the Depot, 5th and 6th Battalions, T.A., and from 598 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (4th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment) (T.A.), and 622 (Queen's) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), formed a Regimental contingent in the procession from Marlborough House to Westminster Hall.

After the funeral of Her late Majesty the following message was received by the Colonel of the Regiment:

"LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,  
"ST. JAMES'S PALACE, S.W.1.

"I have received the Queen's commands to thank all ranks of The Queen's Royal Regiment on Her Majesty's behalf for the beautiful flowers so kindly sent as a tribute of respect and affection to the memory of Her late Majesty Queen Mary.

"The Queen and the Royal Family are deeply touched by this tribute.

(Sgd.) "SCARBROUGH,  
"Lord Chamberlain.

"St. James's Palace,  
"April, 1953."

## THE CORONATION

BY this solemn rite Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has dedicated herself to the service of Great Britain and the British Commonwealth of Nations. To her, on behalf of all members of the Regiment, we offer our loyal duty and respectful homage, coupled with our wishes for a happy and glorious reign.

The Regiment was represented at the Coronation of Her Majesty The Queen by detachments provided by the 1st Battalion, Depot, the Territorial battalions and the R.A. Regiments (T.A.).

The 1st Battalion party, consisting of three officers and seven other ranks with the Queen's and Regimental Colours of the Battalion, and the 5th and 6th Battalions, of one officer and four other ranks each, took part in the procession.

Lining the procession route from St. George's Hospital to the Wellington Memorial at Hyde Park were other detachments from the Regiment: of one officer and ten other ranks from the Depot and one officer and eighteen other ranks from both the 5th and 6th Battalions with the Colours of these battalions on parade.

Detachments from 598 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (4th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment), T.A., and 622 (Queen's) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.) lined the route in the area of Pall Mall and St. James's Street.

Lieut.-Colonel H. W. Bolton, D.S.O., M.B.E., who served in the Regular and Territorial armies from 1900-38, and in the Pioneer Corps from 1939-45, occupied a seat, allotted to Old Comrades Associations, in the Abbey.

Others who had seats allotted to Old Comrades Associations on the procession route were: Capt. W. H. Stacey, O.B.E. (1st Bn. and Territorial Army, 1889-1927); Sergt. P. Richardson (2nd Battalion, 1932-40), and Pte. R. Styles (2nd/4th Battalion, 1914-19), who are both disabled; Pte. F. Sheffield (2nd Battalion and Depot, 1908-50) and R.Q.M.S. J. Bryan (6th Queen's, 1925-47) (T.A.).

## 1st BATTALION

AGAIN the Battalion has seen many changes throughout its ranks in twelve months. The Sergeants' Mess is the entity least affected, and it is a fact for which we are all thankful. We are now building up our strength in preparation for service in Malaya, and it is anticipated that the Battalion will be about 800 strong when it sails.

In training this year, we have been able to concentrate more on unit and sub-unit exercises at the expense of formation training. We have had useful periods at Sennelager and Brilon, though the weather was not always kind.

We have had a most successful year in shooting, cross-country and swimming. These are referred to in more detail later, but great credit is due to the hard work and enthusiasm of the officers and N.C.O.s. in charge. These were: Shooting, Capt. P. G. Collyer and A.Q.M.S. Stone (R.E.M.E.); cross-country, 2/Lieut. P. W. Rogers; swimming, Major L. V. Fane-Gladwin and S.S.I. Mills, A.P.T.C.

## THE DEATH OF OUR COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

Although referred to at length elsewhere in this JOURNAL, we cannot pass this sorrowful event without comment. We all feel a deep sense of personal loss at the death of our Royal Colonel-in-Chief.

The Battalion attended a memorial service at the Garrison Church, Iserlohn, on 29th March, at which the Commanding Officer read the lesson and the warrant officers provided the sidesmen.

Messages of sympathy were received from H.Q., 5 Infantry Brigade, H.Q., 6 Infantry Brigade, 10th Royal Hussars and 1st Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

### THE VISIT OF THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD

The Mayor of Guildford, Councillor (now Alderman) Donald Wilkins, J.P., C.C., and the Town Clerk, Mr. Herbert C. Weller, visited the Battalion between 5th and 10th March, 1953.

The Mayor and Town Clerk travelled to Germany on 4th/5th March via the Harwich to Hook of Holland route. They were met at Munchen-Gladbach Station by Capt. M. J. D. Perrett-Young. After lunch at Dusseldorf, on the Rhine, they drove through the Ruhr to Iserlohn. Both the Mayor and Town Clerk were most interested in all that they saw—the ruined towns of Essen and Bochum and more especially the reconstruction work in progress. On arrival at Iserlohn they drove to the Commanding Officer's house, where they were able to rest after their long journey.

On the next morning a ceremonial parade was held during which the Mayor inspected the Battalion and then addressed the parade.

He told the Battalion that he was most impressed with their turn-out and bearing. He brought them special greetings from the people of Guildford and West Surrey, and assured the Battalion that Guildford would give them a right royal welcome when they returned to England at the end of the year. He thanked the Battalion for their most generous contribution of £81 8s. 6d. which they had donated through him to the Lord Mayor of London's Flood Relief Fund. This was most creditable, as they had contributed a similar amount to the Netherlands Flood Relief Fund. He said that he was about to dispatch a telegram to the Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, Her Majesty Queen Mary, wishing her a speedy return to health.

The Regimental Colour was carried by 2/Lieut. P. S. Field; C./Sergts. Aukett and Fairbanks composed the escort.

Amongst the spectators were the Brigade Commander, Brigadier R. Delacombe, C.B.E., D.S.O., late The Royal Scots, and the Netherlands Consul-General from Dortmund. After the parade, the Mayor met the Netherlands Consul-General in the Commanding Officer's office.

The Mayor and Town Clerk then visited the Sergeants' Mess, where they were introduced to all members by R.S.M. J. Simmons, M.C. The Mayor again congratulated them on the success of the parade and spoke highly of the Band and Drums. He thanked them for their traditional hospitality.

In the evening the Band and Drums beat "Retreat" on the Battalion Square in Aldershot Barracks. The weather fortunately remained fine, if cold, throughout the ceremony. There were many spectators, and during the ceremony the Brigade Commander presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Sergt. Jameson.

Immediately after this ceremony the Mayor and Town Clerk attended a most successful cocktail party in the Officers' Mess.

Later in the evening the Mayor and Town Clerk, accompanied by the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Piggott and the Second-in-Command and Mrs. Freedland, went to the families' dance in the Hotel Sommer, in Iserlohn. The Mayor and Town Clerk appeared to enjoy themselves immensely, and managed to speak to almost everybody during the evening.

During the day the following telegram was sent by the Mayor of Guildford to the Private Secretary of Her Majesty Queen Mary:

"On the occasion of my visit to the 1st Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment in

Germany I ask you to tender with humble duty to Her Majesty the best wishes of the town of Guildford for her speedy return to health."

A similar message on behalf of the Regiment was also sent by General Sir George Giffard.

On the morning of 7th March the Mayor toured the Barracks and watched training. He saw the Anti-Tank Platoon in the pellet range. Both he and the Town Clerk carried out successful shoots. He also saw company areas and stores, the N.A.A.F.I., and visited the W.V.S. Club, with which he was most impressed.

He met men of the Battalion who came from Guildford. Both he and the Town Clerk talked to them for some time.

At the cookhouse the Mayor saw dinners in progress. He presented the other ranks of the Battalion with a shield bearing the Arms of Guildford.

He went to the Sergeants' Mess, where he met three generations of the Queen's—Sergt. and Mrs. Wright, their daughter and son-in-law, Sergt. and Mrs. Adkins, and their son.

He was photographed with both Officers' and Sergeants' Messes.

In the evening the mayoral party attended the Sergeants' Mess Ball and the Corporals' Dance. The Mayor presented the Sergeants' Mess with a shield bearing the Arms of Guildford.

On Sunday morning the Mayor and Town Clerk attended Divine service in the Gymnasium, Aldershot Barracks. The Mayor read the lesson and afterwards took the salute at a march past of the Battalion. Later in the Officers' Mess he presented the officers with a shield bearing the Arms of Guildford.

In the evening both the Mayor and Town Clerk, accompanied by the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Piggott, dined with the British Resident, Iserlohn, and met a number of German civil dignitaries.

The Mayor met the Oberburgermeister of Iserlohn officially in the Rathaus (Town Hall) on the morning of 9th March, and in the afternoon was taken by the Commanding Officer to see the Moehne Dam—scene of the Royal Air Force exploit during the war.

Finally, the Mayor attended a Regimental Guest Night in the Officers' Mess. The Commanding Officer expressed regret that the Mayoress had been unable to accompany the Mayor on his visit and wished her rapid recovery to good health on behalf of the Battalion. He then presented the Mayor with a Dresden china figure for the Mayoress, from the officers of the Battalion.

The Mayor and Town Clerk left the Battalion on Tuesday and returned to England via Cologne.

There is no doubt that this visit to the Battalion was an unparalleled success as far as the Battalion was concerned. We hope that the Mayor and Town Clerk enjoyed their visit; we believe they did.

### THE CORONATION

The event of the year was, of course, the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, to which we sent a detachment comprising Major I. D. Beattie, 2/Lieuts. P. S. Field and P. Stamper, R.S.M. J. Simmons, M.C., C./Sergt. Norman, Sergts. Rogers and Redford, Cpl. Nickson, L./Cpl. Gearing and Pte. Lawless.

The Coronation period for the 1st Battalion began immediately after the Whitsun holiday with a rehearsal for the Brigade parade due to take place on 2nd June. Owing to the fact that we had all been at Sennelager, either training or taking part in the Rhine Army Rifle Meeting, until midday on the Friday

before the Whitsun holiday, we had only had one Battalion rehearsal, but that was not apparent to the onlooker.

On the Sunday preceding Her Majesty's Coronation, all units in the Garrison attended various church parade services. Ours took place in the Garrison Church; the Brigade Commander read the Lesson, our Band played during the service and afterwards with the Band and Drums playing we marched past the Brigade Commander and then on through the town back to Barracks.

Monday was the Glorious First of June, and was a holiday for the Battalion. We received many telegrams, including ones from General Sir George Giffard, General Sir Richard Gale (Colonel of The Worcestershire Regiment and C.-in-C., Northern Army Group), H.M.S. *Excellent*, the Royal Naval Rhine Squadron, the Mayor and citizens of Guildford, the Territorial battalions, the Depot, H.Q., Brigade, all past and present members of the Regiment in Malaya, Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, Brigadier H. G. Veasey, Major D. L. Lloyd-Owen and Major A. C. Hewitt (lately serving with the 1st Battalion and now with the 1st Bn. The Middlesex Regiment).

At midday a small ceremony took place in the Commanding Officer's office, when he presented Her Majesty's Coronation Medals to the recipients. A bottle of champagne was opened and Her Majesty's health was drunk.

The full list of recipients was: Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major (Q.M.) S. W. J. Sharp, Capt. W. M. Turnock (Adjutant), R.S.M. J. B. Simmons, M.C., Bandmaster E. Gaines, O.R.Q.M.S. E. A. O'Loughlin, A.Q.M.S. E. Stone, R.E.M.E., Sergt. L. Wright, Cpl. J. Robinson and Pte. P. Lawless.

Of these, R.S.M. Simmons and Pte. Lawless were in London with our Coronation contingent, and A.Q.M.S. Stone was away at Bisley. Mrs. Stone represented the A.Q.M.S., and the other two medals were sent off by post to the Depot for presentation.

In the evening the officers held a Ladies' Guest Night, which was attended by the wives of all officers of the Regiment in station. After drinking the Loyal Toast and a toast to the Regiment, everyone moved on to the Coronation Ball being held in the Sergeants' Mess. The Mess was full, despite the absence of a number of members in London and elsewhere, for the guests included Major-General and Mrs. C. S. Sugden, Brigadier and Mrs. E. P. Sewell and the Commanding Officers of the 10th Hussars and the 1st Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regiment. General Sugden, the Chief of Staff of H.Q., Northern Army Group, was in Iserlohn prior to taking part in the Coronation Day parade the following day. After visiting the Corporals' Mess Dance which was going on at the same time, the senior officers returned to the Sergeants' Mess in order to drink Her Majesty's health in the opening moments of her Coronation Day.

The 2nd of June, Coronation Day, was overcast and showery, which was, however, a considerable improvement on the previous few days. By 0950 hrs. the Battalion contingent for the Brigade parade were in position on the market square of Iserlohn; three companies each of four officers and seventy-four other ranks, under command of Majors L. V. Fane-Gladwin, I. P. Thomson and M. A. Lowry. These, together with the Commanding Officer (Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott), the Second-in-Command (Major J. A. R. Freeland), the Adjutant (Capt. W. M. Turnock) and the Acting Regimental Sergeant-Major (C.S.M. C. Cheeseman) made our number on parade 238. On our left were an equal contingent of the 1st Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, with the Brigade Commander, Brigadier E. P. Sewell, in command. The Battalion also contributed the Band and Drums, under Bandmaster E. Gaines and Drum-Major L. Bennett. Owing to lack of space, their numbers were reduced to a total of

sixty, but they looked very fine in their scarlet full dress tunics, and further touches of colour were provided near the saluting base by Dmrs. J. Voller and P. Voller (the Brigade Commander's Orderlies) and Cpl. R. Wells (who broke the Royal Standard).

The market square was surrounded by Union Jacks, and the parade ground was kept by the 10th Hussars. After the General had been received and had inspected the parade there was a march past in columns of companies. The General then took command of the parade himself and the Royal Standard was broken to a Royal Salute. This was followed by a 21-gun salute, with volleys of musketry; an advance in review order; three cheers for Her Majesty; and a final Royal Salute as the standard was lowered. The Brigade Commander then resumed command, and the parade dispersed with a march past the General in column of route, followed by the 10th Hussars in their Centurion tanks.

The quality of drill in this fairly complicated parade, executed in a very confined space, was up to the Regimental standard, which was particularly gratifying in view of the lack of rehearsal time.

The Band then moved on to Brigade Headquarters, where they played at a reception for many German dignitaries and visitors from the near-by Belgian Brigade. But the rest of the Battalion hurried back to barracks, where the arrangements made for television in the various Messes were extremely successful. In the canteen three sets were placed in line along the biggest room; and round each sat a crowd of silent soldiers, watching the scenes in Westminster Abbey, and then endeavouring to spot our contingent in the procession.

About 4 o'clock, the children of the Battalion, who had been entertained splendidly in the Sergeants' Mess, each received a souvenir mug from the Commanding Officer. And that evening the cookhouse staff provided an excellent special meal in the dining hall.

The 3rd of June was the last day of the holiday period, and on it the Battalion Inter-Company Athletic Meeting was held. While this is not the proper place to give an account of it, it provided a suitable preliminary to the all ranks' dance held in the evening. This was its usual great success, with Cpl. R. Taylor being an excellent Master of Ceremonies. Again the cookhouse staff provided good fare.

Thus did the Battalion celebrate the Coronation. Memorable as were the parades and parties, there is no doubt that the scene which will be remembered most clearly throughout the lives of those who saw it was the moment in Westminster Abbey, transported as if by magic to the canteens and Messes of the Battalion in Iserlohn, when St. Edward's Crown was placed upon the lovely head of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

#### THE VISIT OF THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

The Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir George Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O., visited the Battalion from 27th to 30th August. Not only was it his seventh annual journey to Germany to visit either the 2nd or 1st Battalion, but it was his last as Colonel of the Regiment. To mark the account, therefore, all officers of the Regiment serving in Europe were invited to attend during the week-end, and most were able to be present for some part of the celebrations. We welcomed Brigadier Hart-Dyke, Colonel Fletcher, Majors Sellicks and Clowes and Capts. Marsden and Curtis.

The usual ceremonial parade, tour of barracks and photographs with the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes took place. In addition, the Band and Drums beat "Retreat," and the officers held a cocktail party which acted also as a farewell party prior to our departure from Germany. They were both a marked

success. So also were the Sergeants' Mess and Corporals' Mess Balls in the evening. On the Colonel's last evening he was dined by the officers, and the Commanding Officer took the opportunity to express the Battalion's gratitude to General Giffard for all that he had done as Colonel of the Regiment.

Finally, at a Battalion church parade on 30th August, the Colonel of the Regiment read the Lesson, and afterwards took the salute at the march past.

At the conclusion of his visit, the following Special Order of the Day was issued :

"At the end of this, my last visit to the Battalion, I want to congratulate all ranks on the state of efficiency which the Battalion has reached. I have noticed a steady improvement each year since 1947 when I paid my first visit to Germany.

"This is due to good discipline, hard work and a fine team spirit, which has particularly impressed me, in the Battalion.

"As I told you on parade, you will leave B.A.O.R. with a high reputation, which I know you will maintain and enhance when you put your peace-time training to the test of operations in Malaya.

"I thank you most warmly for all you have done on this and other occasions to make my visits so enjoyable.

"I wish you all the best of good fortune in the future.

"G. J. GIFFARD, *General*,  
"Colonel, The Queen's Royal Regiment."

#### FAREWELL TO GERMANY

By the time this JOURNAL is printed, we will have begun our move from Germany to Malaya. The Battalion will stage at Invicta Lines, Maidstone, for two or three months in England; the advance party leaves for Malaya on about 24th November, and the main body leaves early in January. While in England, the chief event will be the ceremonial march through Guildford on 18th November, but a description of this must be postponed until the next JOURNAL.

Either the 2nd Battalion, or, later the 1st Battalion, has been in Germany for six years, and has served in Dortmund, Berlin and Iserlohn. Many friends have been made among other regiments and among the German population; indeed, we now have among us a considerable number of wives of German birth.

It would be impossible to thank everyone who has helped us since we have been here, but we cannot go without mentioning a few. First of all, the staff of our Brigade Headquarters, with whom we have shared barracks for so long; Major R. C. Gibbs, D.S.O., M.C., the Brigade Major and oldest inhabitant, must be specially mentioned. Then Mrs. Thompson, of the Y.M.C.A., and Miss Miller, of the W.V.S., deserve our greatest gratitude; we will be presenting these two ladies with small tokens of our affection before we depart.

And, finally, Church House, Iserlohn. We have always had a most happy relationship with Church House, and we now have a permanent reminder of this, since they have given us a beautifully bound and inscribed lectern copy of the Holy Bible. This will be a Regimental treasure for many years to come.

#### OFFICERS

The following officers have joined the Battalion between 1st September, 1952, and 1st September, 1953 :

Capt. I. D. Beattie; 2/Lieut. D. V. M. Howell; 2/Lieut. P. W. Rogers; Lieut. J. F. Girling; Major I. P. Thomson, M.C.; 2/Lieut. M. O. Rudkin; Lieut. M. N. O'D. Pereira; Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Lieut. N. Berry; Lieut. H. K. Arnold; Capt. K. McL. Douglas; Capt. C. B. Rodger; Major

J. A. R. Freeland; 2/Lieut. H. W. Gawthrop; Major R. S. N. Mans; Capt. E. C. S. Osborne; Major M. A. Lowry; 2/Lieut. J. G. Cleverly; 2/Lieut. J. D. Blumsom; 2/Lieut. D. J. L. Hughes; 2/Lieut. E. R. Paton, Capt. E. J. Orme, R.A.P.C.; 2/Lieut. A. V. Palmer.

The following have left the Battalion during the same period :

2/Lieut. M. J. Mortimer; 2/Lieut. A. Harding; 2/Lieut. J. R. Sandy; 2/Lieut. A. R. Pierssene; 2/Lieut. M. G. Stone; 2/Lieut. T. K. Schrecker; Lieut. P. H. Clayton; Major M. J. Mitchell; Lieut.-Colonel J. Sykes-Wright, D.S.O.; Capt. G. B. Curtis; Capt. K. R. Thompson; 2/Lieut. K. J. Hogan, R.A.E.C.; Capt. P. W. Galvin; Capt. A. S. Blackman; Capt. L. W. L. Standford; 2/Lieut. D. V. M. Howell; Major A. G. Hewitt; Capt. D. Veitch, R.A.M.C.; Major M. T. N. Jennings; Lieut. J. F. Girling; Lieut. H. K. Arnold; Lieut. A. Donaldson; 2/Lieut. H. W. Gawthrop; 2/Lieut. J. D. Blumsom.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES

In November, 1952, the Mess gave a farewell dinner to Lieut.-Colonel J. Sykes-Wright, D.S.O., just before he left the Battalion for his new appointment in Korea. His leaving was a sad occasion for all of us, but the dinner went extremely well, and if any of us are around Pusan we will certainly take advantage of his invitation to look him up, and we hope perhaps that he will be able to come and see us in Malaya.

Christmas, 1952, found us fully prepared. The Christmas draw had been open since September and was fully subscribed, and on Christmas Eve Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Piggott very kindly helped us to dispose of a hamper of prizes. The children's party took place in the Mess with "Santa Elkins" doing the honours once more. The Christmas ball was held on Boxing Night and was well attended. A magnificent buffet was provided by Sergt. Howard and his band of helpers.

In January, 1953, another dinner was held for the dual purpose of welcoming Lieut.-Colonel Piggott and Major Freeland to the Mess and bidding farewell to Major Jennings.

In February, 1953, the Mess had a social in aid of the East Coast Flood Relief Fund. R.S.M. Simmons opened the sale by auction during the latter half of the evening and several members of the Mess acquired some extremely well-made toys for their children. In all, the Mess realized the sum of £12 4s. 7d. for the fund.

The following month the Mayor of Guildford, Councillor Donald Wilkins, and the Town Clerk, Mr. H. C. Weller, paid an official visit to the Battalion. After the ceremonial parade on 6th March the Mayor and Town Clerk came into the Mess and met all members. The following evening a ball was held in the visitors' honour which was very well attended and very enjoyable. During the course of the evening the Mayor presented to the Mess a plaque containing the Guildford Coat-of-Arms, and made a short speech in which he said that the town of Guildford was looking forward to entertaining the Battalion on its return to the United Kingdom. The Regimental Sergeant-Major, in replying, presented both the Mayor and Town Clerk with a tankard, suitably filled to commemorate their visit to Germany.

The Pink Column made its annual pilgrimage from the Sergeants' Mess to the Battalion Rifle Meeting and back again, perhaps more from force of habit than anything else.

The Coronation was celebrated in the Mess by a ball on the evening before Coronation Day, and a children's party on Coronation Day itself. The ball went well, although it was rather a pity that so many people were absent on duty at the Coronation itself.

The next important event was the visit of the Colonel of the Regiment on 28th August, 1953. After the ceremonial parade, the Colonel of the Regiment met all members in the Mess. A ball was held the same evening and many old friends made very welcome reappearances from all over B.A.O.R. The evening was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The following day there was a cricket match between the Officers and Sergeants which almost rivalled the fifth test match for thrills. The Officers batted first and amassed the score of 134 for 8 in the allotted time. The Sergeants, quite unexpectedly, nearly beat the officers and scored 129 for 7. Time, unfortunately, was against us. C./Sergt. Elkins put up a grand performance in taking all the officers' wickets and scoring most of our runs. He even tried to make up for the lack of a heavy roller by throwing himself on the pitch. In fact, he nearly beat the Officers' team literally off his own bat.

There have been a number of changes in the Mess during the past year due to postings in and out. We welcome the following members to the Mess. W.O.II Atkins; S.S.I. Mills, A.P.T.C.; Sergts. McCormick, Yonwin, Sharman, Constable, A.C.C., Foulkes, R.A.E.C., Wilsen, R.A.E.C., and Talbot, R.A.P.C., all ex United Kingdom.

We were very sorry to see the following members depart: W.O.II Hall, to the Depot; W.O.II Herbert and C./Sergt. Kingsland to the T.A.; Sergts. Gibbs, Harrison, Vickers and Martin to the Depot; Sergts. Baker and Furmedge to the T.A.; Sergts. Brooks, Poet, King, Doughty, Matthews, Steel, R.E.M.E., and Brough, R.E.M.E., to civilian life.

We welcome Sergts. Branscombe, Dunkeld and O'Grady to the Mess on promotion. Our congratulations to W.Os.II Vance-Cotsford and Bohm, C./Sergts. Norman and Rodgers and S./Sergt. Hill on their promotion; to W.O.II Motton and Sergt. Howard on the occasion of their marriages; and to W.O.I Gaines, W.Os.II Herbert and Shepherd, R.A.E.C., C./Sergt. Fairbanks, and Sergts. Watret, Drayton, Burton, Vickers and Lampard on the acquisition of another five points for Malaya.

#### CORPORALS' MESS NOTES

Looking back on the events and happenings of the Mess since last November, we find that we have had a highly successful year.

As the last edition of the Regimental JOURNAL went to press we were very busy making preparations for the Salerno celebrations, and we certainly celebrated in grand style. We had a very good dance and we were honoured by a visit from the Colonel of the Regiment and the Commanding Officer and officers and members of the Sergeants' Messes; everyone had a really good time, and it was with regret that it was the last time we could see Lieut.-Colonel J. Sykes-Wright at one of our social functions, and we take this opportunity to wish him well in his new appointment.

In a matter of weeks once again preparations were being made for Christmas, and all of us were determined that we would have a very happy Christmas—and we certainly did! It was on Christmas Eve that we held a Christmas Ball, and what a wonderful start to our festivities it was. This time the new Commanding Officer came to visit us with Mrs. Piggott, and also many of the sergeants and their wives came to join us in the fun. We thank very heartily all those members of the committee who worked so well to make this such a great success, and also the Regimental Dance Band who, under the very fine leadership of Cpl. Stafford, gave us some very good music.

The big events of our year were the Glorious First of June and Coronation Day. We had a dance on 1st June which went down very well, and the next day we

all saw the pomp and splendour of the Coronation on the television sets provided for the occasion.

It was on 28th August that we held a very successful Corporals' Mess Ball; this was a very colourful affair, and this time we had the services of the Dance Band of the 3rd Hussars. The Colonel of the Regiment came to see us, and we must say "thank you" to the committee, Cpls. Robinson and Grimwood, and L./Cpl. Angel, who worked whole-heartedly to make sure everyone enjoyed themselves.

Going from the social side to the sports side, we have been very well represented. Of special note are Cpl. I. Taylor and L./Cpl. Smith who helped the swimming team to win the B.A.O.R. Championships and later went to England to take part in the Army Championships; Cpls. Humphries and Walker and L./Cpls. Kimmond and Saunders, in the Battalion football team; and Cpls. Stafford and L./Cpl. Probert in the Battalion hockey team. Well done, all of you!

We also played our usual darts match with the sergeants, and we have yet one more victory to be chalked up on the board, our main stars being Cpl. Evans and L./Cpl. Stevens.

We have seen many new faces this year, although some of them are friends we knew before, among them Cpl. Taylor (M.T.) and our dear friend Cpl. "Spud" Taylor. We also welcome back Cpl. Morris, who joined us from Dusseldorf and is now working with his old love, the Battalion Ration Stores!

This year we seem to have lost more of our old friends than ever before, but we wish them well wherever they may be. To civilian life go Cpls. Milsom, Hartrup (Quartermaster's), Morrella, Cooper and Thompson (Signals), Messer, Lane and Minnis, and Driscoll and Drake, both of the Band. To the Regimental Depot we lose Cpls. Bennett (M.T.) and Cakebread.

We would like to congratulate Cpls. Dunkeld, O'Grady and Branscombe, who have all been promoted to the Sergeants' Mess, to Cpl. Nickson, selected for the Coronation contingent, to Cpl. Robinson, on being awarded a Coronation Medal, and last, but by no means least, L./Cpl. Lane, whose wife presented him with a girl on the *Glorious First of June*—a Regimental baby!

In concluding, we look back and think what a wonderful time we have had in Germany. It is with great sorrow that we say good-bye to our friends in the neighbouring units, but we look forward to our trip to Malaya in the coming year.

On that happy note we wish every corporal and lance-corporal in the Regiment, in all stations at home and abroad, good luck and good health in the future.

#### SPORT—SEASON 1952-53

We have again had a good year, and maintained our reputation. The greatest achievement was the winning of the B.A.O.R. Swimming Championship in a fierce competition by one point. The team later represented Rhine Army in the Army Championship at Aldershot and came sixth. The greatest credit is due to the team, as they had little time for training, due to military commitments, and their placing in the Army competition is no discouragement.

#### ATHLETICS AND CROSS-COUNTRY

In Athletics this year we have not succeeded in winning any team events, though individually L./Cpl. Roath and Pte. Crumplin have represented Rhine Army in the 1,500 metres and 200 metres respectively. In cross-country we did much better. We won the Infantry Division Championship by 8 points from the

1st Bn. Irish Guards and were then beaten by them into fourth place in the Rhine Army Championship.

L./Cpl. Roath and Pte. Hyde were picked for the victorious B.A.O.R. team in the Inter-Allied Championships, held at Minden on 3rd March. Roath ran magnificently to finish first, and Hyde was fourteenth. L./Cpl. Roath was second in the Army Individual Championship at Richmond on 11th March, and Ptes. Hyde and Golds were twentieth and twenty-fifth in a field of 200.

The competition in cross-country has been very keen throughout, and our team deserve all credit for their successes.

#### BOXING

Three individuals, L./Cpl. Coleman (light-weight), Pte. Griffiths (middle-weight) and Pte. Hayden (feather-weight), competed in the Infantry Division Championships on 20th-21st February. Pte. Griffiths was beaten in the final, and Pte. Hayden won his weight.

#### SKI-ING

With a team of novices we did not maintain our position as the best all-round ski-ing unit in the Division. We did however gain some notable successes. We were third in the military patrol race in a field of seventeen. The team was Lieut. L. M. Chandler, Cpl. Grimwood, and Ptes. Newton and Hindin.

In the Langlauf, out of twenty teams, the Battalion first team was tenth and the second team seventeenth. Cpl. Grimwood was fourteenth in a field of eighty-seven.

In the novices' downhill race, in a field of seventy-four, Cpl. Grimwood was first, Lieut. L. M. Chandler second, and Pte. Newton sixth.

We shall miss our ski-ing in Malaya.

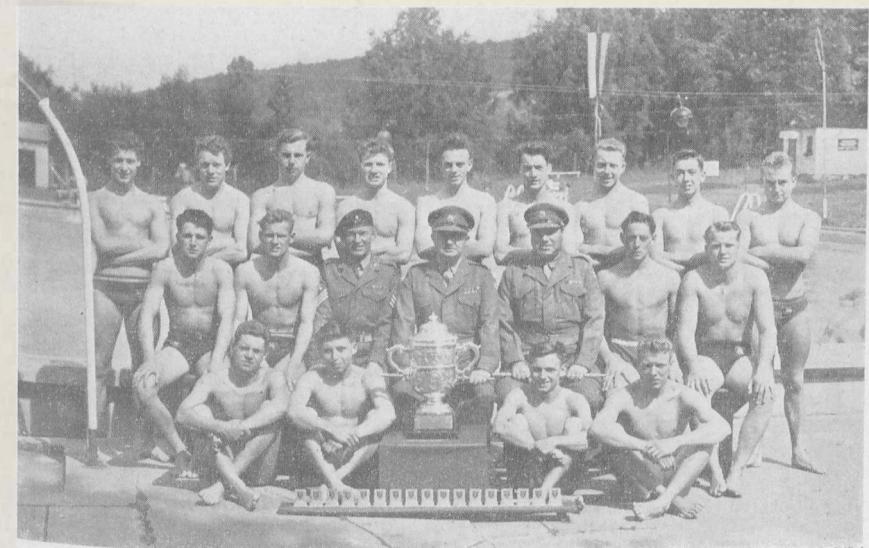
#### SWIMMING

At the beginning of June the Battalion came back to Iserlohn from a period of training at Sennelager. In ten days the Brigade Swimming Championships were to be held at Dortmund. There was no swimming team in existence and even the names of potential swimmers were unknown. After a few days of furious activity, a team was formed and then had five days to train for the Brigade Meeting. In order to gain time to train for the Divisional Meeting, it was necessary to get into the first two in the Brigade Meeting. It was known that the 10th Hussars had a very good team and had been training for months. There were six major units in the Brigade Group.

The Brigade Swimming Championships took place at Dortmund on 20th June, 1953. There were only two teams in the running—ourselves and the 10th Hussars. The 10th Hussars won the cup by a short head in the last race, but we were over our first hurdle.

On 17th-18th July we went to Dusseldorf to take part in the Infantry Divisional Championships. Again there were only two teams in the running—ourselves and the 10th Hussars. We each won two races and tied on the fifth. Owing to a last-minute change in the scoring rules, the 10th Hussars got the cup, but we were over our second hurdle.

On 5th-6th August we went to Hohne to compete in the B.A.O.R. Championships, together with our rivals the 10th Hussars. There were nine teams competing, including The Life Guards, who beat us by a short head last year, the 17th/21st Lancers and H.Q., N.A.G., all of whom were known to have good teams. Owing to a premature take-over, we were disqualified in the first race and thereby lost at least ten points. In a competition of only five races, this seemed



1st Battalion Swimming Team

Winners Rhine Army Swimming Championship, 1953

Back Row—Pte. Richardson, Pte. Wadey, Pte. Gaslick, Pte. Edwards, Dmr. Banks, Pte. Searle, Pte. Morley, Pte. Marsh, Pte. Sculthorpe.

Centre Row—Pte. Lewis, Pte. Smith, S.S.I. Mills, A.P.T.C., Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major L. V. Fane-Gladwin, Cpl. Taylor, L./Cpl. Smith.

Front Row—Pte. Waters, Pte. Cook, Pte. Loveland, Pte. Thorpe.



1st Battalion Shooting Teams, 1953

Back Row—Pte. Hales, Sergt. Piper, Cpl. Wells, Sergt. Wilmhurst, L./Cpl. Fordham, Pte. Giddings, L./Cpl. Groves, Pte. Clarke, Cpl. Cockburn.

Centre Row—Pte. Richards, L./Cpl. Bellas, Pte. Goode, Sergt. Morris, Cpl. Ramsey, Sergt. Redford, Sergt. Lampard, Pte. Curle, Cpl. Nickson, Pte. Attewell.

Front Row—C.S.M. Vance-Cotsford, 2/Lieut. M. E. Girling, 2/Lieut. M. O. Rudkin, Capt. P. G. Collyer, Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E., A.Q.M.S. Stone, Lieut. L. M. Chandler, C.S.M. Atkins, Cpl. Grimwood.

Unable to be present—Cpl. Messer, Cpl. Sibley, Pte. Earl, Pte. Burgess, Pte. Groves, Pte. Collins.

impossible to make good. However, we fought back hard and, despite that early setback, we won the B.A.O.R. Cup.

We now went to Aldershot to represent B.A.O.R. in the Army Championships and we began training over the new yard instead of metre distances. The Meeting took place on 28th August at the indoor pool at Aldershot. Represented by our strongest team to date and swimming better than ever before, we could not compete with the very high standard of the United Kingdom training establishments, and although, far from disgracing ourselves, could not get better than sixth place. Our men were always well up, however, and in five events we got two fourths, one fifth and two sixths.

A word of thanks to the Depot, who looked after us so well during our last stage and came to Aldershot to cheer us louder than anyone else, wherever we finished.

The team, during the various phases, was picked from the following:

2/Lieut. Boultbee, Cpl. Minnis and Taylor, L./Cpl. Smith, Ptes. Wadey, Richardson, Thorpe, Waters, Lewis, Stocker, Morley, Edwards, March, Loveland, Garlick, Coulton, Rosam, Sculthorpe, Smith, Cook and Searle, and Dmr. Banks; team captain, Major L. V. Fane-Gladwin; trainer, S.S.I. Mills, A.P.T.C.

### BISLEY, 1953

This summer the Regiment sent a shooting team to compete at Bisley for the first time for many years.

Bisley Camp and the ranges are between Woking and Aldershot. They do not belong to the Army, but to the National Rifle Association, an organization which grew out of the Volunteers, the T.A. of the last century.

Every year the Army holds its Central Rifle Meeting at Bisley, at which the Army Championship is decided. The Meeting is run by the Army Rifle Association.

The camp itself is laid out over a large area, and consists of administrative and other buildings, as well as many club houses. The Canadian club house is the best known, standing at the end of the Maple Tree Avenue.

The ranges are extensive, and it is possible to fire up to 1,300 yards. But the majority of the Army's competitions are fired on the Century Range, which extends to 600 yards and has a hundred targets.

The targets are of the N.R.A. pattern; the aiming marks are larger, but the scoring surfaces are smaller. In order to get bulls it is necessary to group to 2½ inches at 100 yards.

Competitors in the Army Championship are divided into Classes A, B and C. They are as follows: Class A, Officers, W.Os. and Sergeants; Class B, Corporals and below with more than two years' service; Class C, Corporals and below with less than two years' service.

The Battalion team was sixteen strong: eight Class A, three Class B, and five Class C, all of whom were entered for the Army Championship, and from whom we drew our teams. In the team matches one has to have a proportion of all classes.

In the Britannia Trophy, which is a team rifle match, we came second with a score of 713. The 17 Training Battalion R.A.O.C. were first with 716, and the 1st Rifle Brigade third with 707. This was a high standard. In the first practice, application at 500 yards, all our 60 shots to count were bulls or inners.

The team was: Capt. P. G. Collyer (A), A.Q.M.S. Stone (A), Sergt. Wilmshurst (A), Cpl. Nickson (B), Grimwood (B) and Sibley (C).

The Northamptonshire Cup is an aggregate of individual scores obtained in the Army Championship. In this we came second with a score of 1,794, the 1st

Rifle Brigade were first with 1,799, and the Irish Guards third with 1,761.

The team was: Capt. P. G. Collyer (A), A.Q.M.S. Stone (A), C.S.M. Vance-Cotsford (A), Cpl. Grimwood (B) and Wells (B), L./Cpl. Bellas (C) and Pte. Goode (C).

We competed in the Worcestershire Cup and the Sten, but in neither of these matches did we do as well as we had hoped.

In the Small Arms Cup which is a series of rapid shoots, some rifle and some Bren, we came second with 487. The 1st Rifle Brigade were first with 502.

The team was: Rifle, Capt. P. G. Collyer, A.Q.M.S. Stone, Cpl. Nickson and Sibley; Bren, Sergts. Morris and Wilmshurst and Cpl. Grimwood and Wells.

The Army Championship is decided after three individual matches have been fired.

The Harry Whitehead Cup and the Roberts Cup are the 1st Stage, the latter being a very difficult competition. The hundred highest aggregates of the two matches decides the Army Hundred. The Army Hundred Cup is then fired as Stage 2, and the aggregate of the two stages decides the Army Championship. The result is announced on the firing point, and the winner is marched off carried in a chair with a band at the head.

The Battalion had three in the Army Hundred: Cpl. Grimwood, A.Q.M.S. Stone and Capt. P. G. Collyer. Cpl. Grimwood came third, Class B. Capt. P. G. Collyer shot for the English Regiments' VIII in the Methuen Cup. This is an inter-Service match, with teams such as Bomber Command and the Home Fleet competing.

In the K.R.R.C. Cup, which is an aggregate of all matches fired, we were third. The 1st Rifle Brigade were winners, with the 1st D.C.L.I. runners-up. All told, the team won the following prizes: three bronze plaques, twenty-two medals and £37 in prize money.

In conclusion, this was a very satisfactory performance, and we made our name as a shooting regiment at Bisley. Next year we will not be able to compete there, but the Battalion has entered for the Non-Central Competitions, and we intend to maintain steady progress.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

Lieut. Vinson (late Colour-Sergeant, 1st/6th Queen's) is now Detachment Commander of 507 Company, R.A.S.C. (T.A.), at St. Mary's Bay, Kent.

Major P. C. Freeman is commanding an Army Cadet Force regiment (R.A.) which covers the Rochester and Gravesend areas in Kent. Recently he was selected as reserve for the British team in the Mayleigh Cup. This is a competition for small-bore pistols versus U.S.A., Canada and other countries.

6087714 Pte. P. Godden (son of Mr. E. W. Godden, M.M., late No. 10323 Sergeant, 1st Battalion) recalled to the Colours at the outbreak of the Korean War, joined The Gloucester Regiment and was taken prisoner in the Injim River stand. He has now been repatriated and is fit and well.

Lieut.-Colonel A. J. A. Watson has taken over the appointment of Officer Commanding Troops, Chemical Defence Experimental Establishment, Porton.

Lieut. H. C. Millman has become G.S.O.3 (G.L.O.), at G.H.Q., East Africa. Colonel B. E. L. Burton has been appointed Deputy Director of Military Intelligence (O. & S.) War Office.

Brigadier T. H. Dyke holds the appointment of B.G.S. (S.D.), G.H.Q., Rhine Army.

Capt. W. Webb has recently visited several cemeteries in which a large

number of Queen's soldiers are buried in the Caen area. He says they are extremely well kept and are in beautiful surroundings.

Major W. P. O'C. Wylde holds the appointment of G.S.O.2 (I.B.), H.Q., British Troops, Trieste.

Major P. R. H. Kealy is G.S.O.2, Land Forces, Bahrain, Persian Gulf.

Lieut.-Colonel H. P. Combe has given up his appointment at the School of Infantry at Warminster and is now Military Manager of a leave transit hotel at Graz, in Austria. He has recently been for a sea voyage down the east coast of Africa and at Mombasa met Cpl. Fagg, late of the 1st Battalion, who is now a company sergeant-major in the East African Forces.

Majors C. J. Grindley and E. B. G. Clowes represented the Regiment in the Inter-Regimental Doubles in the Army Tennis Championships, and were beaten by the Royal Artillery pair in the third round.

Major-General F. L. Nicholson, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., who died on 18th July, 1953, was gazetted to the 1st Battalion in 1903 and transferred to the Indian Army in 1905. He was G.O.C., Lucknow District, from 1938 to 1941, and many of the 1st Battalion of that time in the Allahabad Brigade Area will remember his visits to the Battalion on inspection duty in barracks and at training.

2/Lieuts. J. G. W. Davidson and M. G. Doyle have joined from the R.M.A. Sandhurst.

L. Marks (late 1st Battalion) has been promoted to Bandmaster and has gone to The Lancashire Fusiliers.

During their visit in July and August, the 1st Battalion Band took part in the White City Tattoo, and the Band and Drums beat "Retreat" at the R.M.A. Sandhurst, Redhill, Cranleigh, Charterhouse School and at the Guildford Sports Ground.

## 598th L.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A. (4th BATTALION THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT), T.A.

FOR the first time since the National Service scheme started, this Battalion saw all its subaltern officers at annual camp. This year annual camp took place at Tonfanau during the first half of August, with the kind co-operation of the Clerk of the Weather. We were glad to welcome to Camp No. 7 our Honorary Colonel, Colonel B. L. Evans, T.D., D.L., and our previous Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel P. D. Connery, M.B.E., T.D.

During the middle Sunday, coach expeditions explored "Wild Wales," whilst the Regimental Flag was planted, according to custom, on the peak of Snowdon by a select party led by the Adjutant.

A high proportion of out-of-camp training has taken the form of large numbers of battery week-end exercises entailing the defence of numerous mythical vital points in the depths of rural Kent, Sussex and Surrey. A strenuous series of Sundays were spent at Ash Ranges shooting the annual range course.

The Band has gone from strength to strength, and has had the honour of playing before Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret at a recent ecclesiastical garden party for which it was engaged.

By the time these notes are printed the 1953 officers' annual dinner will be a memory, but it is hoped next year to invite more ex-officers of the 4th Battalion. Should any ex-officer who reads these notes have not received an invitation this year, would he please get in touch with the Adjutant, who is trying to compile an up-to-date list of past members.

## 5th BATTALION

### THE CORONATION

THE Coronation and the events which went with it provided interesting work for the staff and members of the Battalion during the spring and early summer. The allotment of vacancies both in the main procession and street lining were heavily overscribed, especially by senior ranks, many of whom could unfortunately not be included. The preliminary arrangements and final conduct of the day made this memorable period a most enjoyable one for the T.A. members concerned.

The whole party was commanded by Major J. F. L. Clarke, T.D., and the Queen's Colour was carried by Lieut. J. N. Napier-Ford. Capt. M. R. H. Stopford and R.S.M. J. Kemp, ably assisted by Capt. J. H. Pappin, did all the pre-organization. Throughout they were well supported by the participants who were:

*Colour Party.*—Lieut. J. N. Napier-Ford, C./Sergt. L. Moxon, B.E.M., Sergt. J. Playford (as corporal).

*Procession Party.*—Major J. F. L. Clarke, T.D., R.S.M. J. Kemp, W.O.II E. Whitney (as colour-sergeant), Cpl. D. Bradford, L./Cpl. W. Bascombe (as private).

*Street Lining Party.*—Sergts. Barry and Hills, Cpl. Brunger and Watts, L./Cpls. Hounslow and Bonfield, Ptes. Hodgson, Pelling, Birch, Worsfold, Turner, Shaw, Edgington, Purdy, Martin and Hunter.

Each town within our boundary held its own ceremony, and in each of these the company commanders co-operated with the Mayor or organizers to include T.A. officers and men in the variety of celebrations and ceremonies. A strong contingent from "A" Company took part in the Reigate Coronation service on the Sunday before the Coronation. The parade, which was organized by Major A. C. Overington, was representative of all units in Reigate district.

At Guildford, on Coronation Day, members of the Battalion took part in the street procession and in the evening in a searchlight display in Stoke Park. The latter was strongly supported by the Anti-Tank Platoon and "D" Company, who gave a lively show which was much appreciated by the large crowd.

Later in June, for the drive in state to the Guildhall, the Battalion was honoured with further vacancies for street lining. This party was commanded by Major H. M. W. Harris.

### OFFICERS

The following officers are congratulated on their recent promotions: Major M. H. Prescott and Major R. C. H. Saunders.

Major Prescott now commands "B" Company at Camberley, having taken over from Major A. C. Henley. We were all very sorry to lose Major Henley and Capt. Carryer, who have now gone to the T.A. Reserve of Officers.

Six subalterns have been posted away to bring us down to the strength of officers at present permitted by the G.O.C. They are: Lieut. W. B. V. A. Gates to H.Q., 131 Brigade; Lieut. G. V. Hodges to H.Q., 150 Brigade; Lieut. R. W. Barbour, to 50 (N.) Brigade; Lieut. J. M. Lubbock and Lieut. L. J. Pike to 8th Durham L.I.; and Lieut. G. M. Hodges to 641 (M.) H.A.A. Regiment (R.A.).

A further four officers have been granted voluntary T.A. commissions, namely Lieut. D. A. Robinson, Lieut. J. N. Napier-Ford, Lieut. J. G. Giggins, Lieut. J. R. Gill. This means that out of an officer strength of thirty-one there are now twenty-five with voluntary T.A. commissions.

2/Lieut. P. Dawnay has recently been posted to us after completion of his full-time service.

At camp this year we were pleased to have Major D. F. L. Evans, T.D., Capt. J. M. Skillington and Capt. W. K. Roadnight. We were also very glad to have our new padre, the Rev. A. P. Cameron, with us at camp.

On 18th December there is going to be an officers' ball to celebrate the opening of the new officers' mess. It is hoped to continue such functions in the future.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

During the past twelve months the strength of the Battalion has gradually increased and is now over 600. The number of volunteers from National Service is still on the increase, which is very encouraging. We have lost a few of the older T.A. members and wish all the best to C.S.M. Haynes, C.S.M. Johnstone, Drum-Major Newman, and Sergts. Wilson, M.M., Dimpsey, Magson, M.M. and Evans.

We welcome the undermentioned to the Sergeants' Mess, and hope their stay will be a long and happy one: Sergts. Barnes, Towers, Gentle, Hills, Gardener, Reeves, Pracy, Shuff, Kingshott, Cobbett, Stratton, Quinell, and Bryers. Congratulations to the following on their promotions: C./Sergts. Collins, Whitney and Guest, to W.O.II, and Sergts. Dixon, Hudson and Hills to colour-sergeants.

We congratulate and say good-bye, with best wishes for the future, to Lieut. Qmr. J. Kemp, who was R.S.M. for the past five years and has now been promoted and posted overseas to the Northern Rhodesia Regiment. We congratulate E. Fuller, who has been promoted to R.S.M. in his place.

For the first time since the Battalion was re-formed the Mess held a dance at the Drill Hall, Guildford. It was a great success and it is hoped to repeat in the near future. The Colonel of the Battalion, Colonel R. C. Wigan and Mrs. Wigan, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. J. R. Terry, the Officers and their ladies, attended.

In November we had a dinner at No. 4 W.E.T.C., where we started off with a .22 shoot followed by dinner and a social evening, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The following guests were invited: Mr. P. Maloney, late P.S.I., H.Q. Company, and Mr. J. Homersham, late C.S.M., H.Q. Company.

At camp we held our usual social evenings with the officers and outside messes.

#### TRAINING AND CAMP

The year started with week-ends for Company and Platoon training at Pirbright, when for the first time Companies were strong enough to run these under their own arrangements. They were most successful and an enjoyable change from classification week-ends. Classification was again done on a Company basis, using their local ranges on Sundays.

There were several week-end T.E.W.T.S. for officers; two run by the Brigade at Tilford and Crowborough, and two run by the Division at Northampton and Henley. The Crowborough and Henley ones were best, the weather being fine and the surroundings pleasant, though at Henley somewhat expensive. There was also an N.C.Os.' week-end visit to Bovington under Battalion arrangements, for a tour of the R.A.C. Centre Museum and D. and M. School.

Camp at Stanford followed and was in fact the first all-canvas camp since the war. It was a busy time for all, especially senior officers and N.C.Os. Two Divisional-controlled exercises occupied the majority of the period, in the first week as enemy to 133 Brigade, and in the second as part of our own Brigade; everyone worked hard and enthusiastically throughout, foiling the enemy on the

first and pursuing them with great vigour on the second. In addition, companies managed to do two exercises each and classify in their L.M.G.

On the social side, there was a well-organized guest night with the customary guests from neighbouring units and headquarters. This went with a great swing and ended with spontaneous old-fashioned games and individual turns by the younger members.

On the last Friday of the camp, the Colonel of the 1st Battalion kindly lent the Drums to beat "Retreat." This occasion was celebrated jointly with the 6th Battalion, who came over in force to our Mess where we all entertained a large gathering to cocktails and a buffet supper. The P.M.C. is to be congratulated on his accomplishments, both in the Mess as a whole and in the dining room.

Coaches for other ranks were run to local towns every evening for those not engaged in training and at the week-end there were trips to Yarmouth and Norwich.

Padre Cameron kindly organized an outdoor church parade, but, most unfortunately, bad weather prevented this taking place.

Brigade camp with Battalion Headquarters as lower control will conclude this higher training year of the cycle, and next year there will be a reversion to training on the company and platoon level in a Battalion camp at Shorncliffe.

With only the odd night out, no high-level training, and Folkestone close at hand, the old brigade should reap a reward for their efforts of the past three years.

#### SHOOTING

Major R. C. H. Saunders, the team captain, is again to be congratulated on his achievements this year, his team having won the Hong Kong Tankard for China Cup teams at the District Rifle Meeting, and himself winning the Divisional Individual Cup. This makes him the simultaneous holder of the Battalion, Brigade and Divisional Individual Cups.

The Battalion Meeting was held in August in very fine weather and the prizes were presented by Mrs. J. R. Terry. The day proved another success for "B" Company's team although other results showed more even distribution than usual. They were as follows:

Competition	Won by	Runners-up
Inter-Company All Weapons ..	"B" Company	"D" Company
Inter-Company Rifle ..	"D" Company	"B" Company
Inter-Company L.M.G. ..	"B" Company	"D" Company
W.Os. & N.C.Os.' All Weapons ..	C.S.M. Guest	Sergt. McCready
W.Os. & N.C.Os.' Rifle ..	C.S.M. Guest	Sergt. Burnham
W.Os. & N.C.Os.' L.M.G. ..	C./Sergt. Moxon, B.E.M.	Sergt. McCready
Battalion Champion-at-Arms ..	Major Saunders	C.S.M. Guest
Battalion Champion Rifle ..	Major Saunders	Pte. Birch
Battalion Champion L.M.G. ..	C./Sergt. Moxon, B.E.M.	Sergt. McCready
Privates' Rifle Champion ..	Pte. Birch	Pte. Thornton
Inter-Company Falling Plate ..	H.Q. Company	

Individual results in Class "A," "B" and "C" were as follows:

##### CLASS "A":

*All Weapons.*—1, Major Saunders; 2, C.S.M. Guest; 3, Sergt. Burnham.  
*Rifle.*—1, Major Saunders; 2, Pte. Birch; 3, C.S.M. Burnham.

*L.M.G.*—1, C./Sergt. Moxon, B.E.M.; 2, Sergt. McCready; 3, Sergt. Playford.

##### CLASS "B":

*All Weapons.*—1, Cpl. Watts; 2, Pte. Pelling; 3, Pte. Battams.  
*Rifle.*—1, Cpl. Watts; 2, Pte. Pelling; 3, L./Cpl. Bonfield.  
*L.M.G.*—1, Pte. Battams; 2, Cpl. Watts; 3, Pte. Pelling.

## CLASS "C":

*All Weapons*.—1, L./Cpl. Bolwell; 2, Pte. Hilderley; 3, Pte. Skinner.  
*Rifle*.—1, Pte. Hilderley; 2, L./Cpl. Bolwell; 3, Pte. Skinner.  
*L.M.G.*.—1, L./Cpl. Bolwell; 2, Pte. Hilderley; 3, Pte. Skinner.

"B" Company held their own meeting in September on the R.M.A.S. range. This was again both a rifle meeting and social function and was much enjoyed by all. Mrs. Henley won the visitors' shoot after tying and reshooting with Mrs. Terry. The individual was won by Sergt. Burnham (Champion-at-Arms), Sergt. Burnham (application), C.S.M. Saddington (snap) and Sergt. Burnham (rapid).

We have entered for the usual T.A.R.A. decentralized competitions, but we have not finished firing them yet.

In the .22 competitions congratulations to Capt. A. J. Fell in becoming the Individual T.A. Champion of Great Britain, also Surrey T.A. & H.G., also on being selected for the Inter-Services Team (T.A.). Congratulations also to H.Q. Company on winning the T.A. Company Team Championships (Great Britain). The undermentioned were the team: Capts. A. J. Fell and Spencer-Moore, Sergt. Shuff, Cpl. Woodward, Dench and Unwin, and Ptes. Clarke and Bateman. Congratulations to the following team of H.Q. Company on winning the Surrey T.A. Challenge Cup and medals: Capt. A. J. Fell, Sergt. Shuff and Cpl. Dench and Woodward.

## NEW WING—GUILDFORD

The long-expected New Wing has now been completed at Guildford and is being officially opened shortly. It contains the central Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and offices for Battalion H.Q., H.Q. and Support Companies. This building will make a great difference to the central activities, both social and otherwise, of the Battalion.

## SPORTS

The main event in this category was the T.A. Cross-Country Championships, 1953, held at Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, in March this year, in which the Battalion team, captained by Sergt. Ell, did well to come sixth out of sixteen teams competing. Those in the team were: Sergt. Ell, Cpl. Tester and Bradford, and Ptes. Afleck, Tidey, Eede, Edwards, Marlow and Reed.

## 6th BATTALION

**H**ISTORY is in the making for, within a very short time, it is hoped that the new headquarters, or rather the old headquarters with a very "new look," will be officially opened.

Real progress has been made also with our efforts to spread the gospel of the T.A. over a greater area. Our "missionary" activities have resulted in the opening, in March, of a Drill Hall at Queen's House, Croydon. The re-formed "C" Company is now well established in this new area and developments are being watched with keen interest and expectancy. Queen's traditions are very strong in Croydon, it being the old hunting ground of the 4th Battalion, which is now associated with our good friends the "598."

## OFFICERS

We extend a warm welcome to Major P. M. C. Zehntner and 2/Lieut. J. M. Stevenson, who have joined the Battalion as T.A. volunteer officers; but, on the debit side, regret the departure of Majors I. L. Jones, T.D., L. C. Lade, T.D. (R.A.M.C.) and J. E. Pearson, T.D., and Capt. M. J. Sayer, all of whom have served the Battalion loyally and well since it was re-formed in 1947. We are sorry, too, to say farewell to Major A. R. C. Spencer, Lieuts. B. P. Hillier, J. D. Hillier and W. R. C. Pasteur, 2/Lieut. the Hon. A. T. Montagu and the Rev. R. J. C. Lloyd, M.A.

Our congratulations to Majors I. L. Jones, T. N. S. Hodges and L. E. Stringer on their award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration, and to Lieut.-Colonel J. E. Flint, Major (Q.M.) A. E. Reynolds, M.B.E., M.M., T.D., Major C. H. Nice and Capt. J. F. Hancocks upon being granted Coronation Medals. It is also with pleasure that we offer our congratulations to Capt. W. W. B. Rodger on his becoming runner-up to the Champion-at-Arms of the 44th Infantry Division (T.A.).

## TRAINING AND CEREMONIAL

Week-end camps run by individual companies have been a feature of the year's training and have helped considerably towards the fostering of a company spirit. The Signals, M.T. and other specialists from Support Company have also staged successful week-end camps of their own. The final week-end camp held at Montreal Park in late September was held for T.A. volunteers only, and an opportunity was taken on this occasion to run a most successful N.C.O.s' cadre. Apart from these camps, there have been several week-ends which have been spent on the ranges.

For the annual camp we returned to the Stanford P.T.A. after a break of three years. It is interesting to relate that of the 354 National Service men who attended this camp, seventy-five became volunteers—almost twenty per cent. All told, the number of National Service men who have volunteered between September, 1952, and September, 1953, is 114.

The outstanding feature of this year's camp was the three-day exercise, which proved invaluable in giving the Battalion some really first-class training in the field; for some of us it was quite like old times. Some disappointment was experienced because we were not able to use the best field firing range available in Britain, but the Brigade Support Companies were able to be amalgamated for a short course under School of Infantry staff instructors, and they benefited greatly by their teaching.

During the winter months the Battalion looks forward to being able to use its new H.Q. buildings and company drill halls to very good purpose.

On the ceremonial side, the usual Remembrance Day Parade took place on Sunday, 9th November, 1952, when quite large crowds watched the Officer Commanding lay wreaths on the Battalion War Memorial, and then saw the Battalion march to a service at St. Olave's and St. Saviour's School. Lieut. (now Captain) W. W. B. Rodger and Lieut. B. P. Hillier carried the colours.

Upon the sad occasion of the funeral of Her late Majesty Queen Mary the Battalion was represented by Lieut.-Colonel J. E. Flint, and W.Os.II C. H. Davis, J. Kingsland and F. Furmedge. The Colonel and the three Warrant Officers marched in the funeral procession.

The Battalion procession party at Her Majesty's Coronation was commanded by Major C. H. Nice, and included R.Q.M.S. Townsend, C./Sergt. Cowling, Cpl. Rowe and Pte. Williams. Capt. W. W. B. Rodger commanded the Battalion route-lining party, which consisted of one officer and eighteen other ranks.

On 12th June the Battalion was represented in the Home Counties Division street-lining party in The Strand upon the occasion of Her Majesty The Queen's visit to the Guildhall. This contingent was commanded by Major L. E. Stringer, T.D., and consisted of three officers and fourteen other ranks.

### SHOOTING

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was held at Purfleet Ranges on 21st June. Keen competition for all the Battalion trophies produced the following results:

Bevington Cup (All Ranks).—Major D. R. G. Clement.  
 Parker Cup (Officers).—Major D. R. G. Clement.  
 Sergeants' Cup.—Sergt. P. Mahoney ("A" Company).  
 Corporals' Cup.—L./Cpl. W. Richardson ("D" Company).  
 Privates' Cup.—Pte. L. White ("D" Company).  
 Morris Cup.—"D" Company.  
 Lilliput Cup.—"B" Company.  
 Greenwood Cup (Officers v. Sergeants).—Officers.  
 Falling Plates Cup.—"B" Company.  
 Officers' Pistol.—Capt. K. W. Homer.

Mention elsewhere has been made of Capt. W. W. B. Rodger's success at the Divisional Rifle Meeting.

### SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

#### ANNUAL REPORT

The football section of the Sports Club had a very successful 1952-53 season. Entering the T.A. Cup Competition for the first time, they reached the last sixteen from teams drawn from the whole of the British Isles. The team won more than half of all games played during the season, including the matches against H.M.S. *President* and the H.A.C. It is certain that the hard work and enthusiasm of Major A. C. Beach was responsible for the success of the Battalion soccer team, and we offer our congratulations to all who represented the Battalion during the season. We look forward to even greater success this winter.

The social side of the Club was of necessity restricted because of the rebuilding at Jamaica Road, but now that the new Centre is nearly finished, it is hoped that we shall be able to run many more social functions. The most successful occasion of the past year was undoubtedly the Christmas party which, although rather poorly attended, was enjoyed very much by those present.

The annual children's Christmas party was held early in 1953 and was thoroughly enjoyed by the large number of children who attended.

### NEWS OF THE COMPANIES

"A" Company now has a volunteer strength of thirty-five. A company week-end at Sevenoaks was well attended, and the inclusion of a five-mile forced march added to, rather than detracted from, their enjoyment. They extend their good wishes to the first intake of National Service men, whose sixty-day part-time training commitment has now been fulfilled.

"B" Company record a gradual increase in their numbers at New Cross. Out of a strength of ninety-five other ranks forty are volunteers. Best wishes are extended to Ptes. Godbold, Bowyer and Shoebridge, who are "time-expired" men. Their Company week-end camp was a great success.

A welcome is extended to Lieuts. C. B. Mann and M. G. Stone, the former as Second-in-Command, and also to C./Sergt. Pantling, Sergt. Palmer (their P.S.I.), and Cpl. Woodward and Nason.

Capt. K. W. Homer has left to command "D" Company; Lieut. J. C. Parrish to "A" Company as Second-in-Command; Lieut. Vinson to Brigade as Liaison Officer.

"C" Company: On 22nd April, the Commanding Officer, accompanied by Officer Commanding and Second-in-Command, "C" Company, paid their respects to His Worship the Mayor of Croydon, and on 15th May a cocktail party was held in the Officers' Mess at Queen's House, at which the Mayor, Major-General I. T. P. Hughes and a number of distinguished citizens of Croydon, and Queen's well-wishers attended.

The task of getting "C" Company under way is progressing very favourably, and its volunteer element is growing and is fully prepared and briefed for coping with its National Service strength, which is building up very rapidly.

"D" Company report the loss of two Company Commanders within a very short time. First, Major J. E. Pearson, T.D., left to assume a civilian appointment in Canada, and then his successor, Major A. R. C. Spencer, heard the call of the Far East. To both of these officers, and to several others, they send their best wishes.

H.Q. Company report that the year has seen a lot of changes and a number of increases in personnel in all sections. At annual camp the cooks worked with a will, supplying strength to the Battalion.

The Battalion motor-cycle team had to be carefully vetted with regard to entrants, which were more in number than the unit had motor-cycles! In the trials themselves, they did well against long odds.

The Signals report that their Platoon strength has doubled, with a volunteer strength of twenty-three out of a total strength of forty-one. Their target is "all volunteers by the end of 1954."

Support Company reports that the general standard has improved, and although the National Service men volunteers have been somewhat backward in coming forward, it is hoped that the situation will improve in the near future. Their difficulties in training on week nights have been considerable due to the building alterations, but with the completion of these alterations they look forward to carrying out some really good, interesting training. The Mortars, M.M.Gs. and Assault Pioneers report all-round improvement, but the Anti-Tank Platoon have had training difficulties because they have not been able to have the 17-pounders available for drill. Despite this, they guarantee that their rounds will still hit the target!

### SERGEANTS' MESS

After nine months of waiting, we have at long last moved into our new Mess. This new building is all that we could have wished for, as it is complete in comfort to the last detail. This is most encouraging, as we have had to curtail our Mess life for rather a long period.

Our Mess at annual camp at East Wretham was very comfortable, and the membership there totalled forty-two. We found time, between the somewhat strenuous training periods, to entertain on two occasions; once when the Commanding Officer and officers of the Battalion were our guests and again when the Corporals' Mess visited us. Both were most enjoyable evenings.

We congratulate Sergts. McGovern, Squirrell, Tapsell and Johnson, who are now members of the Mess—may their stay with us be a happy one. Also, congratulations to C./Sergts. Morgan and Pantling on their promotions. Our congratulations are also extended to R.S.M. J. Groves, M.M., R.Q.M.S. Townsend, C.S.M. C. H. Davis, C./Sergt. M. Burns and C./Sergt. A. J. Cowling upon their being granted the Coronation Medal.

The first function in the new Mess took the form of a social and dance on 19th September. Approximately fifty guests attended, and we were honoured by the presence of the Commanding Officer and officers of the unit. A most enjoyable evening resulted.

## LONDON GAZETTE

EXTRACTS. 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1952—18TH SEPTEMBER, 1953

### REGULAR ARMY

Capt. E. B. G. Clowes (94554) to be Major, 7th September, 1952.

Lieut.-Colonel H. G. Duncombe, D.S.O. (35956) retires on retired pay, 20th September, 1952, and is granted the honorary rank of Colonel.

Terence Domenic George Mulady (424413), from R.M.A. Sandhurst to be Second-Lieutenant, 1st August, 1952.

Capt. I. D. Beattie (108149) to be Major, 22nd October, 1952.

Major C. B. Gray, M.B.E. (66087) retires receiving a gratuity, 1st December, 1952, and is granted the honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Capt. K. R. Thompson (138673) retires receiving a gratuity, 21st November, 1952, and is granted the honorary rank of Major.

The following Captains to be Majors, 31st December, 1952: R. S. N. Mans (112882), C. R. C. Elverson (112867) and W. P. O'C. Wylde (112897).

The following Majors to be Brevet Lieutenant-Colonels, 1st July, 1952: F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E. (49931), and D. G. Loch, O.B.E. (52644).

Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Sykes-Wright, D.S.O., O.B.E. (41221), on completion of period of service in command, remains on full pay (supern.), 6th January, 1953.

2/Lieut. J. R. Sandy (420915) retires on account of disability, 6th January, 1953.

Capt. M. J. Hackford (138964) to be Major, 26th January, 1953.

Lieut. Alan Godfrey Jones (368443) from Short Service Commission, to be Lieutenant, 28th January, 1953, with seniority 28th February, 1950.

The following Lieutenant-Colonels to be Colonels: (Temporary Brigadier) J. F. Metcalfe (41781) from Surreys, 13th August, 1952, and (Temporary Colonel) B. E. L. Burton (33625) from Empl. List (late Queen's), 6th September, 1952.

Capt. (Q.M.) S. W. J. Sharp (257165) to be Major (Q.M.), 13th April, 1953.

Lieut. J. F. Girling (397667) resigns his commission, 14th March, 1953.

Colonel A. P. Block, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. (22528), late Infantry, retires on retired pay, 5th May, 1953, and is granted the honorary rank of Brigadier.

Major and Bt. Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E. (49931), to be Lieutenant-Colonel, 6th January, 1953.

2/Lieut. P. S. Field (418261) to be Lieutenant, 3rd August, 1953.

2/Lieut. A. B. S. Faris (418260) to be Lieutenant, 3rd August, 1953.

2/Lieut. M. F. Reynolds (412046) to be Lieutenant, 11th August, 1953, with seniority 22nd January, 1953.

Michael John Doyle (430291), 4th July, 1953, and John Gerald Walker Davidson (430283), 31st July, 1953, from R.M.A. Sandhurst, to be Second-Lieutenants, with seniority as stated.

### SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

Lieut. L. J. T. Coleman (176583) to be Captain, 24th August, 1952.

Capt. B. R. N. de Saulles (76601) to be Major, 3rd September, 1952.

Lieut. P. R. Sawyer (189974) to be Captain, 19th September, 1952.

Lieut. E. L. Williams (371748) to be Captain, 3rd October, 1952.

Capt. L. W. Karn (121061) to be Major, 24th February, 1953.

Lieut. C. P. Straker (160939) to be Captain, 27th March, 1953.

Lieut. W. Webb, D.C.M. (181183) to be Captain, 2nd May, 1953.

6085775 W.O.I James William Kemp (428836) to be Lieutenant (Quartermaster), 3rd June, 1953.

Capt. G. Fitzsimons (118796) to be Major, 7th June, 1953.

### TERRITORIAL ARMY

Lieut. A. D. G. Langmead (278601) to be Captain, 18th October, 1952.

Capt. (Hon. Major) J. D. Wade (143539), from Manchester Reserve of Officers, to be Captain, 28th January, 1953, with seniority 1st July, 1948, and is seconded for service on the Staff.

Capt. (Acting Major) H. M. W. Harris (113567) to be Major, 12th May, 1953, with seniority 10th January, 1952.

Capt. P. M. C. Zehntner (299271), from Reserve of Officers, to be Captain, 10th March, 1953, with seniority 19th June, 1951.

Capt. A. R. C. Spencer (314065) is granted the acting rank of Major, 1st April, 1953.

Lieut. W. J. McNeill (417396) to be Captain, 1st April, 1953.

Lieut. D. J. Archer (357500) is granted the acting rank of Captain, 2nd April, 1953.

Capt. M. H. Prescott (95393) to be Major, 1st May, 1953.

Capt. D. R. G. Clement (340101) to be Major, 1st May, 1953.

22517652 Sgt. James Meikle Stevenson (429989) to be Second-Lieutenant, 22nd June, 1953.

### TERRITORIAL EFFICIENCY DECORATION

Major I. L. Jones, 2nd December, 1952.

Capt. (Hon. Major) A. E. Hope (7967) (retd.), 6th February, 1953.

Capt. D. N. Howell-Everson (182724) (now Lieutenant, S.S.R.C.), 14th July, 1953.

Major L. E. Stringer (193814), 8th September, 1953.

### AWARD OF FIRST CLASP

Major A. G. Neale, T.D. (63930), 24th October, 1952.

Capt. (Hon. Major) A. E. Hope (7967) (retd.), 6th February, 1953.

Capt. W. E. Jones, T.D. (26016), 14th July, 1953.

### AWARD OF FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD CLASPS

Major (Hon. Lieut.-Colonel) R. J. Pope, O.B.E., T.D. (30127), 8th May, 1953.

### TERRITORIAL EFFICIENCY MEDAL

Lieut. B. L. J. Channon (166974) (now Captain, T.A.), 19th May, 1953.

Lieut. R. E. G. Pearson (299589), 19th May, 1953.

### NATIONAL SERVICE

The following National Service officers have joined during the above period and have been posted as shown:

2/Lieuts. M. O. Rudkin (1st Battalion), M. J. Hutchins (R.W.A.F.F.), M. J. Drew (1st Battalion), P. W. Rogers (Brigade Depot), R. C. Southern (1st Battalion), D. V. M. Howell (1st Battalion), E. R. Paton (Depot, now 1st Battalion), A. Holmes (Depot), F. M. Donnelly-Wood (Parachute Regiment, since accidentally drowned in Malaya), A. Newell (Gold Coast Regiment), H. W. Gawthrop (1st Battalion, now Depot), D. H. Jones (K.A.R.), J. G. Cleverly (1st Battalion), P. R. Clarke (Federated Malay Forces), D. J. L. Hughes (1st Battalion), D. M. Taylor (K.A.R.), J. B. Gritton (K.A.R.), P. M. R. Mackintosh (R.W.A.F.F.), M. W. H. Boultbee (R.W.A.F.F.), A. V. Palmer (1st Battalion) and G. C. Sharpe (1st Battalion).

### VOLUME VIII. REGIMENTAL HISTORY

The latest volume of the Regimental History, 1924-1948, will be on sale on 1st December, 1953, at £2 2s. per copy, exclusive of postage.

An advertisement has already been circularized, but copies may be ordered direct from O.C., Depot, or Gale & Polden Ltd., Aldershot.

Subscribers are requested to pass on this information to anyone who they know may be interested.

## THE BATTLE FOR JAIL HILL, KOHIMA, MAY 7th to MAY 14th, 1944

ON 5th May, 1st Queen's was in the concentration area in Dimapur. Orders were received for the Battalion to move to Kohima on the following day, and a warning order stated that the Battalion would be going into action almost immediately on arrival.

"R" Group left for Kohima at dawn on 6th May, the Battalion following in M.T. convoy an hour later. On arrival the troops debussed and made the long and difficult climb, carrying kit and ammunition to the harbouring area in the vicinity of the rifle ranges.

The task was the capture and consolidation of Jail Hill, and the assault was to be made the following morning, 7th May.

Jail Hill and Pimple feature, held by the enemy, commanded the main road, at about Mile 42, and was a veritable obstacle in the path of the advance on the road to Imphal, and was also a key position in the battle for Kohima.

No information was available as to the strength of the enemy on Jail Hill. It was known, however, to be strongly held, and was believed to be honeycombed with bunkers and fox-holes.

The flanking features—D.I.S., and G.P.T. ridge, were also known to be held by the enemy.

It was quite obvious that a stiff task lay ahead for 1st Queen's.

### THE FIRST ASSAULT, 7TH MAY

"H" Hour was fixed for 1030 hrs.

This was provisional on troops of another formation having cleared the enemy from C.P.T. ridge by 0900 hrs.

### PLAN

The operation was to be carried out in two phases.

### PHASE 1

The capture of Pimple.

This to be carried out by "C" Company (Major G. Rothery) following a heavy artillery concentration on the feature. "C" Company to capture the feature and establish a firm base from which to launch Phase 2.

### PHASE 2

Artillery concentration to switch from Pimple to Jail Hill. Under cover of the artillery bombardment "D" Company (Major G. B. Shaw), closely followed by "A" Company (Major M. L. Mansel), were to pass through the firm base on Pimple and assault Jail Hill.

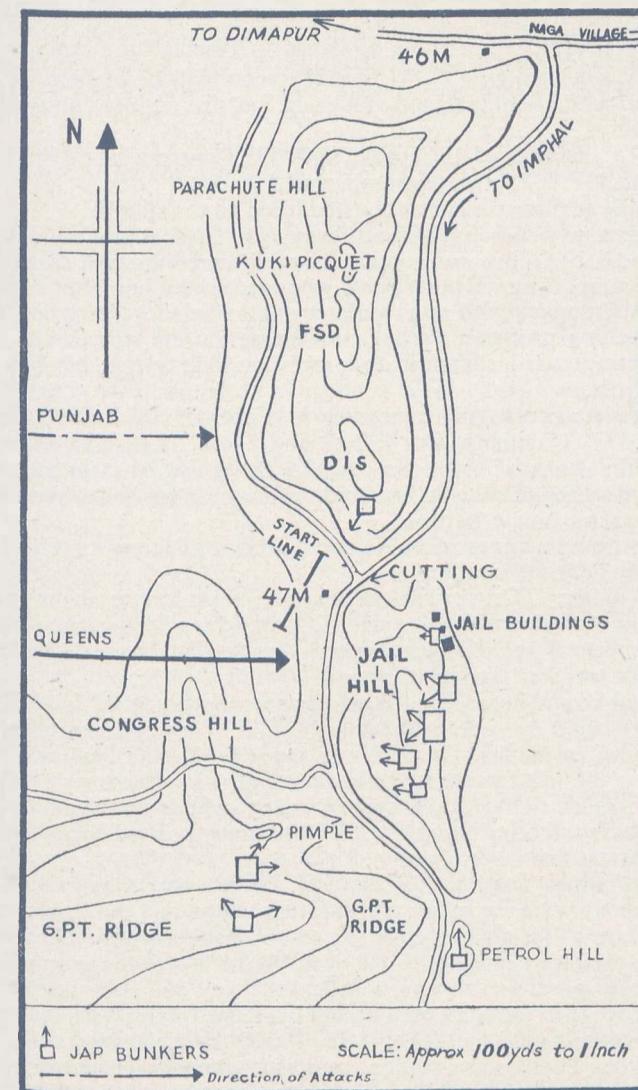
"D" Company to assault the enemy position. "A" Company to mop-up and to assist in the consolidation.

"B" Company (Major M. A. Lowry) to be in reserve with Battalion Tactical Headquarters.

Tactical Headquarters to move to Pimple after capture of that feature, and to Jail Hill on consolidation.

### NARRATIVE OF EVENTS

1st Queen's "O" Group assembled on the morning of 6th May, and orders were given out and the ground studied from a vantage point on Congress Hill. During the day platoon and section commanders studied the ground from this



vantage point. Reconnaissance was made very difficult by the heavy rain and mist which restricted visibility for long periods.

When dawn broke on 7th May it was raining heavily, and continued to do so until about 0930 hrs.

At 0900 hrs. information was received that G.P.T. Ridge had still not been cleared, and that "H" Hour was therefore postponed until 1130 hrs.

At 1115 hrs. G.P.T. Ridge had still not been cleared. It was considered, however, that as the enemy was being heavily attacked there he would not be likely to interfere seriously with the attack by 1st Queen's on Jail Hill. The attack was ordered to go in at 1130 hrs.

The artillery concentration came down on to Pimple for twenty minutes.

Immediately after it ceased "C" Company assaulted the feature. The assault was carried out with great dash and efficiency, and the feature captured without serious opposition.

Tactical H.Q. now moved to Pimple, and "D" Company and "A" Company moved out to their F.U.P. below the main road.

Meanwhile the artillery concentration had lifted on to Jail Hill.

Pimple feature now came under very heavy fire from skilfully hidden enemy posts. Rifle and L.M.G. fire was coming from all directions, and casualties soon began to mount up. Major Rothery was wounded in the head but continued to command "C" Company with great gallantry and efficiency. With his head bandaged and bleeding profusely throughout the action, he was, by his splendid example of courage and leadership, an inspiration to everyone. He was awarded the Military Cross.

Bullets were now cracking everywhere. Capt. J. L. Smyth, Second-in-Command of "C" Company, was killed, and Lieut. H. C. Annett wounded. Tucked into the front of Capt. Smyth's battle-blouse was the hunting-horn which he always carried into action, and with which he had often rallied his men in the Arakan jungle battles.

The enemy fire now appeared to be coming from positions on G.P.T. Ridge, and increased in intensity on Pimple.

A member of the C.O.'s escort section was wounded in the thigh; a few seconds later a signaller with Tactical H.Q. had his cheek ripped open by a bullet. A member of the Pioneer Platoon, frantically digging a hole for the Command Post, was shot through the hand.

When the smoke and haze from the artillery bombardment of Jail Hill cleared, "D" Company could be seen assaulting the Hill. They immediately began to suffer very heavy casualties. The Hill was swept by L.M.G. and rifle fire from both flanks; on the left the enemy obviously had many posts on D.I.S. Ridge, and on F.S.D.; on the right L.M.G.s. were firing straight down the main road.

In spite of their withering casualties, "D" Company pressed home their assault with great gallantry and determination.

Sergt. Burt, while leading his platoon against an enemy bunker, was wounded in the arm; he continued to lead the platoon and the bunker was captured. Sergt. Burt led his platoon against a second bunker position and was again wounded, this time by a grenade in the neck. As he lay on the ground he called to his men: "I'm paralysed down one side, but I can still throw grenades; give me a supply." He then gave his men orders for a flanking attack on the bunker. They were to move round the flank while he crept closer to the enemy position and attracted their attention by pelting them with grenades. He crawled to within fifteen yards of the enemy and threw grenades into the post while the platoon moved round the flank. The assault was successful and the bunker was captured. When the men of the platoon went to the sergeant he was dead. By his gallant leadership and heroic self-sacrifice, Sergt. Burt had led his platoon in the capture of two formidable enemy posts, and undoubtedly saved heavy casualties.

"A" Company followed closely and having crossed the road began to storm

the hill, and to mop up the positions overrun by "D" Company's right. They met with fierce opposition from enemy strong-points, and vicious sniping from G.P.T. Ridge.

Sergt. White displayed outstanding leadership and personal courage in leading his platoon against enemy bunkers. Having led a bayonet charge against one bunker, he quickly reorganized his men, and carried out a skilful and successful attack on a second bunker. His platoon by this time had suffered heavy casualties. Sergt. White then led the remnants of the platoon in an attack on a third strong-point. He was killed on the edge of the bunker, while firing at the occupants with a tommy-gun.

When about a quarter of the way up the hill, "A" Company were met by a devastating fire from the front and both flanks, and could make no further headway.

On the left "D" Company were forcing their way up the hill but were paying dearly for every yard gained.

From the Command Post on Pimple, it could be seen that both "D" and "A" Companies on Jail Hill were having an extremely rough time. Men were falling every few seconds. In their very exposed position, subjected to the murderous cross-fire and sniping, the slightest movement brought casualties.

Concern was now felt about the bringing in of the many wounded. At 1230 hrs. "B" Company, in reserve, were told to send twenty men forward to assist in bringing in the wounded.

By about 1400 hrs. "D" Company had reached their objective, but only Major Shaw and fourteen men, most of whom were wounded, got to the top of the hill.

"A" Company were still hotly engaging the enemy from their positions, but could not advance.

Both Companies were receiving heavy casualties.

From the Command Post it appeared that the position on Jail Hill was rapidly becoming untenable. This was confirmed by Major Shaw, who, speaking to the C.O. on the "48" set, said that the small force left to him was being reduced every minute, and that men were being hit while lying on their stomachs trying to dig themselves in.

The decision to withdraw was made.

The orders were as follows:

The artillery were asked to put down smoke on both flanks of Jail Hill. Under cover of this smoke all wounded were to be brought in. All available men of "B" Company to go forward and help in bringing in the wounded. As soon as all wounded had been brought in, "D" and "A" Companies to withdraw from Jail Hill, through "C" Company on Pimple, to the assembly area. "C" Company to cover this withdrawal, and then to withdraw also to the assembly area.

As the C.O. was issuing the orders over the "48" set, the Brigade Commander, Brigadier Loftus-Tottenham, arrived at the Command Post. He was accompanied by Brigadier Burke, C.R.A., 2nd Division.

The Brigade Commander agreed with the decision to withdraw, and the C.R.A. himself arranged for the smoke.

The smoke came down exactly as asked for. Both flanks of Jail Hill were effectively screened, and the clearing of the casualties from the hill began immediately. The men of "B" Company were magnificent in this task. Many of them made the difficult and hazardous journey as many as five times. It was a long carry, over rough and difficult ground, through enemy shelling and mortar fire. C.S.M. Shepherd, "D" Company, received the immediate award of the

Military Medal for his gallantry in organizing and leading these parties. The R.A.P. moved farther forward to assist in the evacuation of casualties.

As the result of "B" Company's splendid efforts all the wounded were cleared from the hill.

As soon as the last of the wounded had been collected, "D" Company and "A" Company withdrew from Jail Hill, followed by Tactical H.Q. and "C" Company from Pimple.

By dusk the whole Battalion was back in the assembly area. It had been a very tough and costly day, but the gallant assaults had not been made in vain, nor the casualties sustained without results.

Considerable casualties had been inflicted on the enemy.

It was established beyond doubt that Jail Hill was very strongly defended.

A number of enemy strongpoints and bunkers had now been located and pin-pointed.

Perhaps the most valuable result of the first attack on Jail Hill was its effect on future planning. It demonstrated unmistakably that if Jail Hill was to be captured and held, C.P.T. Ridge must first be cleared, and that an attack must be made on D.I.S. simultaneously with that on Jail Hill. Operationally, these two features were inter-dependent.

On the day after the battle the following messages were exchanged between Commanding Officer, 1st Queen's, and C.R.A., 2nd Division:

"From 1/Queen's O.C. to C.R.A., 2nd Div.

"I wish to express the appreciation of all ranks of the Battalion on the magnificent support given to us by the Royal Artillery in our attack on Jail Hill and Pimple.

"All ranks have expressed their admiration for the accuracy and timing of the H.E. and smoke.

"Company Commanders have said that the work of the F.O.Os. with their companies was splendid.

"I shall be very grateful if my personal thanks, and the gratitude of all ranks under my command can be conveyed to all concerned.

"The Gunners played a most important part, not only in helping us on to our objectives, but also in getting all our casualties out safely."

"From C.R.A., 2nd Division.

"I shall be grateful if you would tell 1/Queen's how much their message was appreciated. At the same time I should be glad if you would tell them that all ranks of the Royal Artillery regarded it as a very great honour to be able to support such a fine Battalion in their very gallant attacks on Jail Hill and Pimple."

#### THE SECOND ASSAULT, 11TH TO 14TH MAY

On 9th May 1st Queen's received a warning order stating that the Battalion would be required to make a second assault on Jail Hill. The assault was to be part of a Brigade operation, and the probable date 11th May.

Throughout the hours of daylight on 9th and 10th May, junior leaders studied the ground and the enemy position from vantage points on Congress Hill.

The 33 Brigade operation order confirmed 11th May as the date for the attack.

There was to be a preparatory phase. During this phase C.P.T. Ridge was to be cleared, by troops from another brigade, by dusk on 10th May. Six-pounder anti-tank guns were to blast known enemy bunkers during the afternoon of 10th May.

The Brigade intention was to capture and consolidate the features Pimple—Jail Hill—D.I.S.

The operation to be carried out in three phases:

#### PHASE 1

1st/1st Punjabis to infiltrate on to Pimple during night 10th/11th May.

#### PHASE 2

1st Queen's and 15th Punjabis to move out to F.U.P., fifty yards below the main road, by 0440 hrs. on 11th May.

#### PHASE 3

0440 hrs., 11th May. Preliminary bombardment by artillery of Jail Hill and D.I.S.

0500 hrs. Assault. 1st Queen's, Jail Hill exclusive cutting between Jail Hill and D.I.S. 15th Punjabis, D.I.S. inclusive cutting.

1st Queen's intention was to capture and consolidate Jail Hill.

#### PLAN

The plan was to assault with two companies up—"B" Company left, "C" Company right—supported by "D" Company and "A" Company respectively. The leading Companies to capture and consolidate the crest of the hill.

The troops were to edge forward during the artillery concentration, and assault with all speed as soon as the concentration lifted. The Artillery were to put down smoke on the hill during the actual assault.

One bunker-destroying party, consisting of one officer and seven Indian soldiers of the Indian Engineers, with each of the leading Companies.

One squadron of tanks was available to fire on the west slopes of Jail Hill; this fire would be produced only if asked for.

Battalion Tactical H.Q. and Command Post to be on the forward slope of Congress Hill.

#### NARRATIVE EVENTS

"O" Group was held on the morning of 10th May. It was stressed that the assault on Jail Hill was part of a division operation, and every man was to know that any hitch in the Battalion's attack might prejudice, seriously, the success of the whole operation.

Having attacked over the same ground four days previously and studied it from vantage points during the last two days, the troops and their leaders had a pretty sound knowledge of the geography and its hazards. In spite of this the night advance to the F.U.P. was extremely difficult. It entailed the crossing of several re-entrants, and involved climbing and stumbling up and down hundreds of feet. The undergrowth was very thick, and there was no defined track. To get to the correct place required, was a feat of skilful navigation on the part of the leading company commander, Major Lowry. Considering the amount of hacking which had to be done and the unavoidable stumbling, silence was maintained remarkably well. The companies arrived at the F.U.P. in good time, and after pausing for a breather shook out on the start line.

On the tick of 0440 hrs. there came down the most terrific artillery concentration imaginable. Jail Hill and D.I.S. were just one large red and orange glow, while the whole earth shook and trembled in the fierce dawn bombardment.

After twenty minutes the concentration ceased and the assault went in. It was magnificent.

Through the base of smoke which, according to plan, our gunners were putting down on the hill during initial assault, the troops stormed the first bunkers, firing from the hip as they went in. The Japs fought back desperately. It had seemed that no living thing could remain on the hill after that mighty bombardment. It testifies to the efficiency of the enemy's field works and to his own tenacity and courage that he was able to survive there and defend his positions with such fierce determination.

Casualties were heavy now. These were inflicted by bunker defenders and by enemy cross fire from all directions.

The troops pressed on up the hill, and soon "B" Company were over the crest. They were now heavily engaged by fire from bunkers low down on the reverse slope. They were catching it pretty badly. The F.O.O. with the Company soon became inoperative as his operator was killed and his wireless set knocked out.

Fighting was now bitter and mostly hand-to-hand. Seen from the Command Post what appeared to be a snowball fight was taking place on the west end of the crest. The snowballs, however, were not white; they were grey cast-iron colour, and when they burst men fell, or rolled over and lay still. In this desperate grenade encounter casualties to both sides were considerable. Lieut. N. R. P. Ingham, "C" Company, was killed. After about ten minutes the Japs had had enough and withdrew to bunkers lower down on the reverse slope.

"B" Company now endeavoured to exploit their success. There were many examples of gallantry. One of the outstanding instances is that of Pte. Easton. He was in charge of a section of men detailed to remain in a certain position and to engage and contain the enemy in a strongly held bunker position. Pte. Easton commanded his section with great gallantry and determination. In the face of enemy attempts to dislodge them with heavy mortar and L.M.G. fire, they remained in their post for six hours, continually sniping and harassing the enemy until darkness fell. This section, by holding their ground so gallantly, protected their Company's flank and enabled them to press home the attack on other enemy bunkers. For his gallant determination, Pte. Easton received the immediate award of the Military Medal.

At about 1030 hrs. the four company commanders met on the hill and held a short conference. They agreed on a plan, which was approved over the telephone from Tactical H.Q.

"B" and "C" Companies were to hold on to and consolidate all present gains.

"A" Company were to send two platoons up on "C" Company's right flank and try to dislodge the Japs from the ridge running down to the road.

"D" Company to attempt to dislodge the enemy from the area of the Jail.

The stretcher bearers were now having a very busy time.

Although sniping from D.I.S. had decreased, short-range sniping and grenades from bunkers were taking a heavy toll. Capt. J. H. A. Scott, who was twice wounded while gallantly leading "C" Company in the assault, was killed while directing an attack on a bunker on the crest of the hill. C.S.M. Buchanan, also of "C" Company, was shot through the head and killed instantly.

From 1015 hrs. onwards rain fell at intervals, and mist drifted over the battlefield. Full advantage was taken of this, and, helped by smoke which was put down between 1230 and 1400 hrs., all the wounded were brought in safely.

At about 1100 hrs. it was obvious that the Japs had got wise to the position of Tactical H.Q. The Command Post was heavily sniped, and moved hastily to a position lower down the forward slope of Congress Hill.

By 1500 hrs. it was decided to consolidate and hold all that had been won.

Accordingly orders were issued to everyone to dig in where they now were, and to hold at all costs.

Companies were now very weak in numbers, and the Brigade Commander agreed to send one company of the 4th/1st Gurkhas as reinforcements, with the promise of another company later should the general situation permit.

Everyone was now digging like terriers—mugs, plates, steel helmets, any article which would shift earth was used for the purpose.

Arms, ammunition and water bottles were salvaged from casualties and distributed among the troops.

No attempt yet could be made to bury the dead.

At about 1600 hrs. the company of Gurkhas arrived, under the command of Major Beaman. They went forward immediately to assist in the consolidation of the position on Jail Hill. Unfortunately Major Beaman was killed by a sniper's bullet within two minutes of his arrival on Jail Hill. The language difficulty now arose. None of the Queen's officers could make the Gurkhas understand exactly what was required of them. Brigade H.Q. were informed, and another officer (Major McCann) arrived very soon afterwards to command the company. Shortly after this the second company of the Gurkhas arrived, commanded by Major Nixon.

The arrival of the Gurkhas on the hill was a tremendous stimulant to the troops. A grand liaison and spirit of mutual confidence existed between the Queen's and the 4th/1st Gurkhas, which had originated and developed during the previous six months of strenuous campaigning together in the Arakan.

By dusk all posts were well dug in, and section posts linked up.

As the result of the day's desperate fighting a firm footing had been established and consolidated on the hill, and a sound base now existed from which to assault the remaining enemy bunkers on the following day.

The Queen's were again on Jail Hill, and this time they were there to stay.  
12TH MAY

Rain had set in at dusk, and it rained all night. It was a very wet and extremely noisy night. The soldiers crouched and shivered in their weapon pits and fox-holes while bullets, including tracer, cracked overhead from and in all directions. The fire appeared to be mostly L.M.G. and both friendly and hostile. It was, presumably, intended to harass and discourage any night patrols which might be out.

Soon after dawn the rain ceased.

As soon as it was light enough to see, a platoon of the Gurkhas made a gallant assault on one of the enemy strong-points in a bunker position. The position was too strong for them, and after a brisk fight, in which both sides suffered casualties, the Gurkhas returned to their weapon pits.

The orders for the day were to mop up the remaining enemy posts and clear Jail Hill.

During the morning attacks were made on known enemy positions, and several of the smaller posts were captured.

Considerable sniping was still coming from L.M.G.s. on D.I.S. It had diminished somewhat as the gallant attacks of the Punjabis captured the bunker positions, but the enemy were still holding out in their strong posts on the summit and reverse slopes of the feature.

It was not possible to assess how many bunkers were left on Jail Hill. There was one very tough position on the south side of the hill. It was very strongly held, and appeared to be capable of all-round defence by L.M.G.s. It could really be described as a small fortress.

In addition to this small fortress at least four other bunker positions were known to exist, and had been pin-pointed. These were the strong-points on "B" Company's front, two smaller positions mutually supporting this strong-point, and a fourth bunker near the road, on "C" Company's flank.

A plan was now made for an all-out assault on these bunkers, to take place during the afternoon.

A troop of tanks were available to support the infantry in this assault. The idea was that the tanks should pound the located bunkers at 1530 hrs. This was to be followed immediately by an assault on the bunkers near the top of the hill. The assault was to be made by Major Nixon's company of Gurkhas. Meanwhile a platoon of "D" Company (Lieut. Hamilton) was to mop up the enemy posts in the vicinity of the Jail.

Things went pretty well according to plan.

At 1530 the tanks, from a position near the Command Post on Congress Hill, opened fire on the known bunkers. They fired H.E. and A.P. shells from their 75 mm. guns, and also used their Browning automatics.

This was rather a shattering period for the infantry, crouching in holes, some of them within fifteen yards of the punished bunkers. However, our troops suffered no casualties, and the tanks' bombardment was completely successful. Japs could be seen being blown into the air, with the debris from their shattered earthworks. Large numbers of them bolted from bunkers, only to be caught by machine-gun fire from the Manchesters, and by the fire from the tanks' automatics.

When the tanks ceased fire the Gurkhas leapt from their weapon pits and stormed the position on their front.

The platoon of "D" Company, the Queen's, dashed in and captured the enemy posts in the vicinity of the Jail.

Sniping from D.I.S., thanks to the determined and successful action of the 15th Punjabis, had now ceased.

An advanced administrative headquarters had been established just below the main road at the foot of Jail Hill. This was organized and controlled by the Second-in-Command, Major G. S. Grimston, and through this headquarters were now despatched stores, rations, ammunition and wire to the positions on the hill. A crawl-trench had been dug, from the road up the side of the hill, to the positions. Up this trench now went the much-needed supplies.

"B" Company H.Q. now had an excellent sniping party. Japs were running from D.I.S. as the Punjabis drove them out. As they bolted across the main road they provided excellent targets at about 400 yards' range. "B" Company H.Q. personnel made full use of this opportunity, a subadar major of the Gurkhas spotting for them. Many Japs were picked off; those who got across the road attempted to shelter in the re-entrants north of the road; they were winkled out by mortar fire directed by the F.O.O. with "B" Company H.Q., who used a telephone for the purpose.

The tables were now turned indeed.

By late afternoon there remained only the "small fortress" position. A very gallant, but unsuccessful, attempt to capture it was made by the Gurkhas, who suffered severe casualties, but could not penetrate its all-round defence.

The afternoon was marred by a tragedy when Major M. L. Mansel, "A" Company Commander, was mortally wounded by a sniper when making his way up the hill after a visit to Advanced Admin. H.Q.

At about 1900 hrs. the Japs shelled Jail Hill. No damage was done, as most of the shells cleared the hill and burst on the road beyond.

### 13TH MAY

Active patrolling during the night and at dawn confirmed that all enemy posts, with the exception of the "small fortress," had been cleared.

Plans for the elimination of this last stronghold were being discussed when, from the Command Post, it was seen that British soldiers and Gurkhas were moving about in leisurely manner on the crest of the hill. It appeared, therefore, that "small fortress" must have been cleared. This was confirmed on the telephone. The enemy had taken advantage of a spell of mist which came down soon after dawn, and had slipped away.

All that morning the hill was patrolled and searched thoroughly. A tour of "small fortress" was interesting and instructive. It consisted of a central bunker and four legs from the centre. It could have held forty or fifty Japs. The central bunker had steel shutters, which could be closed against grenades. There were left in the position a quantity of rifles, grenades, flags and other equipment. It was, indeed, a formidable redoubt, and had quite obviously been the core of the Jap positions on Jail Hill. One of its most remarkable features was the skill with which it had been concealed. Not until one went into it could its shape, size, capacity or strength be assessed, even approximately.

During this final consolidation period there occurred an incident which, with the possible exception of the arrival on Jail Hill of the Gurkhas, did more to stimulate the morale of the Queen's than anything which occurred during the campaign. The C.O., Adjutant and Second-in-Command were talking with Major Nixon when suddenly a Jap L.M.G. from a neighbouring feature opened up. The bullets cracked among the group. Nobody was hit, but all went to ground without delay. There was a weapon pit half-filled with muddy water close at hand. The C.O. and Adjutant dived in. It was not a weapon pit after all—it was a Jap deep trench latrine. Seeing and hearing the predicament, the Escort Section, led by Sergt. Hanter, immediately gave covering fire while the Second-in-Command and Major Nixon, with the aid of a rifle lowered into the trench, hauled the C.O. and Adjutant to the surface. Many and various were the jokes and remarks as Tactical H.Q. made its dignified and odiferous way back to the Command Post.

During the morning all the dead were buried.

By 1430 hrs. all positions had been consolidated and wired.

### The Battle for Jail Hill was over.

The hill now resembled a sector of the Somme battlefield in 1916. The heavy artillery concentrations and mortar fire had stripped the jungle foliage from the entire hill. The heavy rains of the early monsoon had converted the soil into oozing light brown mud. The earth was pock-marked with shell holes half filled with muddy water. All round was a vista of blasted tree-stumps, trenches, twisted wire and abandoned equipment. The place stank to high heaven.

The remainder of the day was spent by the troops in sniping the Japs as they were trying to get away from the neighbouring features. The sport was excellent, and the bag plentiful. It was very gratifying to the troops to have this opportunity of getting their own back for the devastating sniping they themselves had endured. Full advantage was taken of the opportunity.

Late in the evening the Queen's were told that they would be relieved the following day by a battalion of Punjabis from another division.

### 14TH MAY

The morning was spent in final patrolling, for the purpose of collecting enemy material and papers which might be of use to our intelligence. Much useful stuff was found, including documents, diaries and maps.

A patrol of Petrol Knoll made an interesting discovery. On this hitherto unnoticed and neglected little feature was found a large and very well concealed bunker. It obviously had contained several L.M.Gs.; the floor was ankle-deep in spent cartridges. From inside this bunker the whole of the north side of Jail Hill and its crest was completely exposed. The range was about 300 yards. Anyone moving up the side of the hill or on the summit was silhouetted like a golf ball on a tee. It is quite certain that the flanking fire which halted "A" Company in the first assault, and which inflicted heavy casualties on "C" Company in the second attack, came from this bunker. It is probable also that Major Mansel was sniped from this post, and its enterprising occupants may fairly be credited with causing the latrine episode.

The final tidying up and the relief took place in the afternoon.

#### CONCLUSION

Jail Hill was indeed a tough nut to crack. It was cracked by the gallantry and determination of British and Gurkha soldiers. It was a key-point in the battle of Kohima, and its capture was costly. The Queen's lost four officers and fifty-seven soldiers killed and six officers and 106 soldiers wounded. The Gurkhas had one officer and twelve soldiers killed and thirty-three wounded.

The Queen's and the Gurkhas returned once more to Jail Hill. This was on 31st August, nearly three months after the battle, when in a simple and impressive ceremony Lieutenant-General M. G. M. Stopford, General-Officer-Commanding 33 Indian Corps, unveiled a memorial. This memorial was designed and constructed by the Pioneers of 1st Queen's from materials found on and near the battlefield. It bears the names of all the officers and soldiers of the Queen's and of the Gurkhas who fell there in one of the most gallant and glorious episodes in the campaign.

### 1st CADET BATTALION THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT

THE Battalion can look back on a year of steady progress, and we have kept our numbers up quite well, although most of the open companies could do with more cadets. We should be very grateful to any past or present members of the Regiment who can assist us in getting more recruits. The Battalion went to camp this year at Landguard Camp, Felixstowe. The weather was very good and an interesting programme of training was carried out. In the afternoons there were plenty of opportunities for bathing and visits to Felixstowe and other places of interest in the neighbourhood. About twenty officers, seven adult warrant officers and 175 cadets attended, and the great majority stayed for the full two weeks.

Our annual inspection was carried out by three different officers in July, and the inspecting officers expressed satisfaction with the work of the various companies. A number of Certificate "A" examinations have been held, and eighty-six cadets gained Part I and fifty-one cadets Part II. The Inter-Company .22 Shooting Competition was won by the Selhurst School Company, and the Drill Competition by the Reigate Company.

Most of the companies took part in various local festivities in connection with the Coronation, and at the Coronation parade of the A.C.F. held on the Horseguards on 7th June, the Battalion was represented by a composite company of three officers, three adult warrant officers and ninety-nine cadets, under the command of Major H. C. Hughes, T.D. The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel

J. F. E. Goad, had the honour of commanding the Surrey contingent, which was 600 strong. The general turn-out and bearing of the Surrey cadets was the subject of very favourable comment. The Corps of Drums of the Wallington Company played on one evening at the Royal Tournament, and did very well.

In the Coronation Honours List Capt. J. H. East, of the Reigate Company, who has given many years' service to his Company and to the Battalion in general, was awarded a Certificate of Good Service, and he is to be heartily congratulated on this honour. The Commanding Officer received the Coronation Medal. During his visit to camp The Lord-Lieutenant, General Sir Robert Haining, presented Sergt. D. R. Owen, of Wallington, with a Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet Badge. Sergt. Owen is to be congratulated on receiving this award, which is only given to cadets with outstanding records of service.

Three officers who have given good service to the Battalion have left us during the past year. Major H. A. Parkinson served for over thirty years in the Selhurst School Company before his retirement this spring. Capt. A. W. Badcock, who has commanded the John Ruskin School Company since its formation over two years ago, has now left the school for another teaching appointment. whilst Capt. E. J. Best, who served for some time as Quartermaster and later as Training Officer, has rejoined the Regular Army.

Our soccer team last season did not have much opportunity of distinguishing itself, as we were beaten after a good game in the first round of the County Cup. However on two occasions we provided an entire rugger XV to represent Surrey against the County of London cadets. We lost the first match but won the second. L./Cpl. Cripps, of Selhurst, won the Junior County Cross-Country Race by a considerable margin. In the County Athletic Championships this summer we were not able to field our best teams owing to school examinations, but our cadets did reasonably well and were third in the senior event and second in the junior.

### 2/5th CADET BATTALION THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT

THE performance of our two Battalion teams at the Surrey A.C.F. Coronation Rifle Meeting surpassed all our hopes and expectations. Only six members of last year's team were available and most of the new members had received little or no training in full-bore shooting.

Both teams are to be congratulated on their magnificent achievements. Special praise must be given to L./Cpl. P. Nugent who, in his first year of full-bore shooting carried off all the main honours, although he was the youngest competitor.

Our "A" team won the East Surrey Trophy and eight certificates in the competition for deliberate fire at 200 and 500 yards, with 422 points. The next highest score was 326, so the victory was very clear cut.

Our "B" team won the John Perring Trophy and eight certificates with a score of 300, the next best being 285.

Our "A" team won the Falling Plates Competition for the Thorne Trophy and eight certificates. Individual winners of medals included: 200 yards, L./Cpl. Nugent and Sergt. Chadwick. 500 yards, L./Cpl. Nugent, Sergt. Chadwick and Cpl. Wheeler.

In snapshotting we were second in the Welsh Guards Trophy Competition and third in the Surrey A.C.F. Shooting Trophy Competition.

## DEPOT

THE Depot has had an active year since the last issue of the Regimental Journal, and the number of men trained since May, 1951, is now just over 1,000.

There have been many changes in Staff during the period. Officers at the Depot are: Major E. B. G. Clowes, M.B.E. (O.C. Depot vice Major P. R. H. Kealy, 1st August, 1953), Capt. P. A. W. G. Durrant (Training Captain vice Capt. S. R. G. Scott-Gall, 9th March, 1953), Lieut. A. Donaldson (Adjutant vice Lieut. H. C. Millman, 7th June, 1953), Lieut. M. F. Reynolds (Training Subaltern vice Lieut. R. B. Johnson, 20th September, 1953), Lieut. J. E. Griffin (Quartermaster), 2/Lieut. H. W. Gawthrop (Training Subaltern vice 2/Lieut. E. R. Paton, 27th June, 1953).

W.Os. and Sergeants at the Depot are: R.S.M. W. Kettle, C.S.M. R. Hall, C/Sergt. H. Gill, C/Sergt. G. Mileham, Sergts. Wildgoose, Jessup, Watson, Harrison and Bingham.

## VISITORS

The following have visited the Depot since November, 1952: Major-General F. R. G. Matthews, C.B., D.S.O., Director of Infantry; Brigadier T. G. Weiler, C.B., C.B.E., Deputy Commander, Home Counties District.

The following have taken Recruits' Passing-Out Parades since October, 1952: General Sir George Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O.; Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E.; Capt. V. C. Begg, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.; Councillor D. Wilkins, J.P., Mayor of Guildford; Brigadier R. N. Anderson, C.B.E., D.S.O.; Colonel P. H. Richardson, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Major P. R. H. Kealy.

## STATISTICS

Number of men trained since September, 1952	382
Number of young Regulars enlisted into the Regiment	34
Number of National Service men who elected for Regular engagements	66
Number of National Service men drafted to 1st Battalion	293
Percentage of eligible National Service men who elected for Regular engagements	23.5
Number of National Service men and Regulars joined O.C.A. since October, 1952	163

## RECRUITS' COMPETITION

## Eleventh Intake—

Champion Platoon: Tangier (Sergt. Yonwin).  
Best Recruit: 22821633 Pte. Roberts.  
Best Shot: 22712149 Pte. Sibley.  
Winning Section: No. 3 (Cpl. Bushell).

## Twelfth Intake—

Champion Platoon: Tangier (Sergt. Watson).  
Best Recruit: 22733177 Pte. Dare.  
Best Shot: 22733177 Pte. Dare.  
Winning Sections: Nos. 1 and 2 (Cpls. West and Jones).

## Thirteenth Intake—

Champion Platoon: Corunna (Sergt. McCormick).  
Best Recruit: 22747659 Pte. Bacon.  
Best Shot: 22767693 Pte. Taylor.  
Winning Section: No. 6 (Cpl. Butcher).

## Fourteenth Intake—

Champion Platoon: Tangier (Sergt. Watson).  
Best Recruit: 22765646 Pte. Jerome.  
Best Shot: 22765684 Pte. May.  
Winning Section: No. 1 (Cpl. West).

## Fifteenth Intake—

Champion Platoon: Corunna (Sergt. McCormick).  
Best Recruit: 22860714 Pte. Funge.  
Best Shot: 22860722 Pte. Ransom.  
Winning Section: No. 3 (Cpl. Butcher).

## Sixteenth Intake—

Champion Platoon: Tangier (Sergt. Watson).  
Best Recruit: 22875350 Pte. Fenton.  
Best Shot: 22875394 Pte. Mason.  
Winning Section: No. 1 (Cpl. West).

## Seventeenth Intake—

Champion Platoon: Corunna (Sergt. Wildgoose).  
Best Recruit: 22890817 Pte. Hay.  
Best Shot: 22890777 Pte. Anstee.  
Winning Section: No. 3 (Cpl. Butcher).

## SPORT

## FOOTBALL

Matches played 34, won 14, drawn 6, lost 14. Goals for, 104; goals against, 108. The Depot were runners-up to the Surrey Fire Brigade in the award for the White Shield for Sportsmanship.

## HOCKEY

Matches played 16, won 7, lost 9. Goals for, 38; goals against, 42.

## CRICKET

Depot matches played 11, won 3, drawn 1, lost 7.

Four Regimental matches were played against the Grasshoppers, Blues, Charterhouse Masters and Guildford Sunday XI; of these two were drawn and two were lost.

## SHOOTING

In the 1953 Home Counties District Rifle Meeting at Hythe the Depot team were placed eighth out of thirty-seven entries in the Main Competition and fourth out of eight teams in the China Cup. Pte. Smith won two pistol competition shoots and Cpl. Butcher was runner-up in Class "B" Rifle Practice 3.

Results of the 1953 Depot Rifle Meeting at Ash were: Individual Championship Rifle, Sergt. Vickers; Runner-up, Sergt. Boseley. Winning Team, H.Q. "A" Team; Runners-up, Training Company Permanent Staff Team.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

On 29th March, 1953, one officer and six other ranks formed part of the Regimental Detachment for the Funeral Procession of Her late Majesty Queen Mary.

The Glorious First of June and Salerno Day were both celebrated by "At Homes" for parents of National Service men and Sports Meetings.

For Her Majesty's Coronation a large television projector screen was put up in the ward of the old Hospital block and all ranks had an excellent view of the pageantry of that day.

On 2nd June, 1953, the Depot provided one officer and ten other ranks to line the route on the occasion of Her Majesty The Queen's Coronation.

Ten other ranks took part in the Guildford Coronation Pageant, "Elizabeth to Elizabeth," and were dressed in uniforms showing various stages in the Regiment's history.

From 12th July to 17th July, 1953, the Depot provided a detachment of one officer and twenty-four other ranks to take part in the S.S.A.F.A. Tattoo at the White City. The detachment wore the full-dress uniform of 1880, appearing in the pageant scene for the reign of Queen Victoria and in the finale. Twenty-two of the other ranks were Recruits from Alamein Platoon of the 16th Intake who had only just completed nine weeks' training.

## OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

**A** REGIMENTAL Tea Party, the first of its kind, was held at the Junior United Service Club on the afternoon of Friday, 7th November, 1952, for members and their families, and forty-seven people were present. The Annual Dinner took place the same evening at the Junior United Service Club, and the following dined:

Lieut.-Colonel P. Adams, T.D., Major C. J. Armour, Major N. B. Avery, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel D. E. Bathgate, L. Bjorkstrand, Esq., Capt. T. G. Blumson, Lieut.-Colonel E. F. Bolton, D.S.O., Capt. R. F. Boulton, M.C., Colonel J. D. Boyd, D.S.O., Major B. S. Burns, M.C., Capt. D. D. Champion-Jones, Capt. D. E. Champion-Jones, Colonel R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., Major J. F. L. Clarke, T.D., Colonel J. B. Coates, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lieut.-Colonel H. Cook, M.C., Capt. G. H. Courchee, Major F. W. H. Denton, Capt. E. D. Drew, Colonel G. N. Dyer, C.B.E., D.S.O., Brigadier T. H. Dyke, D.S.O., G. A. Fearnside-Speed, Esq., Major W. D. Flower, T.D., Major M. Forrester, D.S.O., M.C., Major R. C. G. Foster, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel J. A. R. Freeland, Lieut.-Colonel D. L. A. Gibbs, D.S.O., General Sir George Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel G. H. W. Goode, O.B.E., Major C. B. Gray, M.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel W. D. Griffiths, D.S.O., M.C., Capt. C. A. Haggard, Colonel R. C. Halse, Capt. J. F. Hancocks, Wing Commander V. C. Harvey, M.C., D.C.M., Major R. L. Hazell, Major H. R. D. Hill, M.B.E., Major W. S. Hooker, M.B.E., T.D., Major-General I. T. P. Hughes, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.L., C. M. D. Hutchinson, Esq., Capt. E. V. L. Isaac, Major F. J. Jebens, M.C., Major K. A. Jessup, R. B. Johnson, Esq., Lieut.-Colonel J. B. H. Kealy, D.S.O., Major P. R. H. Kealy, Capt. D. F. Kellie, Major G. B. Lane, Major N. T. Lennan, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel F. A. H. Ling, D.S.O., Major R. S. N. Mans, J. W. M. Mansel, Esq., Brigadier J. F. Metcalfe, H. C. Millman, Esq., Lieut.-Colonel J. E. G. Moriarty, Brigadier-General F. C. More-Molyneux-Longbourne, C.M.G., D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel M. W. H. Pain, Brigadier G. V. Palmer, C.B.E., T.D., Brigadier R. E. Pickering, C.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel S. H. Pierrsonné, Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel A. J. Renshaw, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel P. H. Richardson, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major A. N. S. Roberts, O.B.E., R. C. Rolls, Esq., W. D. J. Roscoe, Esq., Colonel H. J. Sanders, D.S.O., M.C., Major E. J. Sandys, M.C., Capt. R. C. H. Saunders, Capt. S. R. G. Scott-Gall, Capt. T. W. Sewell, Major J. U. Stobbs, Capt. M. R. H. Stopford, Lieut.-Colonel J. Sykes-Wright, D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel J. R. Terry, Capt. W. M. Turnock, Brigadier H. G. Veasey, D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel H. de G. Walter, T.D., Major F. Waspe, Major H. B. Watson, T.D., Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel A. F. F. Young, O.B.E., T.D.

The Reunion Garden Party was held on Saturday, 25th July, 1953. General Sir George Giffard and Lady Giffard received the guests. We were extremely fortunate in the weather, and the 175 guests much appreciated the selections of music played by the Band of the 1st Battalion during tea and the beating of "Retreat" by the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion afterwards.

The membership of the Club is 412.

## REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The following have recently been presented:

Seven cigarettes (taken prior to his abdication) from King Farouk's Palace at Alexandria: Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E.

Belgian automatic pistol, No. 141310, with magazine: Cpl. T. Smith.

Ten snaps and negatives, Queen's Gardens, Rawalpindi: Brigadier A. P. Block, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Framed and glazed Union Jack, souvenir of engagements of Natal Field Force, 1899-1902: C.S.M. Foot, 5th Queen's.

Copy of Standing Orders, 2nd Battalion, used by Generals Kelly-Kenny and Monro: Lady Monro.

Samari warrant officers' two-handed sword: Cpl. R. Bushell.

Bullet for the Martini-Henry rifle, 1874-90: L./Cpl. Bull.

Portion of flag belonging to 2nd Bn. 100th Bonaparte's Own Regiment, taken at Vittoria, 1813: Loaned by Mr. G. N. Harding, late The Worcestershire Regiment.

Invitation card to attend memorial service, Her late Majesty Queen Mary, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore: Major R. P. Mangles, M.C.

Officers' crimson sash: Capt. E. D. Drew.

Six volumes "The British Campaign in France and Flanders, 1914-18," belonging to the late Capt. G. Osborne, M.M.: Mrs. Osborne (widow).

Italian "Berette" automatic rifle, No. 1242, with five magazines and cover. Captured by 1st/7th Queen's near Sfax, 1943: Major W. D. Griffiths, D.S.O., M.C.

Framed glazed photograph, 1st Bn. Drums, Peshawar, 1904: Mr. W. Fudger (late No. 412).

Armband of A.D.C. to Field-Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, G.C.B., G.C.I.E., C.S.I., D.S.O., O.B.E.: Capt. P. A. W. G. Durrant.

Christmas card, signed "Mary R., Colonel-in-Chief," 1948-49: Officers, 1st Battalion.

Framed and glazed photograph, Corporals' Mess, Depot, 1910: Mr. W. Fudger. 1914-15 Star, British War, Victory and Indian G.S. medals of the late Sergt. Burgess: Mrs. Burgess (widow).

Japanese bugle and cord, taken at Singapore, 1942: Cpl. A. Lawrence.

Photograph, British War Cemetery, Benghazi: Capt. H. A. Barker.

British War, Victory and Indian G.S. medals of the late L./Cpl. W. H. Hughes: Mrs. Hughes (widow).

Souvenir box and pipe, Princess Mary's Christmas gift, 1914, and a souvenir "Welcome Home" medal, 1919, belonging to the late C.S.M. A. J. Domoney: Mrs. Domoney (widow).

Cannon ball, dug up in Pekin, 1930: Lieut.-Colonel J. B. H. Kealy.

Collection of German Insignia, one French Foreign Legion button; 15 pieces: Sergt. A. Watson.

Copy of telegram from H.M. The Queen, copied and distributed to O.C.A.'s by Lord Tedder, congratulations of the parade of ex-Service men, 5th July, 1953: Secretary O.C.A.

Invitation card to attend, instructions and form of service for the memorial service, Her late Majesty Queen Mary, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore.

Chindit escape kit, handkerchief and disc; Italian officer's sword and scabbard and knot; pair of web shoulder straps modified for use by Chindit Force: Major E. B. G. Clowes, M.B.E.

Snider rifle, 1867-74: 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment.

German gas mask, 1917 pattern: Mr. (late Sergt.) R. Dunwoody.

Copy of Standing Orders, 2nd Battalion, 1904: found in store.

Letter from the Lord Chamberlain, by Her Majesty's command, thanking All Ranks for floral tribute, funeral of Her late Majesty Queen Mary.

Letter from the Earl Marshal's office, scat in Westminster Abbey for the Coronation of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II: Secretary, O.C.A.

Souvenir medallion, Jubilee, 1887; four drawings by Lieut.-Colonel H. W. Smith, D.S.O.; three sketches by P.O. Andrews; one copy of poem "Nawagai," by W. Mixey; photograph of Regimental Colours; drawing 1st Bn. Headquarters' dugouts near Croiselles, 13th July, 1917; officer's dress sword scabbard; one buff belt and frog: found in store.

## THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT MUSEUM FUND

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1952**

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1952

AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE.—We have examined the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books of account. We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion and to the best of our information, and according to the explanations given us, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Museum Fund as at 31st December, 1952, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the deficiency for the year ended on that date.

SELLER SAW & CO., Accountants.  
Chartered Accountants.

## JOURNAL ACCOUNT

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1952**

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 1952

### Excess of Over Income

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50 (Loan—O.C. Depot)	£1 9 1
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**AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE.**—We have examined the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books of account. We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion and to the best of our information, and according to the explanations given us, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the JOURNAL Account as at 31st December, 1952, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the deficiency for the year ended on that date.

**OBITUARY**

List of those known and reported to have died since last publication:

**KILLED IN ACTION IN KOREA**

WALKER.—No. 22486593 Fusilier P. W. Walker, 1st Bn. Royal Fusiliers (formerly with 1st Bn. The Queen's) on 30th October, 1952.

THOMPSON.—No. 22581442 Fusilier G. W. Thompson, 1st Bn. Royal Fusiliers (formerly with 1st Bn. The Queen's) on 23rd April, 1953.

Gwynne.—No. 22581456 Fusilier S. J. Gwynne, 1st Bn. Royal Fusiliers (formerly with 1st Bn. The Queen's) on 28th April, 1953.

No.	Rank and Name	Battalion	Service	Date of Death
	2/Lieut. J. V. Mack	K.A.R.	1952	30.11.52
	Brig. H. C. Ponsonby, D.S.O., M.C.	1st	1929-1933	2.1.53
	Major H. E. Haig-Brown	5th		25.1.53
	Lieut.-Colonel F. B. B. Pickard		1889-1919	16.3.53
	2/Lieut. F. M. Donnelly-Wood	Parachute Regt.	1952	21.3.53
	Brig.-Gen. W. D. Wright, V.C., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.		1896-1927	25.3.53
	Capt. Lewis Bain	10th	1914-1918	10.5.53
6076163	C./Sergt. E. B. Owen	1st	1902-1923	10.5.52
	Pte. C. Smith	10th	1914-1918	22.8.52
7014	Pte. T. Robinson	1st, 2nd	1901-1919	20.10.52
5629	Pte. H. F. Hutton	2nd	1898-	4.12.52
	Sergt. S. L. Johnson	11th	1914-1918	7.12.52
5671	C.S.M. W. A. Horsell	2nd	1898-1916	16.12.52
889	Sergt. C. Thomas	2nd	—	17.12.52
8807	Pte. A. Welland	1st	1906-1916	25.12.52
4715	Pte. G. Taylor	1st	1895-1916	5.1.53
9365	Pte. A. J. Rochell	2nd	1908-1919	11.1.53
22712151	Pte. L. Webb	1st	1952	17.1.53
9181	Cpl. H. Welland	2nd	1908-1918	10.2.53
22272055	Sergt. C. M. Hunt		—	3.3.53
6466018	Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) R. Main	5th, 30th	1939-1945	6.3.53
6078437	Pte. H. W. Dudley	1st, 2nd	1914-1945	18.3.53
6905235	R.S.M. A. R. Hart	R.B., 1st, 4th	1922-1932	4.4.53
6076171	C.S.M. J. A. Hammond	1st, 2nd	1904-1930	6.4.53
3991	Pte. H. J. Timms	1st	1892-1905	9.4.53
6090665	Cpl. L. W. Rose	5th	—	17.4.53
6792	Pte. A. J. Cooper, M.M.	10th, 11th	1915-1919	24.4.53
9296	Pte. A. E. Morris, M.S.M.	2nd, 7th	1908-1923	3.5.53
6079637	Sergt. G. H. Burgess	2nd	1915-1926	14.5.53
4452	C./Sergt. J. Childs	1st, 2nd	1894-1909	—
	R.S.M.	5th	1909-1914	—
	Lieut.(Q.M.)	7th	1914-1918	14.6.53
6078228	C./Sergt. F. E. Hubbard	2nd	1920-1946	13.7.53
6078361	Sergt.-Dmr. C. H. Sales	1st, Depot	1892-1922	18.7.53
6098081	Pte. A. J. Kerslake	15th	1940-1943	15.8.53
2604744	C.S.M. J. Ashcroft, M.M.	5th	1936-1940	5.9.53
8524	C.S.M. F. Hayes	2nd	1905-1916	12.9.53

**BRIGADIER-GENERAL W. D. WRIGHT, V.C., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.L.**

Brigadier-General Wallace Dufield Wright, who died on 25th March, 1953, aged 77, was educated at Cranbrook School and joined the 1st Battalion in 1896 from the Militia. He saw service on the North-West Frontier of India with the Malakand Field Force and Tirah Expeditionary Force in 1897-98 and was severely wounded in the latter campaign. From 1901 to 1904 he was seconded to the West African Frontier Force and took part in the Kano-Sokoto expedition in 1903, in which expedition he was again wounded, and awarded the Victoria Cross for conspicuous bravery: "On 24th March, 1903, Capt. Wright,



[Photo: L.N.A.]  
**BRIGADIER-GENERAL W. D. WRIGHT, V.C., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.**

with only one officer and forty-four men, took up a position in the path of the advancing enemy and sustained the determined charges of 1,000 horse and 2,000 foot for two hours, and when the enemy, after heavy losses, fell back in good order Capt. Wright continued to follow them up until they were in full retreat. The personal example of this officer, as well as his skilful leadership, contributed largely to the brilliant success of this affair. He in no way infringed his orders by his daring initiative, as, though warned of the possibility of meeting large bodies of the enemy, he had been purposely left a free hand."

Returning to Regimental duty in 1904 with the 2nd Battalion, he passed out of the Staff College in 1909 and after two years as G.S.O.3 at the War Office became Brigade Major of the 3rd Brigade. Another short tour of Regimental duty with the 1st Battalion followed until early in 1914 he was appointed G.S.O.2 of the West African Frontier Force in Nigeria and saw active service in the Cameroons at the beginning of the First World War. In 1916 he went to the Western Front, when he held in turn the following appointments: G.S.O.2, 55th Division; G.S.O.1, 18th Division; B.G.S., XVII Army Corps; and Brigade Commander, 89th Infantry Brigade. He was five times mentioned in despatches, was awarded the C.M.G. and D.S.O., and became an Officer of the Legion of Honour. He was given the brevet of Major in 1915, became Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel in 1916, and Colonel by brevet in 1919.

After the war he was G.S.O.1, 1st Division, before gaining accelerated promotion to substantive Lieutenant-Colonel in command of the 3rd Bn. The Middlesex Regiment. He then became Colonel, General Staff, with B.A.O.R., and his final appointment before his retirement in 1927 was Commander of the 8th Infantry Brigade. He was awarded the C.B. in 1926.

In 1928 he was elected Member of Parliament for Tavistock, but did not seek re-election in 1931. From 1932 to 1950 he was a member of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms and was a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Surrey. In the last war he held important posts in the A.R.P. Service and in the Home Guard.

He was a good games player and a fine rifle shot and as a Regimental officer represented his battalion at most games and in many shooting competitions, as well as winning individual events. On his horse Dreadnought he won the 1st Battalion Point-to-Point in 1912 and 1913. Those who served with him before the 1914 war will recall his fine presence and immaculate turn-out; his military bearing and upright figure he kept to the end of his life.

His nephew, Colonel J. Sykes-Wright, was lately in command of the 1st Battalion.

To his widow and daughter we offer our deepest sympathy.

#### LIEUTENANT-COLONEL F. B. B. PICKARD

Lieut.-Colonel Frederick Benjamin Bissett Pickard, who died on 16th March, 1953, aged 85, joined the 1st Battalion from the 3rd (Militia) Battalion in 1889. All his service was passed at Regimental duty.

With the 1st Battalion he took part in the Malakand and Mohmand Field and the Tirah Expeditionary Forces in operations on the North-West Frontier of India in 1897-98 and in 1901 he served with the 2nd Battalion in the South African War.

He commanded the 7th Service Battalion of the Regiment for a period in France in 1916 during the 1914-18 war, at the end of which he retired.

He was unmarried.

#### PRIVATE A. E. MORRIS, M.S.M.

Pte. A. E. Morris, who died at Fordwich, near Canterbury, on 2nd May, 1953, joined the 2nd Battalion in 1908 and served with it in Gibraltar, Bermuda, South Africa and in France in the First World War. He was later posted to the 7th (Service) Bn. The Queen's and for a long period was runner to the Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel C. Bushell, V.C., D.S.O., who had won the Victoria Cross in April, 1918. As a runner Morris was outstanding, and in June, 1918, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in recognition of valuable services rendered in the war. Colonel Bushell died of wounds on 8th August, 1918, and the following brief extract taken from the Regimental History mentions the part played by Pte. Morris on this day:

"For some time the situation was very obscure and many officers and runners sent forward to report became casualties; and at 7 a.m. Lieut.-Colonel Bushell went forward himself with his runner to deal with the situation. Collecting all available men, he led them forward to the assault. He then proceeded along a trench to organize and encourage the men, and on his way to give orders to a tank which had now arrived he was mortally wounded by a sniper. His runner, Pte. A. E. Morris, a gallant soldier whose knowledge of the country was instinctive, who earlier in the day had led the advance platoons to their assaulting positions and had been at Colonel Bushell's elbow when he first came to clear up the situation, rushed across the open to where his Colonel lay, and, though the ground across which he carried the Colonel was swept by hostile machine-gun fire, he brought him in. But it was a heroism that counted for nothing. Colonel Bushell had been fatally wounded."

After the war Morris, whose original engagement had expired, re-enlisted for four years and again served with the 2nd Battalion on the North-West Frontier of India in the Waziristan campaign. He was discharged in 1923 and for many years was employed by the Kent County Council.

Thus passes a gallant Queen's soldier whose record of devotion to duty and stout courage must be an example to a younger generation of soldiers.

His son-in-law, Sergt. P. Todd, is a permanent staff instructor with the 6th Battalion at Bermondsey.

To his widow and family we offer our deepest sympathy.

#### THE OFFICERS' PENSIONS SOCIETY

The Officers' Pensions Society is an association of retired officers, widows, and the relatives of serving and retired officers. It was formed in 1946 with the objects of procuring improvement in retired pay and pensions of officers and their dependants, and promoting the interests of its members.

The Society is the only body comprising officer members of the three Armed Services, whose policy is controlled solely by its members. It is non-party, and the members of its Council are unpaid. General The Lord Jeffreys is its President, and it has the active support of many distinguished officers of the three Services.

The recent increases in officers' widows' pensions, which had remained basically unaltered for over 100 years, and the abolition of the widows' Means Test were achieved by the efforts of the Society, the support of other Service associations, and the representations by Members of Parliament.

Officers have now realized the necessity of having an organization to represent their interests in these matters, and the Society's membership of over 6,700 is rapidly increasing. Full particulars and membership application forms can be obtained from:

THE GENERAL SECRETARY,

OFFICERS' PENSIONS SOCIETY, LTD.,

79, PETTY FRANCE,

WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.1.

## 24TH LONDON REGIMENT/7TH QUEEN'S O.C.A.

The annual dinner took place at the Shaftesbury Hotel, W.2, on 2nd May, 1953. Ninety members dined. We were very pleased to see Brigadier Block again, and his talk on Pakistan was most interesting. Also most welcome was Colonel Thompson, who had not been present since 1948, and who is now almost permanently resident in the South of France.

Thirty-five members under Mr. A. Bousher, M.M., took part in the parade of Homage, held at the headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company on Sunday, 10th May, 1953, under the auspices of the Federation of O.C.As. of the London T.A. units, and on 5th July, 1953, a number of members were present in the Regimental Contingent which took part in the Royal Review and March Past of Ex-Service Men in Hyde Park.

## 10TH (S.) BN. THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT, O.C.A.

We held our twenty-second reunion dinner on 20th March at 142 Strand. Our number was much smaller than in past years, but we spent one of the jolliest evenings we have ever had together. Brigadier R. E. Pickering, C.B.E., was in the chair and we were very pleased to have Major Waspe with us.

## NOTICES

**REGIMENTAL JOURNAL.**—Old copies of the JOURNAL can be obtained from the Editor, Stoughton Barracks, price 1s. per copy, post free. Copies of the following are out of print: 1926, May and November; 1927, May; 1928, May; 1930, May and November; 1931, May and November; 1951, May.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

*Editor and Hon. Treasurer : LIEUT.-COLONEL D. E. BATHGATE.*

*Office : STOUGHTON BARRACKS, GUILDFORD.*

1. The JOURNAL will be issued once a year, in November. It is hoped that it will contain a complete history of the doings of each battalion during the year, and it is recommended that battalions keep accounts of all events as they occur, which will assist in writing up this account. Articles of Regimental interest will still be most welcome for the JOURNAL.
2. In addition, brief news-letters will be sent out periodically during the year.
3. Contributions should be written on one side of the paper only, and should, if possible, be typewritten, but this is not essential.
4. Photographs should be marked on the back with the title, and, in the case of groups, names should invariably be given. In this connection, readers are invited to send all photographs likely to be of interest.

The JOURNAL is published in November each year. The inclusive rates of subscription for the JOURNAL and news-letters are :

*\*Officers.—7s. 6d. per annum. Single copies JOURNAL, 7s. 6d. each.*

*Other Ranks.—3s. per annum. Single copies JOURNAL, 2s. each.*

*All Ranks.—Single copies news-letters, 6d. each.*

Subscribers are requested to notify at once any change of address. Unless this is done, the safe delivery of the JOURNAL cannot be guaranteed.

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\* This subscription rate applies only to officers who are not members of the Officers' Club.

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[Photo: Hay Wrightson]  
MAJOR-GENERAL J. Y. WHITFIELD, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E.  
COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT, 1954



# The Journal of The Queen's Royal Regiment

VOL. X

NOVEMBER, 1954

No. 4

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## EDITORIAL

GENERAL SIR GEORGE GIFFARD, G.C.B., D.S.O., completed his tenure of appointment as Colonel of the Regiment, which he had held since 1945, on 28th September, 1954. Future generations will have cause to be grateful that such a wise and experienced counsellor was at the helm in the era immediately following the Second World War. He has taken a leading part in the activities of all Battalions, and we feel that all members of the Regiment will wish us on their behalf to thank General Giffard for all he has done to further their interests during the time he has been Colonel. He carries away with him our gratitude and best wishes for the well-being of Lady Giffard and himself in the future, and we shall look forward to seeing them annually at our various Regimental gatherings.

We welcome Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., on his appointment as Colonel of the Regiment, and we feel sure that under his leadership the Regiment will continue to maintain its high reputation.

The 1st Battalion has now been on active operations against the Communist terrorists in the Malayan jungle for well over six months, and an account of their activities is fully reported elsewhere in this number.

We congratulate the Shooting teams of the 1st and 5th Battalions and the Depot on their achievements during 1954, and we wish them continued success in the future.

We wish to bring to the notice of our members that arrangements between the Cathedral authorities and the Regiment for a Chapel in the new Guildford Cathedral have been completed, and an appeal for funds to provide furnishings and equipment has recently been launched. Donations, however small, will be gratefully received by the Hon. Treasurer, Chapel Fund, Stoughton Barracks, Guildford.

## THE CHAPEL OF THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT IN GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL

As reported in the Editorial, the Regiment has been allotted a Chapel for its sole ownership in the new Cathedral and the amount needed is £5,500. A meeting of representatives of all branches of the Regiment was held on 10th August at the Depot to examine the problem of raising this sum, and everyone present agreed that it was essential that the Regiment should be properly represented in the Cathedral, the future centre of worship in the Diocese.

It was felt that this was especially necessary since to all intents and purposes space for further memorials in the Queen's Chapel in Holy Trinity no longer exists.

Approximately £1,200 was promised at the meeting, which with £283 subscribed before the war, made a total of about £1,500 which is needed before the end of the year.

The meeting agreed that there were two methods of raising the money required:

(a) Individuals or organizations should make themselves responsible for providing the money for one or more items in the Chapel.

(b) Subscriptions to be used generally as required.

An appeal was sent out by the Colonel of the Regiment explaining the position

regarding the Chapel and asking for contributions to be sent to the Depot as soon as possible. Cheques to be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Chapel Fund, The Queen's Royal Regiment.

The Colonel of the Regiment, in his appeal, said that the provision of the essential furniture of the Chapel was urgent in order that it might be used for worship.

He appealed to all past and present members of the Regiment to seize this opportunity so that we might hand down to our successors a worthy beginning to a memorial which is for all time.

The appeal had an immediate response from all past and present members of the Regiment and at the time of this report approximately £1,800 has been received and another £1,000 promised.

## 1st BATTALION

(See map facing page 182)

To the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" played by the R.N. Staff Band from H.M.S. *Excellent*, and to the wonderful farewell from so many retired and serving members of the Regiment, the Mayor of Guildford and several R.N. officers, the Battalion sailed for Malaya in M.V. *Georgic* on 19th February, 1954. Major (now Lieut.-Colonel) F. A. H. Ling, D.S.O., was in command, as the Commanding Officer and the Quartermaster had flown ahead early in January to join our advanced party, who were under training at the FARELF Training Centre.

The voyage was uneventful except for a march carried out at Aden, complete with the Band and Drums, and some rigorous training carried out on the ship.

Our eight days at Selarang Barracks, Singapore (the home of the 1st Battalion in 1947), were crowded, and it was a relief to get away to three weeks' good hard training in Southern Johore. Each rifle company commander had been a member of the advanced party and, together with one subaltern and a handful of N.C.O.s., had to train their companies in three weeks to become fully operational; it was no mean task with the rifle companies 120 strong.

At the close of this training we returned to Singapore for a week before going up country to take over from 1st Gordons. It was a busy week, the most memorable parts being a drumhead service at which the Rev. Yale (Senior Chaplain, FARELF) preached and the C.O. read the lesson; it served also to introduce our new Padre, Rev. Peter Mallett, to the Battalion. The other occasion was the beating of "Retreat" by the Band and Drums on the square, at which Mr. W. A. C. Goode, the Officer Administering the Government (and Lieut.-Colonel George Goode's brother), took the salute.

On 19th March, the advanced party and most of the M.T. moved up to the operational area, and on the 25th the main body followed by train. The taking over of the various camps from 1st Gordons and the operational hand-over could not have been smoother; we are indeed grateful to Lieut.-Colonel Hay and his battalion for the great assistance they gave us.

At 1200 hrs., 25th March, 1st Queen's assumed operational responsibility, and at 1400 hrs. the same day a C.T. (communist terrorist) surrendered to "B" Company. Battalion Headquarters, Sp. and H.Q. Companies, were at Tampin (see

map). "A" Company and "B" Company were at Rompin, "C" Company at South Johol, and the Mortar Platoon at Sialang (just south of Bahau); all the foregoing are in Negri Sembilan. "D" Company were at Ayer Tekah, some fifty miles away near the borders of Malacca and Johore.

Except for "D" Company the remainder were caught in the web of Operation "Jekyll"; in this we had taken over the unglamorous role of food control, Kongsi (Chinese communal house) guarding, and denying food to the C.T.s. After all the hard training at Kota Tinggi, this was an anti-climax. We were allowed to carry out certain patrols in the rubber up to where it met the jungle, and only very occasionally could we find any men for deep patrolling.

Shortly after we arrived it was decided to move "A" Company to Bahau—a "bad" town. Apart from the town being bad, "A" Company had to establish a temporary camp astride the main drain, on ground which became a quagmire after rain, and backed immediately on the bazaar area.

At this stage the operational set-up was peculiar; Battalion Headquarters was in the Tampin administrative district, while "A", "B" and "C" Companies were in the Kuala Pilah district, and our Brigade Headquarters (26th Gurkha Infantry Brigade) presided at the Kuala Pilah operations room. "D" Company were really independent and looked to Jasin and Malacca in their war against the Border Committee.

On 12th April a joint patrol of "B" Company's 4 and 6 Platoons, with 2/Lieut. M. J. Doyle and 2/Lieut. M. Greenleaf, contacted three C.T.s. near Rompin, killed two and wounded one, who escaped but subsequently died. Two rifles and three packs full of food were recovered. This was good news, but more was to follow soon.

On 17th April two C.T.s. surrendered to 11 Platoon, "D" Company: they subsequently led us to their arms, a Sten gun and a shot gun. Four days later 10 Platoon (2/Lieut. J. G. W. Davidson) ambushed two C.T.s. in the marshes to the east of Tangkak. The patrol had been led to the position by one of the surrendered bandits; he, however, got so excited when the C.T.s. approached that they fled in alarm. Cpl. Chinn quickly jumped on to the track, assumed the kneeling position and dropped one dead at 80 yards. The other one was wounded, but escaped into a swamp.

Later in April we mounted our first big operation in the Mount Ophir area. "C" Company were moved down from South Johol and, together with "D" Company, their target was a big bandit State Committee meeting on the southern part of the mountain. Nothing came of this operation, but it was the first practice we had of an operation of this size. It was more than probable that the information supplied by an ex-bandit District Committee member was out of date when the operation was mounted.

While this operation was in progress, a returning patrol of "B" Company at Rompin was shot up 300 yards from their camp. A hot action followed with possibly more noise than skill, and casualties were suffered by neither side. A follow-up was launched with a tracker dog, but after a day the scent was lost.

At the beginning of May the next phase of Operation "Jekyll" was mounted, and for this the whole of "C" Company and the Mortar Platoon were ordered to Fort Iskander, 9 Platoon going in by Pioneer aircraft, with the remainder having an exhausting fifteen mile march from the edge of the nearest rubber in Ladang Geddes Estate (see map).

Fort Iskander is one of the many forts situated in deep jungle and is normally manned by a platoon of the Malayan Field Force Police. The conception was General Templer's, and the aim is to give some form of protection to

the aborigines, provide them with central trading facilities with the outside world, and try to get them to co-operate with the Government and not with the C.T.s. The scheme has been partially successful.

Meanwhile in the Mount Ophir area, 2/Lieut. J. G. W. Davidson and 10 Platoon, "D" Company, mounted a well-planned ambush on 7th May and killed two C.T.s., one of whom was high ranking (Branch Committee member). This action took place on a dark night in a vegetable garden, a stone's throw from the main road running north-east from Tangkak.

"D" Company had a further success when on 20th May 12 Platoon killed a C.T. in the Ayer Tekah area.

Out in deep jungle in the Fort Iskander area, "C" Company had been carrying on a back-breaking search for C.T.s. over ten square miles of swamp and jungle near the southern end of the Tasek Bera. They had no luck, but learnt a lot about the Semelai, and on 22nd May were flown out by helicopter. 9 Platoon remained for another ten days.

"B" Company had the next success. 5 Platoon (2/Lieut. M. C. Greenleaf) had just stopped to rest during a patrol south-east of Rompin, where they were following up tracks, when five C.T.s. walked into them. There was a spirited action in which two C.T.s. were killed and one wounded but escaped—he was the Bren gunner. Cpl. Sibley was wounded by a grenade fragment which shattered his water-bottle. Amongst the weapons recovered was an Austin gun—invented in Australia and a forerunner of the Sten. It will be on show in the Regimental museum shortly.

Aerial reconnaissance and a ground patrol led by Lieut. P. G. Collyer with the training platoon of Sp. Company, had reported in May a large number of clearings, some of which were being cultivated, about 10,000 yards east of Rompin in deep jungle.

It was decided to destroy all these C.T. jungle cultivation plots and at the



"A" Company Camp at Bukit Serempan



A naval S55 troop-carrying helicopter on the way to Fort Iskander

was mounted on 13th June and lasted until the 17th. Special Branch had information that the Negri Sembilan State Committee were going to meet in a bit of jungle between Bahau and Glendale Estate to the north. Stop positions were manned by 11th Hussars, 2/6th Gurkha Rifles, a Police Area Security Unit and "A" Company (Major I. P. Thomson, M.C.). Five Lincoln bombers came in at "H" hour, and "B" Company under Major L. V. Fane-Gladwin advanced on to the objective. This they found was a very well constructed C.T. camp, much more elaborate than usual, with fire positions and good defences—but it was empty. If we had been forty-eight or even twenty-four hours earlier the birds might still have been there—that is the chance we take on any bit of information, however good.

"B" Company were on the mark again three days later when a patrol of 4 Platoon under 2/Lieut. M. J. Doyle (with 2/Lieut. S. A. Block under instruction) ambushed four C.T.s. on police information on Jeram Padang Estate to the west of Rompin. They killed the first C.T. at two yards range; the others fled. The patrol gave chase and by excellent shooting killed two more who were dodging through the rubber trees at 15 yards' range.

Meanwhile 10 Platoon "D" Company, under 2/Lieut. J. G. W. Davidson (with 2/Lieut. M. J. Foster under instruction), were out searching a part of the southern slopes of Mount Ophir. On 23rd June, as they started to cross a mountain torrent, a member of the patrol slipped: immediately a C.T. bobbed up over a rock and was promptly dispatched by 2/Lieut. M. J. Foster; another C.T. was aiming at point-blank range, but his Thompson sub-machine gun jammed and he was subsequently wounded and captured. The dead man was a very high ranking C.T., and many valuable maps and documents came into our hands as the result of this action, a detailed description of which appears on page 181.

On 30th June, the last day we were under command 26th Gurkha Infantry Brigade (Brigadier C. S. Howard, O.B.E.), a patrol of 9 Platoon, "C" Company, under command Cpl. Furlonger, laid a successful ambush at night and killed two C.T.s., a fitting reward for "C" Company, who had worked very hard without previous success. A short account of this appears on page 183.

On that night Operation "Jekyll" ended and we came under command 63rd Gurkha Infantry Brigade (Brigadier M. C. A. Henniker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.) with effect 1st July. This change of command was brought about to achieve

same time to kill as many C.T.s. as possible. Again "C" Company were chosen for this deep jungle operation, and on 7th June, less 9 Platoon, they moved in on foot under command of Major J. U. Stobbs. They remained in the jungle, being supplied by air, until 29th June, when they were lifted out by helicopter. During this period they made no contacts, but destroyed many cultivations.

Operation "Hunter" was mounted on 13th June and lasted until the 17th. Special Branch had information that the Negri Sembilan State Committee were going to meet in a bit of jungle between Bahau and Glendale Estate to the north. Stop positions were manned by 11th Hussars, 2/6th Gurkha Rifles, a Police Area Security Unit and "A" Company (Major I. P. Thomson, M.C.). Five Lincoln bombers came in at "H" hour, and "B" Company under Major L. V. Fane-Gladwin advanced on to the objective. This they found was a very well constructed C.T. camp, much more elaborate than usual, with fire positions and good defences—but it was empty. If we had been forty-eight or even twenty-four hours earlier the birds might still have been there—that is the chance we take on any bit of information, however good.

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a concentration of 1st Queen's and 2nd/6th Gurkha Rifles against the so-called Border Committee (working on the borders of Negri Sembilan, Johore and Malacca).

However, before we achieved full concentration against the Border Committee, "A" Company were temporarily detached and came under command 1st Somerset Light Infantry at Kajang (famous in Lieut.-Colonel Campbell's "Jungle Green"). Here, after weary months of Kongsi guarding and food checking at Bahau, they were at last able to find their "jungle" feet again. They worked very hard and their efforts culminated in an operation on 24th and 25th July to the west of Sepang in the marshes near the coast. The operation was supported with a R.A.F. Hornet strike on a C.T. camp, and this was immediately followed up by a platoon being lifted in to the objective by naval helicopters. One C.T. was killed during this operation, but we suffered a great loss in 2/Lieut. R. M. Townsend.

Going back to our entry into 63rd Gurkha Infantry Brigade. "B" Company was moved to Tanah Merah Camp through the medium of an operation. Only 10 Platoon of "D" Company had up to now been operating south and south-east of Mount Ophir, though with great success. It was decided, therefore, that instead of a peace-time move, known to all the locals, the whole area would be flooded with troops at the same moment. 5 and 6 Platoons, "B" Company, 11 Platoon, "D" Company, and the Mortar Platoon were used, each with a separate role. They arrived in the area (in the case of "B" Company after a 100-mile drive) just before dusk on 3rd July, and immediately melted into the countryside—the transport returning by alternative routes in order to avoid turning round. The operation lasted until 8th July and just missed a great success by the over-eagerness of the Iban tracker (from Sarawak) who was leading 6 Platoon's patrol (2/Lieut. S. A. A. Block); the Iban came across a C.T. camp and shot at but missed the sentry who was standing guard in the middle. The patrol charged in after him, but the rest of the C.T.s., who apparently had been bathing, vanished, leaving all their clothes, food, stationery and five packs. Let us hope they were cold and well bitten by mosquitoes that night.

By 8th July "B" Company were concentrated at Tanah Merah Estate near Tangkak, "D" Company complete in Ayer Tekah, and the Battalion Operations Room operating in Muar side by side with Headquarters 63rd Gurkha



A Jungle Patrol with tracker dog

Infantry Brigade. Our nearest neighbours to the south were the Fiji Regiment and to the north 2/6th Gurkha Rifles.

Battalion Headquarters H.Q. and Sp. Companies are still at Tampin, with Major R. S. N. Mans commanding Sp. Company and in military charge of local operations in Tampin district. Major P. R. Swanson commands H.Q. Company.

After completing their operation in the Kajang area, "A" Company moved to Bukit Serempan Estate to the south-east of Mount Ophir on 26th July.

8 Platoon, "C" Company (2/Lieut. T. J. Peerless), moved to Gemas on 14th July and the remainder of "C" Company remained hard at it in the South Johol area until 8th September, when they were concentrated at Gemas (taking over from a company of 2/6th Gurkha Rifles).

Meanwhile the battle of the Border Committee was on in the Mount Ophir area. Patrols from three rifle companies (see map) ranged the mountain and the swamps.

We had two contacts, but in each case missed the bandits; our luck seemed to be out. However, on 19th August a patrol of 4 Platoon (2/Lieut. M. J. Doyle) was in thick jungle on the north-eastern slopes of Mount Ophir when Cpl. G. Allsopp smelt tobacco smoke during a rest. Armed with a patchett, he pushed through a bush and suddenly found himself face to face with a bandit. Somewhat surprised, he squeezed his trigger and shot the bandit in the foot; the bandit got away, but as a result of a resolute follow-up he was killed an hour later. The remainder of Cpl. Allsopp's section accounted for a second bandit who was climbing up the bank of a stream, but the third escaped.

Throughout August, "B" Company continued mountaineering on the precipitous slopes of Mount Ophir (4,107 ft.), combing each ravine and water-course for signs of bandit activity, but no bandits were seen again after Cpl. Allsopp's encounter. However, by the end of August sufficient information of C.T. activity had been collected for action to be taken.

With the support of a troop of four 4.2-inch mortars, our own Mortar Platoon (four 3-inch mortars) and 93 Field Battery R.A. (eight 25-pdrs.), Mount Ophir was subjected to a long and slow but continuous harassing fire lasting a week, starting on 27th August. On several occasions this was augmented by Lincoln bombers delivering heavy concentrated strikes by day, and every night other Lincolns flew singly up and down the mountain, dropping a bomb from time to time. Meanwhile company patrols waited in ambush on likely escape routes leading off the mountain.

On 3rd September several million leaflets were dropped on the mountain from the air, while "Voice" aircraft flew over encouraging "comrades" to surrender. To make it easier for the "comrades" to do so, all military movement was banned from roads in the area of the mountain and all troops and police confined to camp between 4th and 6th September.

And so as this account of our operational activities closes, we are wondering what the outcome will be.

#### THE "GLORIOUS FIRST OF JUNE"

Through force of circumstances, each rifle company and Battalion Headquarters held separate celebrations, and not all of these were on the same day owing to operations.

H.M.S. *Cardigan Bay* (Capt. B. C. Durant, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.), was ordered by an ever-thoughtful Naval Staff at Malacca, on 31st May, and her ship's company took a full part in the celebrations at Tampin.

That night a Regimental Guest Night was held in the Officers' Mess, attended by six naval officers, Major Colin Leigh of The Worcestershire Regiment, and five Queen's officers serving elsewhere in Malaya. Capt. Durant made a presentation of a replica of his ship's crest to the Mess during an after-dinner speech.

On 1st June many forms of sporting activity were held in which about 100 sailors took part. The conventional cricket match was won by the Battalion, possibly due to superior judgment in the lunch interval! In the evening there was a concert in the N.A.A.F.I. and a dance in the W.Os. and Sergeants' Mess.

Generally the celebration was a great success, which in no small way was due to the co-operation of Capt. Durant and his ship's company.

#### VISIT BY THE LORD BISHOP OF GUILDFORD

Thanks to the kindness of the R.A.F. the Bishop of Guildford was able to spend two days with the Battalion during his tour of R.A.F. Stations in the Far East.

He arrived with us on Monday, 30th August. During the afternoon he met men of Sp. and H.Q. Companies. At 1730 hrs., assisted by the Rev. Peter Mallet, he confirmed 24 men of the Queen's in our small camp church. It was a simple and most impressive ceremony, witnessed by the Assistant Chaplain-General FARELF, the Commanding Officer and some sixty W.Os., N.C.Os., and men of the Battalion.

That night the Bishop attended a Regimental Guest Night in the Officers' Mess. After the loyal toast, the R.S.M. and all the Warrant Officers of the Battalion came and joined us for the rest of the evening. At the Commanding Officer's invitation the Bishop gave us all a most interesting informal talk at the table about the history of Guildford Cathedral, its progress and his hopes for the future, a subject very much in our minds in view of the appeal for funds for the Queen's Chapel.

The next morning the Bishop conducted a Holy Communion service, at which those confirmed received their first communion. Then, accompanied by the Commanding Officer, he visited "D" Company at Ayer Tekah, and on to lunch at Headquarters, 63rd Gurkha Infantry Brigade, at Muar, where he met, amongst others, the Fiji Padre of the Fiji Regiment. Finally he left by R.A.F. Valetta from Malacca airfield at 1630 hrs. This aircraft developed undercarriage trouble over Singapore and finally had to crash land at Changi, luckily without casualties.

Altogether it was a most memorable occasion, unique, we believe, in the history of the Regiment.

#### OFFICERS

The following officers joined the Battalion between 1st September, 1953 and 4th September, 1954: Majors F. A. H. Ling, D.S.O., H. R. D. Hill, M.B.E., J. U. Stobbs, P. R. Swanson; Lieuts. (now Capt.) N. C. Frame (R.A.M.C.), (now T./Capt.) A. G. Jones, (now T./Capt. and Adj't.) R. B. Johnson, (now T./Capt.) Fearnside-Speed; Capt. (Rev.) P. Mallett (R.A.C.H.D.); 2/Lieuts. G. C. Sharpe, T. I. Perkins, C. J. Bright, M. J. Hart-Wilden, M. J. Doyle, M. C. Greenleaf, J. G. W. Davidson, T. J. Peerless, R. M. Townsend, N. Clark, M. J. Foster, J. J. Gibbens, S. A. A. Block, C. M. Wigan, B. D. Bartlett, J. H. Goodrich, C. E. B. L. Carr, A. T. M. Elliott.

The following officers left the Battalion during the same period: Majors (now Lieut.-Colonel) F. A. H. Ling, D.S.O., J. A. R. Freeland, I. D. Beattie;

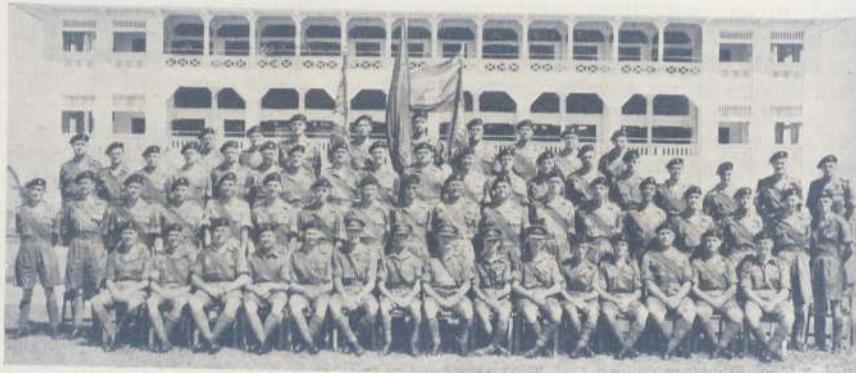
Capt. W. M. Turncock, E. C. S. Osborne (R.W.K.), W. J. F. Sutton, M. J. D. Perrett-Young); Capt. (now Major) N. E. Savage, K. McL. Douglas; Lieuts. N. Berry, P. S. Field, (now T./Capt.) Fearnside-Speed; 2/Lieuts. M. O. Rudkin, T. I. Perkins, M. J. Drew, R. C. Southern, E. R. Paton, J. C. Cleverly, D. J. L. Hughes.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Circumstances have altered considerably since the last publication of the JOURNAL, and there is a great deal to record. The Mess left Iserlohn in a blaze of glory after holding a farewell dance in the gymnasium at Aldershot Barracks. This was particularly well attended, and it is estimated that there were approximately 800 people present. Each guest on arrival was handed a glass of rum punch, which appeared to infuse all of them with a great amount of party spirit.

The gymnasium was transformed for the occasion. The wall bars were completely hidden by greenery, the windows were concealed behind magnificent curtains, while the band was installed on a plush-carpeted dais, which was beautifully decorated with greenery, flags and fairy lights. The buffet was the *pièce de résistance*, both from a decorative and utilitarian point of view. Even now the memory of the roast suckling pigs, the roast chickens and all the other delicious things loom large in our minds. The dance was a great success from every point of view, and everyone was extremely sorry when it came to an end.

Soon after we moved to our temporary home at Invicta Lines, Maidstone, and during our short stay there two successful functions took place. The first was the celebration of the "Glorious First of June" (on 28th November),



1st Battalion

The Warrant Officers and Sergeants, March, 1954

Back Row.—S./Sergt. H. Hill (R.A.P.C.), C./Sergt. D. Adkins, C./Sergt. D. Fairbanks, C./Sergt. D. Hoskens, C./Sergt. V. Aukett, C./Sergt. G. Mileham, D./Major L. Bennett, C./Sergt. D. Shaw, Sergt. S. Constable (A.C.C.).

Third Row.—Sergt. C. Reynolds, Sergt. H. Drayton, Sergt. E. Lampard, Sergt. P. Alexander, Sergt. T. Billings-hurst (R.E.M.E.), Sergt. H. Boseley, Sergt. S. Stiles, Sergt. W. Watret, Sergt. R. Rose, Sergt. J. Humphries, Sergt. I. Hurley, Sergt. T. Conn, Sergt. W. Critcher, Sergt. D. White, Sergt. D. Talbot, Sergt. J. Jameson, Sergt. R. Gould, Sergt. L. Piper, Sergt. C. Harrison.

Second Row.—Sergt. G. Toomey, Sergt. E. Mansfield, Sergt. J. McGregor, Sergt. M. Battrick, Sergt. J. Morris, Sergt. L. Burnstain-Wilson, Sergt. L. Wright, Sergt. J. McCormick, Sergt. R. Jennings, Sergt. W. Redford, Sergt. A. Wilmhurst, Sergt. J. Burdett, Sergt. J. Last, Sergt. K. Yonwin, Sergt. W. Geeves, Sergt. G. Deacon, Sergt. D. Davey, Sergt. A. Watson.

Front Row.—A.Q.M.S. E. Stone (R.E.M.E.), C.S.M. H. Hyde, C.S.M. D. Elkins, C.S.M. F. Wickens, O.R.Q.M.S. E. O'Loughlin, Capt. K. McL. Douglas, R.S.M. J. B. Simmons, M.C., Lt.-Col. F. J. C. Pitt, D.S.O., O.B.E., B.M. E. Gaines, Major H. R. D. Hill, M.B.E., R.Q.M.S. W. Motton, C.S.M. H. Atkins, C.S.M. C. Cheeseman, C.S.M. F. Bohm, W.O.II J. Shepherd (R.A.E.C.).

which was attended by members of the Chief and Petty Officers' Mess of H.M.S. *Excellent*. Many Mess members had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. and Miss Simmons for the first time. The second feature was the Christmas Ball, which also went extremely well.

During the period at Maidstone we welcomed back to the Mess many old and new members, who are listed below.

On arrival at Singapore we went to Selarang Barracks, the old home of the Battalion in 1947, and settled in quickly. At this stage we began to get a foretaste of things to come, for after eight days at Selarang the rifle companies moved up to Kota Tinggi, and Mess life B.A.O.R. style disappeared. We reassembled for a short spell before we left for Tampin, and held a farewell dance. This was highly successful, but we could not help feeling a trifle sad as it was probably the last time for a considerable period that we shall all be together.

The advanced party moved to Tampin on 19th March and took over the Sergeants' Mess from 1st Gordons. Here we met for the first time our new Messmates of 93 (Le Cateau) Field Battery. The main Sergeants' Mess is at Tampin, while each rifle company has one of its own. The main Mess is patronized by members of H.Q. and Sp. Companies and those rifle company members who are in Tampin for their occasional four-day rest periods.

Our first event at Tampin was the celebration of the "Glorious First of June." Sergt. Rose and his band of willing helpers decorated the Mess and put up tents and awnings with great gusto. The dance itself went very well, with Sergt. Rose as M.C. The buffet was of the usual high standard that we have learned to expect from Sergt. Constable, A.C.C., and everyone had a very good time.

Our most recent function was a Regimental Dinner Night, held on 16th July, to say good-bye to B.Q.M.S. Williams, R.A., 93 Field Battery. The dinner was attended by the Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E., Capt. R. B. Johnson, Major A. M. F. Hunt, Officer Commanding 93 (Le Cateau) Field Battery, and Mr. F. G. Fathers, District Officer, Tampin. The Regimental Band were in attendance. It was a very enjoyable evening and we were all very sorry when it came to a close.

We are now in the course of preparing for Salerno Day, which will be celebrated by a dance in the Mess on 11th September.

We welcomed the following W.Os. and Sergeants to the Mess between 1st September, 1953 and 6th September, 1954:

In B.A.O.R.: Sergts. H. Boseley, K. Yonwin, Rose, G. Cottingham, H. Barnes, Glass (A.C.C.).

At Maidstone: C.S.M. F. Wickens, C./Sergt. (now C.S.M.) G. Mileham; Sergts. (now C./Sergt.) D. Hosken, L. Burtin-Wilson, M. Battrick, T. Billings-hurst (R.E.M.E.), G. Deacon, R. Gould, W. Geeves, J. Humphries, C. Harrison, A. Watson.

In Malaya: C./Sergt. H. Gill; Sergts. M. Reilly (A.P.T.C.), V. Parissien, E. Ditcham (A.C.C.), A. Fell,\* R. Taylor,\* R. Riley.\*

We have said good-bye to the following members during the above period:

In B.A.O.R.: C./Sergt. P. Biles, to H.Q.1 (G.B.) Corps; C./Sergt. J. Norman, to M.C. Pool, B.A.O.R.; Sergt. F. Hedges, to 6th Surreys (T.A.); Sergt. F. Burton, to 5th Queen's (T.A.); S.S.I. E. Mills (A.P.T.C.), to 2nd Foresters.

At Maidstone: C.S.M. S. Waldron, to 5th Queen's (T.A.); C.S.M. L. Jackson, to H.Q. E.M.B. Est., Ships Staff Pool, Southampton; Sergt. E. Glass (A.C.C.).

\* On Promotion.

to 20 M.F.C., Dover; C.S.M. F. Vance-Cotsford, to 6th Queen's (T.A.); Sergt. F. Branscombe, to C.P.O. Dorset; Sergt. H. Sharman, to 5th Queen's (T.A.); Sergt. S. Bernstein, to 1st R. Sussex.

*In Malaya:* C.S.M. C. Cheeseman, C.S.M. H. Atkins, C./Sergt. J. Rodgers, and Sergts. L. Piper, G. Toomey, L. Wright, W. Steeles, all extra-regimentally employed in Malaya; Sergts. E. Mansfield and D. Davey, to U.K.; Sergt. R. Rose, to 1st Royal Fusiliers as Drum-Major.

### CORPORALS' MESS

Our stay in Maidstone was luckily short, as Mess accommodation was of a poor standard when compared with Germany, while other attractions in the town, particularly the "Bull," reduced our numbers in the evenings. Christmas found us all on embarkation leave.

The voyage in S.S. *Georgic* was memorable for the wonderful send-off at Southampton. It was a good trip. The food and accommodation were excellent. We worked hard training for Malaya and had two interesting trips ashore at Aden and Colombo.

Our arrival at Singapore was greeted by the Gurkha Pipe Band, which one Corporal took to be well sun-tanned Gordons! We had no Mess at Selarang Barracks nor during the training at Kota Tinggi. It was not until our arrival at Tampin that we were able to forgather again, and then in company with the bombardiers of 93 Field Battery. Over half our numbers are away with rifle companies and they establish their own small messes if facilities are available. We only see them during their short leave periods at Tampin.

The "Glorious First of June" was our first Mess function, when we were joined by a number of the ship's company of H.M.S. *Cardigan Bay*.

With subscriptions from Mess members we have bought a radiogram, which helps to pass evenings away.

Since our arrival in Malaya we have welcomed to the Mess Cpls. Burbage, Collins, Eldridge, Hawes, Mitchell-Gears and Woodman.

We congratulate Cpls. Fell, Taylor, Riley and Steeles, who have been promoted to the Sergeants' Mess; Cpl. Nickson on winning the Individual Shooting Competition of Malaya; and L./Cpls. Hendrey and Tickner on their promotion to corporal.

### SHOOTING

After its successful season at Sennelager and Bisley last year, the Battalion entered for the A.R.A. Non-Central Matches (Abroad series). The five matches comprising the aggregate towards the Queen Victoria Trophy were shot during the period of moving from B.A.O.R. and settling in Malaya. The Battalion came third, which was very satisfactory under the circumstances, and to our belief the best result since the 1st Battalion won in India in 1902.

Match	Score	Results
The King George Cup (Officers) ...	611	3rd
The Royal Irish Cup (W.Os. and Sergeants) ... ... ...	597	4th
The Young Soldiers' Cup ... ...	758	7th
The Company Shield: "C" Company ...	475	4th
"B" Company ...	412	11th
The First Army Cup (H.Q. Company Sten team) ... ... ...	490	10th
The Queen Victoria Trophy ... ...	3,343	3rd



1st Battalion Shooting Team, 1954

The Battalion competed at the Malaya Command Rifle Meeting in August, and had several successes. The team was divided into two elements, Open Range and Jungle Range. The Open Range team won the Dunlop Trophy for the Unit Rifle Team Championship, and the Falling Plates Knock-out, after a very exciting final versus Depot The Malay Regiment.

The Battalion also had a notable victory in winning the Open Invitation Team Match when representing 63rd Gurkha Infantry Brigade. We beat the runners-up, Singapore Base District, by 78 points. "B" Company represented the Battalion in the Jungle Range Competition and shot well. They came seventh in a very closely run finish. The L.M.G. pairs were fourth.

Individually the Battalion also did well. Cpl. Nickson won the Individual Rifle Championship and Lieut. Collyer came third; L./Cpl. Goode was runner-up to the Champion Young Soldier with the rifle. A.Q.M.S. Stone was second in the Individual Revolver and Sergt. Wilmshurst fifth.

Much of the credit for these good results is due to Lieut. P. G. Collyer, the W.T.O., and A.Q.M.S. Stone, R.E.M.E., our armourer. Both worked extremely hard to train the teams.

### BAND AND DRUMS

There have been many events during the year, of which the most outstanding without doubt was the march through Guildford, followed by beating "Retreat" in North Street.

During the voyage to Malaya the Band was called on many times to play on deck; they also took a major part in the ship's concert and the various dances held.

In Singapore we performed several engagements while the Battalion was being trained at Kota Tinggi. Finally the Band and Drums beat "Retreat" on 18th March before coming up-country.

Shortly after our arrival we beat "Retreat" again on the Padang at Tampin. Then followed a long period when the Band only was employed on various

engagements, including playing at Malayan villages, the wedding of a local Malayan potentate, and several Regimental guest nights.

The Band and Drums again performed together on an impressive parade held at Seremban to celebrate the Queen's birthday. The ruler of Negri Sembilan, H.H. The Yang di Pertuan Besar, took the salute standing under a gold-tasseled umbrella.

The Band have had two visits to Singapore to seek engagements; during the last visit they were joined by the Drums and performed a static beating of "Retreat" at Government House.

It has already proved to be an uphill struggle to maintain the efficiency of the Drums owing to a run out of personnel. As well as drumming they are a well-trained jungle platoon and quite capable of carrying out operations in the jungle.

### **SPORT**

As in the past, we have not lacked in energy and enthusiasm during the year, but with the move of the Battalion, the intensive conversion training on arrival in Malaya, and now our operational commitments, it has not been possible to produce our best up to the present. However, with the talent that there is available, there is a firm feeling of optimism amongst all ranks for the future.

The hockey and rugby season started on 1st September and already promising teams have been found and full fixture lists arranged. A new soccer team, comprising mainly new blood, is already training hard for next season, when they are determined to do well.

### **FOOTBALL**

A team was entered for the Army Cup (Malaya), but it was beaten 1-3 in the first round by the 1/7th Gurkhas.

### **BASKET-BALL**

In spite of high hopes, our team only managed to get through to the second round of the 17th Gurkha Divisional Inter-Unit Competition, where they were beaten by 1/7th Gurkha Rifles after a most exciting game and close finish. Result 35-37.

### **ATHLETICS**

Although a Battalion team as such has not been entered for any events, several individuals have been most successful and represented Malacca Settlement in Inter-State Athletic Meeting. They were Capt. C. B. Rodgers. Discus; Pte. Crumplin, 100 yards and 220 yards; L/Cpl. Thomas, High Jump.

### **CROSS-COUNTRY**

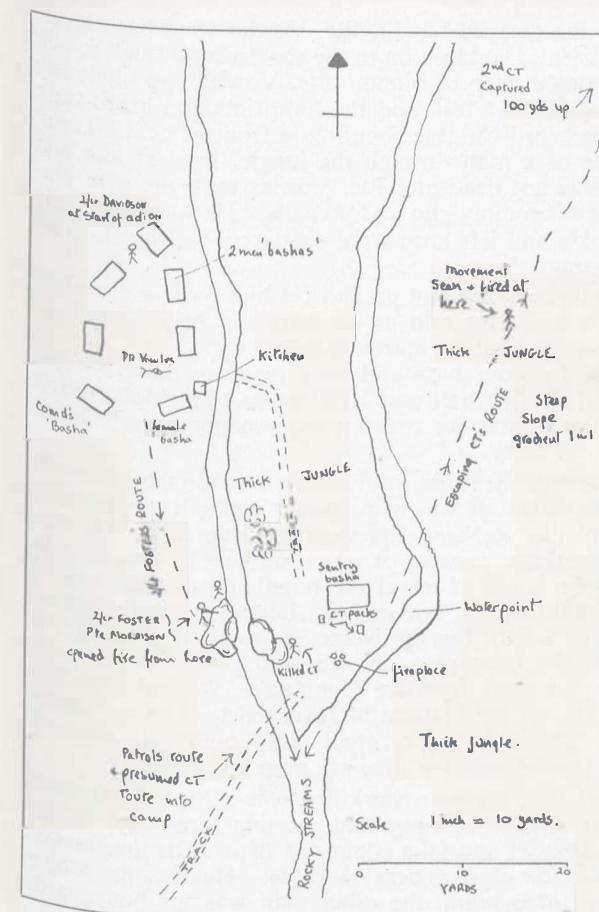
We entered a team for the 17th Gurkha Divisional Inter-Unit Team Competition, but did not succeed in getting through to the final. Pte. Hardy was fourth in the individual Brigade placing.

### **A BANDIT HUNT ON MOUNT OPHIR**

This is the story of a patrol of 10 Platoon, "D" Company, who were sent out on a routine patrol to search a certain area for bandits on Mount Ophir.

Mount Ophir rises to 4,107 feet, is extremely steep and is covered with primary jungle. There are many mountain streams strewn with huge boulders in steep valleys, vertical rock faces, and the going is extremely difficult. The bandits and the security forces always make jungle camps near water for obvious reasons.

At 0300 hrs., 22nd June, 10 Platoon set off. We were inside the jungle by first light, 0600 hrs., and after a strenuous climb to 2,500 feet, dropped some 200 feet into the valley of our objective. We "based-up" for the night 200 yards from the stream, and were preparing for the night when L/Cpl. Pitchers came in very excited from his local security patrol; he said that he had come across signs of C.T.s. In fact, these signs had been spotted by a surrendered bandit who was with us, and who noticed some shoots that had recently been cut from an unpleasantly thorny jungle bush; these shoots, he said, were cut by bandits for food.



We were certain that we were within striking distance of a bandit camp, and the next morning set off, leaving six men to guard our base. The plan was to move down to the stream and, if we could find definite tracks, continue as one patrol of fourteen under the Platoon Commander, 2/Lieut. Davidson. If we could not find any we should then split into two parties, the second party under 2/Lieut. Foster (who was on his first patrol), and patrol up-stream, one patrol on each bank.

We did find a definite track, so continued together. We moved very cautiously for about two hours parallel to the track in the hope that we would get into the camp without being spotted by the sentry. In this time we covered about 300 yards and suddenly came upon a camp

that was deserted. It was a small camp for three men, and after searching it we found another camp for twelve, twenty yards away. While we were searching and destroying this, 2/Lieut. Foster and Pte. Morrison went to investigate a noise from the first camp. As the former clambered up a rock, a bandit put his head over the top and was instantly shot in the head by 2/Lieut. Foster, as he did so falling backwards into the stream. There were only three bandits in the camp and the other two attempted to fight; one fired one rifle shot which bounced harmlessly off a rock, and the other opened up with his tommy-gun or automatic; but, fortunately for 2/Lieut. Foster, who was only seven yards away, the first round was a misfire. He didn't try any more and both bandits turned and fled.

Meanwhile the remainder of the party, somewhat bewildered by the shooting, were just wondering whether we were attacking or being attacked when Pte. Vowles (now L./Cpl.), saw movement across our front on the steep slope above us; he fired but couldn't tell if he had hit. "Cease fire" was called and we found one dead body with two packs in the middle of the first camp. The bandits must have come in just after us and they were starting to cook their lunch!

In order to find tracks of the escaped bandit, Pte. Vowles went back to his fire position and directed 2/Lieut. Davidson on to the spot; after a small search a footprint was found and also a drop of blood. Pte. Vowles had obviously scored a hit. With a small patrol we followed the footprints and blood trail, and after going 150 yards we heard Chinese shouting in front of us. 2/Lieut. Davidson, seeing the outline of a man through the jungle, fired at him and we charged in. The C.T. was not dead and Pte. Vowles took the wise precaution of making a dive for his tommy-gun and grenade. He was very badly wounded: both his right ankle and left knee were shattered, and he also had a stomach and mild chest wound.

It took one and a half hours to patch him up and get him on to a stretcher. Meanwhile an Auster which flew over told us we were too high for a helicopter evacuation and so we decided to march him out.

By the time we had packed up our base and were ready to move we had only one and a half hours of daylight left and 1,100 yards of precipitous and thick jungle to traverse. Apart from our own kit and weapons, we had two men, their kit and weapons to carry.

That evening we only travelled 250 yards, and when it was too dark to move further we lay down for the night. It was a miserable night; it poured with rain and only by great care did we keep the wounded man dry. He was having regular morphine injections; even so, it was a miracle he was alive in the morning. It took us four hours to travel the remaining distance out of the jungle. We were still 800 feet up, but in open lallang (elephant grass), and as our captive had taken a turn for the worse, we decided to ask for a helicopter. He died before the helicopter arrived, and some ten minutes before the arrival of a carrying party from the Company. We had kept him alive for twenty-six hours, and all the Platoon had worked to their last ounce of energy to get him out. This was a very great disappointment; captured bandits are most useful for the information they are prepared to give.

Before he died he told us that the man we killed was a State Committee member who had been sent after a high-powered meeting three days before to reorganize the Tangkak District and take command of it. His documents, which were many, proved to be of considerable value. He was the senior C.T. killed in that area for three years; the other man was his bodyguard.

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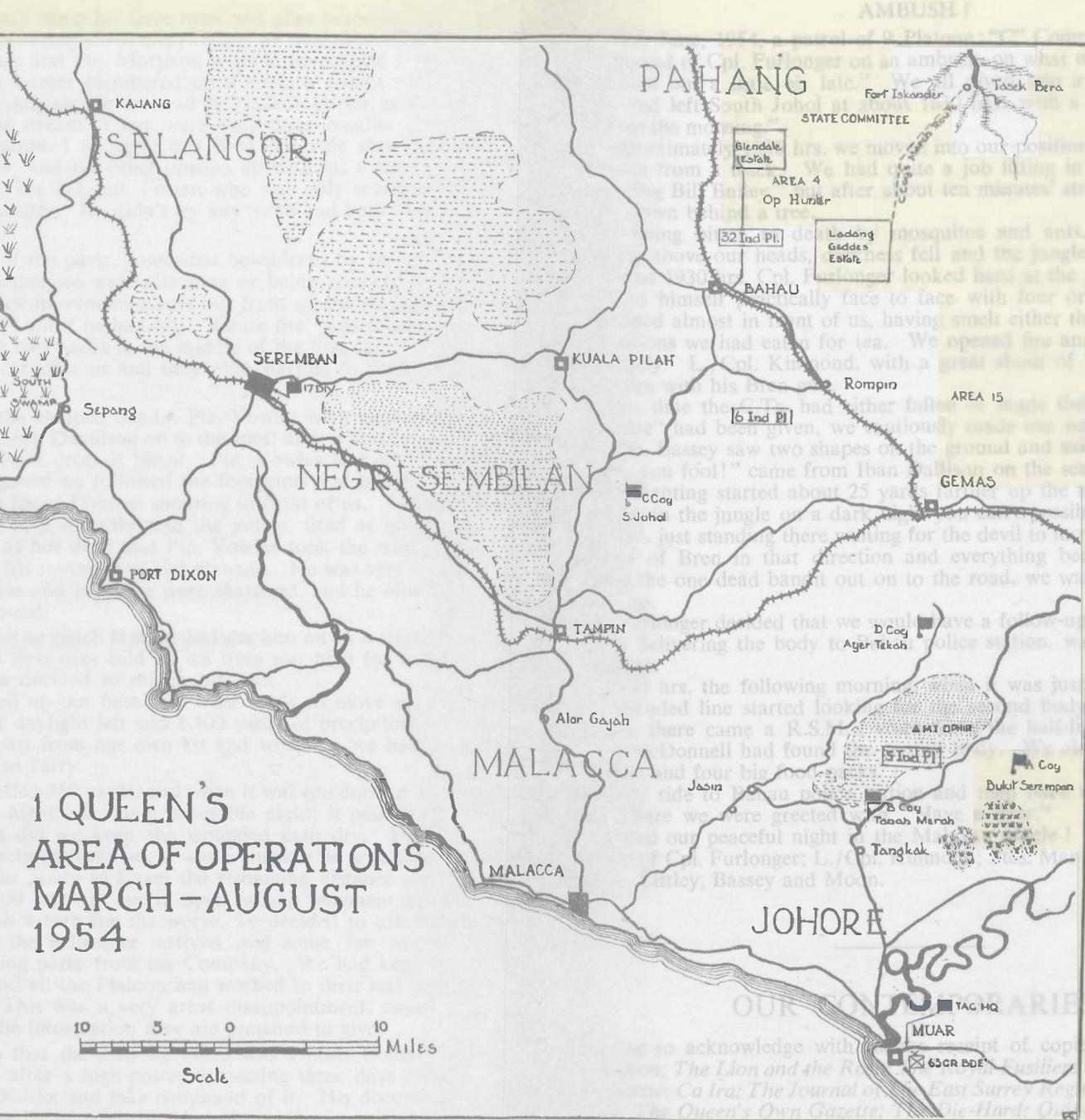
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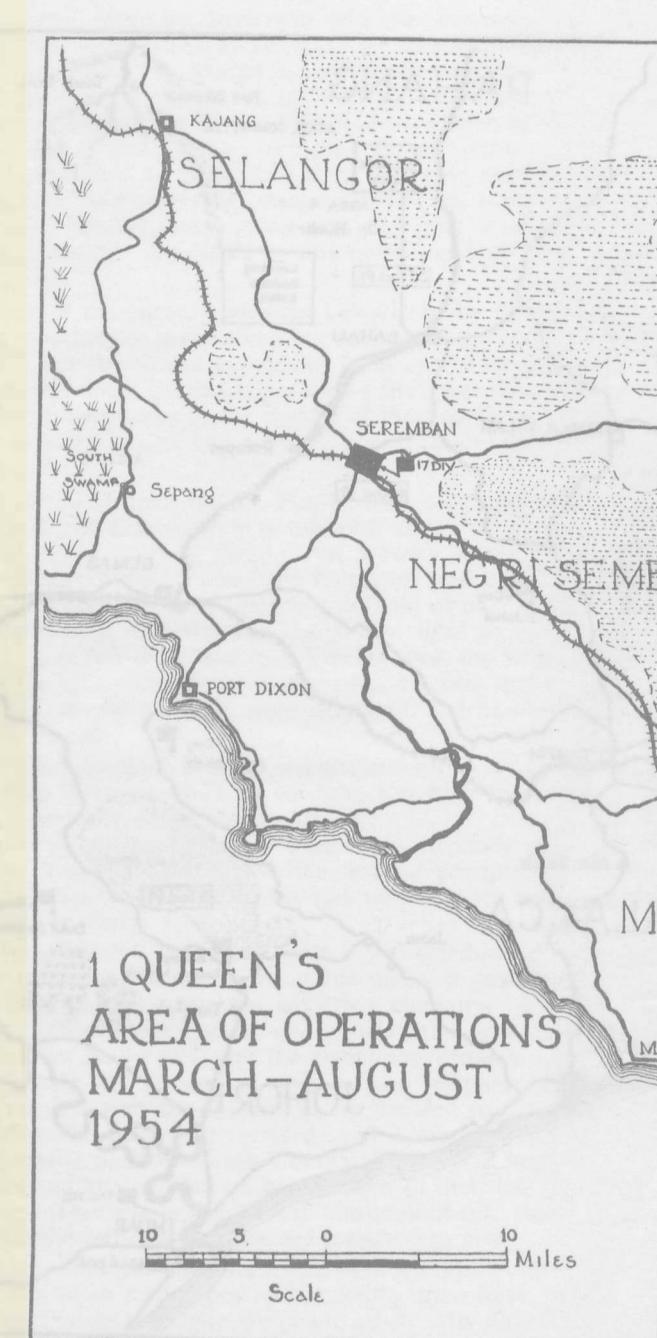
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### AMBUSH !

On 30th June, 1954, a patrol of 9 Platoon, "C" Company, went out under the command of Cpl. Furlonger on an ambush, on what we thought was "good information but a little bit late." We all dived into a tin of mosquito repellent, and left South Johol at about 1630 hrs., with a cheerful "Au revoir. See you in the morning."

At approximately 1830 hrs. we moved into our position in short grass about four yards from a track. We had quite a job fitting in our 6 ft. 3 in. Bren gunner "Big Bill Bailey," but after about ten minutes' struggle he managed to squeeze down behind a tree.

After being bitten to death by mosquitos and ants, and with monkeys chattering above our heads, darkness fell and the jungle concert started.

At about 1930 hrs. Cpl. Furlonger looked hard at the path directly in front and found himself practically face to face with four or five bandits. They had stopped almost in front of us, having smelt either the mosquito repellent or the onions we had eaten for tea. We opened fire and one dropped down immediately. L./Cpl. Kinmond, with a great shout of "Come and get us!" opened fire with his Bren gun.

By this time the C.T.s. had either fallen or made their get-away, so after "Cease fire" had been given, we cautiously made our way towards the track, where Pte. Bassey saw two shapes on the ground and said. "Who's that one." "It's me, you fool!" came from Iban Dallison on the search. Then the singing and chanting started about 25 yards farther up the track, and unless you have been in the jungle on a dark night you can't possibly realize the feeling we all had, just standing there waiting for the devil to move. We put a couple of bursts of Bren in that direction and everything became quiet. Then, dragging the one dead bandit out on to the road, we waited for our truck to pick us up.

Cpl. Furlonger decided that we would have a follow-up in the morning, and so, after delivering the body to Bahau police station, we decided to get in a bit of sleep.

At 0530 hrs. the following morning, when it was just getting light, ten of us in extended line started looking for the second body. At approximately 0540 hrs. there came a R.S.M.'s voice from the half-light. "Search Party". L./Cpl. McDonnell had found the second body. We also retrieved one rifle, 38 rounds and four big food packs.

Another ride to Bahau police station and then back to our base at South Johol, where we were greeted with "Have a beer."

So ended our peaceful night in the Malayan jungle ! The ambush party consisted of Cpl. Furlonger; L./Cpl. Kinmond; Ptes. Mant, Bailey, McDonnell, Dallison, Littley, Bassey and Moon.

### OUR CONTEMPORARIES

We beg to acknowledge with thanks receipt of copies of the following: *The Dragon*; *The Lion and the Rose*; *The Royal Fusiliers Chronicle*; *The Light Bob Gazette*; *Ca Ira*; *The Journal of The East Surrey Regiment*; *The Roussillon Gazette*; *The Queen's Own Gazette*; *The Die-Hard*; *Quis Separabit*; *The Owl*; *The Wish Stream*.

## DEPOT

SINCE the last issue of the Regimental Journal the Depot has had a busy year, and it has been one of steady progress and achievement, both from a training and a Depot point of view.

The Permanent Staff has undergone several changes and the following are now serving in the Depot: Major E. B. G. Clowes, M.B.E.; Captain P. A. W. G. Durrant; Lieut. A. Donaldson; Lieut. M. F. Reynolds; Lieut. P. S. Field (vice 2/Lieut. D. J. L. Hughes); Lieut. (Q.M.) J. E. Griffin; R.S.M. B. Noke (vice R.S.M. W. Kettle); C.S.M. C. Davis (vice C.S.M. R. Hall); C.Q.M.S. A. Poole (vice C.Q.M.S. H. Gill); C.Q.M.S. W. Scott (vice C.Q.M.S. H. Garbett); Sergts. H. Bingham, R. Wildgoose, L. Jessup, P. Butcher, A. Lawrence.

## STATISTICS

The number of men trained since September, 1953, is 300. The Depot had the highest number of National Service men enlisting on regular engagements during basic training between the period April, 1953 to March, 1954, in the Home Counties Brigade. This represented an overall average of 20 per cent conversions.

## RECRUIT COMPETITIONS

### Eighteenth Intake—

Best Recruit: Pte. Collins.  
Best Shot: Pte. Haylor.

### Nineteenth Intake—

Best Recruit: Pte. Chuck.  
Best Shot: Pte. Porter.

### Twentieth Intake—

Best Recruit: Pte. Lloyd.  
Best Shot: Pte. Jackson.

### Twenty-first Intake—

Best Recruit: Pte. Chadwick.  
Best Shot: Pte. Chadwick.

### Twenty-second Intake—

Best Recruit: Pte. Goodman.  
Best Shot: Pte. Grossmith.

### Twenty-third Intake—

Best Recruit: Pte. Hatcher.  
Best Shot: Pte. Fertig.

### Twenty-fourth Intake—

Best Recruit: Pte. Grigg.  
Best Shot: Pte. Griffiths.

### Twenty-fifth Intake—

Best Recruit: Pte. Hedges.  
Best Shot: Pte. Blondell.

## VISITORS

The following have taken Passing Out Parades since September, 1953: General Sir George Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O.; Lieut.-General Sir Geoffrey Bourne, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E.; Major-General R. C. M. King, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Brigadier G. R. P. Roupell, V.C.; Brigadier J. F. Metcalfe, C.B.E.; Colonel G. H. M. Harper; Major E. B. G. Clowes, M.B.E.

## TRAINING

The Annual Administration Inspection by Brigadier L. F. E. Weiler, C.B., C.B.E., took place on 11th January, 1954, and we received an excellent report.

In addition to our continual training of National Service men, we have managed in the last year to give assistance to many pre-service and volunteer units, and on three occasions our recruits have provided a very spirited and wily enemy to the local Home Guard units.

On 14th June our Army Emergency Reserve personnel reported for Annual Training, and under their officers, Major J. M. Skillington and Lieuts. Pasteur and Lavery, they spent a valuable two weeks at the Depot. Both the 5th and 6th Battalions have availed themselves of the opportunity of training their "casuals" here at Stoughton.

An Officers' and Sergeants' Study Day has been held once a month and they normally take the form of a T.E.W.T. run by the C.O. To provide some variety, the June Study Day was spent looking over the Hawker Aircraft Establishment at Dunsfold. This was of the greatest interest and in addition to giving the officers and sergeants an opportunity of seeing the latest aircraft, they were also introduced to Mr. Neville Duke and several other famous test pilots.

## SOCIAL

The Depot officers entertained the officers of the 1st Battalion to Cocktails on 18th November, 1953, prior to the Ball given by the Mayor and Corporation of the Borough of Guildford.

Major J. A. R. Freeland was "dined out" on 25th February, 1954. Many serving and retired officers attended.

Under the direction of Cpl. Cakebread, the Corporals' Mess held a dance on 10th March, 1954, in the Gymnasium. The Commanding Officer, officers and Sergeants attended, and all voted the occasion a great success.

The Glorious First of June was celebrated at H.M.S. *Excellent* this year. Unfortunately the weather was bad and many of the activities planned had to be cancelled. However, all ranks who attended were unanimous in their praise of the Navy's hospitality, and were particularly appreciative of the presentation of a plaque to the Regimental Badge. This now hangs alongside H.M.S. *Excellent*'s crest outside the Museum.

On 13th July, 1954, the officers entertained the Mayor and Corporation to dinner. The Commanding Officer on behalf of all ranks of the Depot presented a Regimental Shield to Alderman Donald Wilkins as a token of appreciation of his interest and kindness to the Regiment during his tour of office as Mayor of Guildford.

General Sir George Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O., was "dined out" in the Depot Officers' Mess on 24th August, 1954. A very representative gathering of serving and retired officers was present, and we would take this opportunity of wishing him and Lady Giffard the best of good fortune in the future from all ranks of the Regimental Depot.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Those keen on squash will be pleased to hear that the squash court in the Depot is nearing completion. Work is to start soon on our new dining-hall; a long-awaited improvement to the barracks.

The hard tennis court has been relaid and the whole of the Depot has been recently painted.

Three new paddocks have been built near the piggeries and we now have a total of 80 pigs in the Depot.

Twice in the year we have been called upon to assist the National Blood Transfusion Service. At each visit there has been a great response from all ranks, over 80 per cent. of whom volunteered to donate a pint of blood.

### "AT HOME" DAYS

On 19th June and 11th September, 1954, the Depot was opened to the public, and on each occasion units from all branches of the Service were on display, ranging from exhibits of the S.I.B. to a Mobile Bakery in operation.

Displays of drill were given by our recruits which earned high praise from the spectators, and the 5th and 6th Battalions provided standard infantry weapons and equipment for inspection. Some 4,000 people attended on 11th September, during the morning of which General Sir George Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O., took the Passing Out Parade of the 25th Intake, which was to be his last parade as Colonel of the Regiment. We were lucky to obtain the services of the Royal Marine Band, Portsmouth Command, for this day, which ended by their beating "Retreat" on the Sports Field.

Mention must be made of the invaluable help given to the Depot by 4th (Surrey) Home Guard Battalion on both occasions.

### SPORT

#### FOOTBALL

Matches played 28, won 14, drawn 4, lost 10; goals for, 100; goals against, 80.

The Depot team won the White Shield (Sportsmanship) Trophy in the Guildford and District Wednesday Football League.

Cpl. Dare and Pte. Gallacher were both selected during the season to play for the League in League matches.

#### HOCKEY

Matches played 15, won 4, lost 11; goals for, 28; goals against 65.

#### CRICKET

Matches played 13, won 2, lost 9. Rain stopped play in two matches.

#### SHOOTING

In the 1954 Home Counties District Rifle Meeting at Hythe, the Depot team were placed first in the China Cup Competition with a score of 351. This score beat the winning score for the Hong Kong Tankard Competition for T.A. units. In addition the Depot won the Falling Plate Competition (runners-up, 5th Queen's T.A.). In the Main Competition the Depot was placed fourth out of 47 entries.

Cpl. Chadwick was best shot in the Main Competition in Class C (Cpls. and below with less than eighteen months' service) with a score of 96 out of a possible 120.



[Photo W. Dennett, Guildford

#### Depot : Permanent Staff

Back Row—L/Cpl. A. Wallis, Cpl. A. Parker (R.E.M.E.), Cpl. P. Batten, Cpl. F. Morris, Cpl. M. Pearson, Cpl. R. Chadwick, Cpl. J. Dare, Cpl. R. Wells, Cpl. F. Charlwood, Cpl. R. Fenton, L/Cpl. P. Porter.  
 Middle Row—Cpl. D. Hay, L/Cpl. A. Holley, Cpl. F. Chamberlain (A.C.C.), Cpl. L. Rice, Sergt. P. Gibbs, Sergt. A. Lawrence, Sergt. L. Jessup, Sergt. P. Butcher, Sergt. H. Bingham, Sergt. B. Taylor (R.A.P.C.), Cpl. E. Chuck, Cpl. D. Brownjohn, Cpl. A. Inskip, Cpl. D. Brownjohn.  
 Front Row—C/Sgt. A. Davies, 2/Lieut. D. J. L. Hughes, Lieut. M. F. Reynolds, Capt. P. A. W. G. Durant, Major E. B. G. Clowes, M.B.E., Lieut. A. Donaldson, Lieut. J. E. Griffin, R.S.M. B. Nole, Q.M.S.I. V. Birchall (A.P.T.C.), Sergt. R. Wildgoose.

The team as a whole collected a considerable amount of prize money and returned in triumph to Stoughton with the Martin prize for the China Cup and, equally as welcome, a nine-gallon barrel of beer for their success in the Falling Plate Competition.

## REGIMENTAL CRICKET

Matches played were:

- v. H.M.S. *Excellent* at Whale Island on 28th and 29th May. The Queen's Royal Regiment, 67 and 69 for 7 dec.; H.M.S. *Excellent*, 68 for 4 dec. and 72 for 4. Lost by six wickets. Rain much interfered with this match.
- v. Charterhouse Masters at Charterhouse on 8th July. The Queen's Royal Regiment, 165 for 2 dec. (A. S. Day 75); Charterhouse Masters 113 for 5 wickets. Match drawn.
- v. Blues C.C. at Stoughton on 7th August. The Queen's Royal Regiment, 85 (E. R. Paton 45); Blues, 87 for 1 wicket. Lost by 9 wickets.
- v. Grasshoppers at Stoughton on 29th August. Grasshoppers, 200 for 4 dec.; The Queen's Royal Regiment, 67. Lost by 133 runs.

The following represented the Regiment in the above matches: Lieut-Colonels J. B. H. Kealy, F. A. H. Ling, J. E. Flint and P. C. Hinde; Majors H. W. Hall and S. R. G. Scott-Gall; Captains J. W. Sewell and C. T. Reichwald; Messrs. P. G. T. Kingsley, J. C. L. Murdock, J. N. Napier-Ford, M. C. Credland, H. M. Hare, E. R. Patton, J. G. Cleverly, C. L. Carr, A. S. Day, T. R. Wallen, J. A. R. Pierssené, C. Syms and V. Keely; Cpl. J. Dare; L./Cpl. J. Kaufmann; Ptes. S. Bellord, P. Carr, R. Bridge, H. Gallacher, A. Charlwood, A. Parsons, G. Peckham, R. Singh and M. Young.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Major P. G. T. Kingsley has been appointed Keeper of the Records and Secretary to the Duchy of Cornwall.

Colonel M. V. Fletcher is on the Staff of H.Q. Allied Forces, Central Europe.

Major B. S. Burns is an Instructor at 233 O.C.U., R.A.F., at Pembury, Wales.

Colonel P. H. Richardson is now Commander of 160th Infantry (South Wales) Brigade, T.A., with the temporary rank of Brigadier.

Major M. E. M. McWilliam has been appointed G.S.O.2 (Secretary), War Office Committee on Royal Signals Organization.

2/Lieut. G. B. Redfern has joined from the R.M.A. Sandhurst.

R.S.M. B. Noke has been awarded the M.S.M.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Griffiths has been appointed to command 7th Regiment of the Arab Legion, Jordan.

## LONDON GAZETTE

EXTRACTS FROM 18TH SEPTEMBER, 1953—24TH SEPTEMBER, 1954

### REGULAR ARMY

- Capt. P. R. Swanson to be Major, 11th October, 1953.
- Major L. S. Sheldon retires on retired pay, 6th November, 1953, and is granted the honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.
- Capt. D. C. Snowden, T.D., to be Major, 20th November, 1953.
- Capt. S. R. Scott-Gall, to be Major, 23rd November, 1953.
- Lieut. M. J. D. Perrett-Young to be Captain, 8th September, 1953.
- Lieut. P. A. W. G. Durrant to be Captain, 21st December, 1953.
- Major and Bt. Lieutenant-Colonel D. G. Loch, O.B.E., from Queens, to be Lieutenant-Colonel on the Employed List (1), 7th January, 1953.
- Major G. H. W. Goode, O.B.E., to be Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel 1st July, 1953.
- Major W. P. O'C. Wylde retires receiving a gratuity, 28th February, 1954.
- Hugh Michael Hare, Michael Charles Watson Credland, from R.M.A. Sandhurst to be Second-Lieutenants, 12th February, 1954.
- Major J. A. R. Freeland retires on retired pay, 24th March, 1954, and to be granted the honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.
- Lieutenant-Colonel M. V. Fletcher on completion of period of service in command remains on full pay (Superny.), 20th April, 1954.
- Capt. W. J. F. Sutton to be Major, 19th April, 1954.
- Capt. K. McL. Douglas to be Major, 16th July, 1954.
- Lieut. H. C. Millman to be Captain, 15th July, 1954.
- 2/Lieut. T. D. G. Mulady to be Lieutenant, 1st August, 1954.
- Capt. A. S. Blackman to be Major, 13th August, 1954.
- Major-General John Yeldham Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., late Infantry, retired, re-employed, is appointed Colonel, 28th September, 1954, vice General Sir George James Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O., tenure expired.

### SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

- Capt. J. O'C. Cosgrove (Emp. List 3) to be Major, 30th March, 1954.
- Capt. E. G. Perry (Emp. List 4) to be Major, 8th May, 1954.
- Capt. G. A. Campbell (Emp. List 4) to be Major, 26th May, 1954.
- Capt. P. H. Hiscox to be Major, 26th June, 1954.
- Lieut. B. N. Hart to be Captain, 25th July, 1954.

### TERRITORIAL ARMY

- Lieut. (acting Capt.) D. J. Archer to be Captain, 20th September, 1953, with seniority 2nd April, 1953.
- Capt. T. N. S. Hodges, T.D., to be Major, 11th June, 1953.
- Capt. P. M. C. Zehntner to be Major, 13th July, 1953.
- Capt. R. C. H. Saunders is granted the acting rank of Major, 1st May, 1953.
- Lieut. (acting Capt.) W. W. B. Rodger, to be Captain, 16th May, 1954, with seniority 1st April, 1953.
- 22517709 Sergt. Augustine James Daniel O'Sullivan to be 2/Lieut. 24th May 1954

### TERRITORIAL EFFICIENCY DECORATION

- Capt. (Hon. Major) R. O. Jenkins, 1st December 1953.
- Lieut. J. F. O'Carroll, 1st December 1953.
- Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Flint, 4th June, 1954.
- Major C. H. Nice, 4th June, 1954.
- Capt. G. F. Pesco, 4th June, 1954.
- Capt. (Hon. Major) P. N. Flatt, 20th July, 1954.
- Capt. (Hon. Major) G. N. James, 20th July, 1954.
- Capt. (Hon. Major) D. McL. Keith, 20th July, 1954.

### FIRST CLASP

- Capt. (Hon. Major) P. N. Flatt, 20th July 1954.

## ARMY EMERGENCY RESERVE DECORATION

Capt. B. R. N. De Saulles (now Major, S.S.R.C.), 3rd November, 1953.

## NATIONAL SERVICE

The following National Service officers have joined during the above period and have been posted as shown:

C. J. Bright (1st Battalion), M. J. Hart-Wilden (1st Battalion), T. I. Perkins (1st Buffs), M. C. Greenleaf (1st Battalion), C. B. Shuldharn-Shaw (Parachute Regiment), T. J. Peerless (short-service commission, 1st Battalion), R. M. F. Ross (R.W.A.F.F.), R. M. Townsend (1st Battalion), W. N. Clark (1st Battalion), M. J. Foster (1st Battalion), J. J. Gibbens (1st Battalion), S. A. Block (1st Battalion), J. F. Attree (R.W.A.F.F.), B. D. Bartlett (1st Battalion), C. M. Wigan (1st Battalion), P. W. E. Istead (S.S.C.-K.A.R.), J. H. Goodrich (1st Battalion), D. H. Ferrier (R.W.A.F.F.), C. E. Parkhouse (R.W.A.F.F.), C. E. B. Carr (1st Battalion), J. S. Mackenzie (R.W.A.F.F.), A. T. M. Elliott (1st Battalion), N. J. Elliott (1st Battalion), N. R. E. Jacobs (1st Battalion), M. J. Blinkhorn (K.A.R.), G. M. Hoskins (K.A.R.), M. J. Shuldharn-Legh (Short Service Commission, 1st Battalion).

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

## O.B.E.

Major (now local Lieutenant-Colonel) David Lanyon Lloyd-Owen, D.S.O., M.C., The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey), 29th June, 1954, for services in Malaya.

## MILITARY MEDAL

22612736 Fusilier (now Lance-Corporal (acting)) John Sidney Dalton, The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey), attached The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment), 8th December, 1953, for services in Korea.

## MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

22581419 A./Cpl. F. E. Cheesman (now T.A.), 8th December, 1953, for services in Korea.

## KING EDWARD VII's HOSPITAL FOR OFFICERS

BEAUMONT HOUSE, BEAUMONT STREET, W.1

All officers, serving and retired, permanent and temporary, are eligible for admission. The Extension to the Hospital has been completed; the original building has been brought up to date and the Hospital is now provided with the very latest equipment.

As is already known, the Hospital has a Consulting Staff of eminent physicians and surgeons, and patients who desire to avail themselves of their services are charged in accordance with their means, on a scale agreed by the Council. Patients may, however, still make their own arrangements with any physician or surgeon of their choice if they so desire.

A number of ward beds are set aside for serving officers, who are entitled to free bed, nursing and maintenance. Extra charges are cut down to a minimum and are constantly reviewed and the ability of the patient to pay is always considered. We have recently introduced a Samaritan Fund to assist those in financial need.

The Hospital is mainly for surgical and medical cases and has its own Medical Officer (from whom preliminary advice can be obtained without charge), a Physiotherapist and an X-ray apparatus.

The Hospital has been disclaimed by the Minister of Health, and is therefore entirely dependent on voluntary support. Subscribers, who are entitled to special rates, are asked to pay £1 yearly by Bankers Order, which can be obtained from the Honorary Appeal Secretary, 15 Ormond Yard, Duke of York Street, S.W.1, who will also be pleased to receive donations.

## 598th L.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A. (4th BATTALION

## THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT), T.A.

THE principal event in this last year has been a swing in emphasis from evening training for all to single-day training for National Service men on Sundays, and evening training for a volunteer cadre, and all seem to be agreed that this system pays best.

The winter season opened in October with Air Exercise "Flamingo IV," during which little happened except for a steady drizzle of rain and visitations of senior officers. It is probable that more useful training was done during the Battery Week-ends at the drill-hall, of which there were no fewer than eight between October and March.

A variety of subjects was tackled, from small arms to Administration, and as a result a useful nucleus of instructors and trained soldiers was available during the spring and summer.

March was devoted mainly to preparation for various exercises which loomed menacingly ahead, and each week-end was employed by one or other of the Batteries. A very fine Officers' Study Week-end was organized by 15th A.A. Brigade at Hastings, where the latest equipment, methods and tactics of air defence were studied.

Perhaps as a result of this, the Regiment played a prominent part in the defence of Biggin Hill against those horrid Fantasians, in the latter part of April. This exercise was of an exciting nature from the start, when the O.C. Advanced Party escaped death by inches as a Meteor came down out of control, to the finish when the last survivors of the Regiment were seen slowly vanishing in smoke and thunderflashes. In general, a thrilling time was had by most and a wet time by all.

The remainder of the spring and early summer saw a determined effort being made to impart knowledge to National Service men at week-ends, and an equally determined effort made to chase those delinquents (and they were exceptionally few) who had produced ingenious reasons for not attending.

On 17th July, the Regiment entrained for annual camp at Towyn. Here the malignant Welsh summer struck with full force. Despite the fact that this is an all-tented camp, a great deal of useful training was done, mainly through superb effort of improvisation by Regimental Officers and Instructors. As a result, although there had only been one day's shooting previously, the arrival of the G.O.C.-in-C. coincided with a break in the cloud and rain, and the Regiment sent such multitudes of well-aimed rounds into the air that sleeves were falling right and left and red-cap bands were nodding approbation and even applause on all sides.

This, and perhaps the fourth rum ration of the camp, sent all ranks home feeling that the Regiment had put up a very good effort despite extremely adverse conditions.

At the time of writing we are in the midst of the musketry season, and are making full use of the local ranges.

The principal events of the year have been the formation of a "Spotters" cadre under the wing of "R" Battery, and the hatching of our R.E.M.E. Light Aid Detachment from the tender care of "S" Battery into an independent unit.

The Band has had a very full year. It is now completely equipped with No. 1 Dress, and has acquired a Drum-Major, complete with the original Regimental mace and cross-belt.

Amongst its many engagements, the more important were before the Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Tedder, at the laying of the foundation stone at Croydon Technical College, and for our own affiliated Cadet Company in the pre-service units' march past the Town Hall. The Band spent one week of its annual camp at the Regimental Depot, where it was trained by the Depot Staff to beat "Retreat," and many readers will have seen its performance on the occasion of the Annual Garden Party. During its second week of training at Towyn, the weather moderated sufficiently for a ceremonial "Retreat" to be beaten before the guests of the Officers' Cocktail Party.

The usual Social functions have been held this year, and we were glad to welcome many ex-members of the Regiment on the "Glorious First of June," in addition to representatives from all Queen's Units, the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, the Royal Air Force and our affiliated Fleet Air Arm Squadron.

The Children's Party was as well attended as it always is, and the "Old Guard" stalwarts carried the afternoon to a successful conclusion.

We cannot allow this year's social events to pass without mentioning that guards of honour were provided by the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes on the occasion of two officers' weddings during the period under review.

## THE CYpher OF CATHERINE OF BRAGANZA

WE are much indebted to Colonel Sir Frank D. Watney, K.C.V.O., C.B.E., T.D., who commanded the 2nd/4th Battalion from 1903 to 1909, for the following very interesting account of how the Cypher of Queen Catherine of Braganza was restored to the centre of the Colours of the Regiment:

"I have always understood—but I have not verified this—that the Volunteers, when they were revived in 1859 (for they were first founded in the Napoleonic War), carried Colours, but for some reason that privilege was taken away. When Arnold-Forster was Secretary of State for War he was anxious to put new life into the Volunteers and he did much to prepare the way for Mr. Haldane's Territorial Army. Arnold-Forster was at that time Member of Parliament for Croydon, and as C.O. of what was then the 1st Volunteer Battalion The Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, I saw him often, not only in Croydon but in his own house in Westminster. I suggested that one way to help recruiting for the Volunteers would be to give them Colours. He promised to do his best and that, if he was successful, my Battalion should be the first to receive them. In 1907 Mr. Haldane founded the Territorial Army and gave the new Force the same uniform as the Regulars with the addition of a T on the shoulder straps, and granted it Colours. I believe that owing to Arnold-Forster my Battalion was the first or one of the first to be so favoured. The Colours had to be approved by the Inspector of Regimental Colours (then Farnham Burke, Somerset Herald, and afterwards Sir Henry Farnham Burke, K.C.V.O., Garter King of Arms). No new Colours had been presented to the Regiment since the reign of Queen Victoria.

"The rule always had been for the Queen's Regiment's Cypher to be 'The Queen's Cypher within the Garter.' When the Army List was started in the early part of Queen Victoria's reign, the Cypher was named as 'The Sovereign's Cypher within the Garter.' This error came about because the Queen was the Queen Regnant. It was this error that caused all the trouble.

"The Inspector of Colours prepared a drawing of the Colours with Queen Alexandra's Cypher—this drawing was sent to me at the Barracks, Croydon, for my approval. I was actually looking at the drawing when a special messenger arrived ordering me to hand to him the drawing to be returned to the College of Heralds. The next day I was asked to go to the College and see the Inspector of Colours. Mr. Farnham Burke told me that the King objected to Queen Alexandra's Cypher and wished his own Cypher to be placed on the Regimental Colour, as he was the Sovereign. I have in my possession a drawing showing the King's Cypher E.R. on the Regimental Colour. Mr. Farnham Burke showed me the drawings of the Colours since 1661, which proved that never had a King's Cypher been placed on the Colour and that as Inspector of Colours he could not consent to the King's Cypher, and advised me to do the same, which of course I did. This meant a deadlock and caused much delay. Eventually the Colours were approved by the Inspector of Colours *without any Cypher* on 2nd November, 1908, and finally approved by the War Office on 5th July, 1909. This drawing is in my possession. The Colours were then made by Hobson & Sons at a total cost of £47 10s., and the receipted account is in my possession.

"In August, 1909, my last year in Command, my Battalion was in Camp at Arundel Castle, and owing to the delay and the disappointment the King graciously agreed to present the Colours to the Battalion on his way from Goodwood.

"General Sir Arthur Paget, who inspected the Battalion, took me on one side and told me that he had a personal message to give me from the King. It was to express the King's regret that he could not keep his promise as the Czar of Russia was with him at Cowes, and that for political reasons he could not leave his side.

"Several weeks after, Mr. Farnham Burke told me that at the King's suggestion the Cypher on the Regimental Colour should be the Cypher of Queen Catherine of Braganza, which was on the original Colour, and he asked me if I would agree. I said I could not agree without the consent of the Regular Battalions, as I could not bind the Queen's Regiment for the future. It was then agreed that General Kelly-Kenny, then Colonel of the Regiment, should be consulted. The General was in Somaliland and it was some months before it was finally agreed.

"Queen Catherine's Cypher was placed on the Regimental Colour and the Colours presented to the Battalion at Croydon on 9th July, 1910, by Field-Marshal Earl Roberts.

"After the presentation, Lord Roberts handed coloured drawings of the Colours to Lady Edridge and to my wife.

"Lady Edridge, the wife of Sir Frederick Edridge, the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, gave the King's Colour, and my wife gave the Regimental Colour.

"Thus ended a long controversy in what I believe to be a satisfactory conclusion, my only regret being that I was no longer commanding the Battalion when the Colours were presented."

The earlier Colours of the Regiment bore the Queen's Cypher, the two C's interlaced, the Cypher of Catherine of Braganza. It is perhaps not generally known, however, that this Cypher has not always been borne on the Colours, for a Royal Warrant of 1st July, 1751, directed that the "Second or The Queen's Royal Regiment" should bear "In the Centre of each Colour, the Queen's Cypher on a red ground within the Garter and a Crown over it." This

instruction was interpreted to mean the Cypher of the Queen then on the throne, and the Colours illustrated in the Regimental History show this clearly.

When Queen Victoria came to the throne the description of the Cypher was changed to "The Sovereign's Cypher within the Garter."

## 5th BATTALION

A TERRITORIAL battalion of the Reserve Army has many advantages, not nowadays shared by a Regular battalion. Changes amongst the officers and senior N.C.O.s., nearly all volunteers, are infrequent and even switches between companies are extremely rare. The National Service element invariably serves for three and a half years without a move and includes trained soldiers mellowed by service in many different theatres of operations. Even the Permanent Staff normally last three years. Finally, there is no shortage of specialists, and some of course, such as drivers, are by reason of their civil occupations, kept permanently in practice.

A Territorial battalion should be like a good county cricket team, a proper blend of the amateur and the professional, the one just as essential as the other. The strength of 5th Queen's is now 42 officers and 712 other ranks, of whom 30 officers and 231 other ranks are volunteers. The chief problem today remains that of getting and retaining sufficient of the right quality of volunteers.

### THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

In saying good-bye with great regret to the Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir George Giffard, we particularly welcome his successor, Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, who himself commanded the 2/5th Battalion with such distinction for over twenty months during the last war. We all look forward to his first visit to us in his new capacity in the near future.

### OPENING OF NEW WING

On 24th October the New Wing at Sandfield Terrace was opened by the Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, General Sir Robert Haining. Speeches were made by General Sir George Giffard, Colonel C. R. Wigan, Group Captain E. J. Davis and the Mayor of Guildford. The ceremony was well supported by members of the Regiment and their wives, amongst whom were Major-General and Mrs. I. T. P. Hughes, Major-General and Mrs. J. Y. Whitfield, Brigadier and Mrs. A. P. Block and Brigadier and Mrs. H. G. Veasey.

The Guard of Honour was commanded by Lieut. J. Mollo. After the opening the guests were entertained to tea in the Officers' Mess.

### ANNUAL TRAINING, 1954

The series of preliminary week-ends, with the Battalion or elements of it concentrated at Pirbright, included the essential preliminaries to Annual Camp.

Rifle classification, demonstrations and practice in some of the fundamentals of the infantry art occupied six full days for nearly all of us.

In addition, an active but not unpleasant week-end T.E.W.T. at Folkestone attended by some thirty officers of the Battalion, accommodated in two seaside hotels, was held on 22nd and 23rd May.

Camp this year involved no currently much criticized Divisional exercise—M.T. move, advance, attack, defence and withdrawal all probably in seventy-two hours! Instead, between 11th and 24th July, some sound basic sub-unit training was accomplished during the two weeks at Dibgate Camp, Shorncliffe.

The first week, apart from L.M.G. range classification and normal platoon and section training, included a full-scale field firing exercise with mortar and machine-gun support for each platoon in turn. There were also demonstrations of weapon pits, modified to suit the atomic age, extremely well constructed by the Assault Pioneer Platoon.

The main item of the second week was a forty-eight hour test exercise involving the construction by all companies of thoroughly dug and revetted defensive positions, and finishing with each company in turn carrying out a four-mile advance and attack on the highest available hill in that part of Kent.

We were most grateful to the Small Arms Wing of the School of Infantry for a really excellent demonstration of the F.N. rifle, specially arranged for us and given by their two experts—R.S.M. Maber and C.S.M.I. Mackenzie. Some 60 officers and N.C.O.s. were suitably impressed when they were themselves allowed to fire the new rifle.

During camp we were visited by the Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, General Sir Robert Haining, the G.O.C. 44th Infantry Division (T.A.), Major-General R. C. M. King, the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, Colonel C. R. Wigan and, of course, by our Brigade Commander, Brigadier A. S. Shaw Ball, to whom, after his three years with us, we are all most sorry to say farewell on his translation to Mid-West District as Deputy Commander.

In part because of the pleasant area in which we camped and in part because of a reasonably interesting training programme—both for once blessed by the weather—this was generally considered, to volunteers and National Service men alike, to have been the best Annual Camp since the war.

### BISLEY

Bisley, so intimately connected with the old Volunteers and therefore with the Territorial Army of today, has again enhanced the reputation of the Battalion, whose team this year won the Bellhaven Cup for the first time. This competition is open to all Surrey units, Regular and T.A.

In the T.A. Rifle Association Meeting, the Battalion was at the head of all units of 44th Infantry Division and 15th in the whole Army. Pte. Trafford was 4th in the Stevens Cup, Sergt. Burnham 4th in the Wantage Cup and, finally, in the T.A.R.A. Grand Aggregate, Major Saunders and Sergt. Burnham were 19th and 20th respectively.

Results of this year's T.A.R.A. decentralized are not yet available.

### DISTRICT RIFLE MEETING, 28th-29th AUGUST

Major Saunders this year tied for first place as Champion-at-Arms in the District and 44th Infantry Division (T.A.) Meeting on the Small Arms Wing ranges at Hythe.

We were beaten in the final of the Falling Plate by a split second by our own Regimental Depot, and were 3rd in the main event.

Prizes in individual practices were won by Major Saunders, C.S.M. Guest, Sergt. McCready and Pte. Thornton.

Incidentally, it is worth mentioning that four of this year's Divisional Team, under the leadership of Major Saunders, were members of 5th Queens. Neither should the organizing ability and enthusiasm of our "off the field" shooting Manager, Capt. and Q.M. H. W. Johnson, be lost sight of behind our several successes.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on the last day of Camp, but unfortunately pressure of events squeezed it into an unduly short period. Never-



#### 5th Battalion Shooting Team

*Back Row*.—Sergt. J. Playford, C.Q.M.S. G. Haybittle, C.Q.M.S. C. Boniface, C.O.M.S. A. Hills, L./Cpl. I. Watkin, Pte. A. Norman, L./Cpl. G. Register.  
*Centre Row*.—C.Q.M.S. L. Moxon, B.E.M., R.S.M. W. H. Kettle, Major R. C. H. Saunders, Lt.-Col. F. A. H. Ling, D.S.O., Major J. F. L. Clarke, M.B.E., T.D., Capt. (Q.M.) H. W. Johnson, C.Q.M.S. H. Dixon.  
*Front Row*.—Cpl. L. Watts, L./Cpl. R. Bonfield, L./Cpl. R. Mason, Sergt. T. MacCready, Sergt. W. Burnham, C.S.M. H. Guest.  
*Unable to be present*: Capt. A. J. Fell, C.S.M. A. Atkins, Sergt. J. Homersham, Sergt. T. Shuff, Sergt. W. Gardner, Cpl. W. Hatto, Cpl. E. Brunger, Cpl. R. Woodward, Pte. B. Trafford, Pte. T. Thornton.

theless, in the space of under four hours, Sergt. McCready succeeded in winning six silver tankards for himself as well as three less useful and far less manageable pieces of silver. Full results were as follows:

Competition	Won by	Runners-up
Inter-Company All Weapons	"D" Company	"B" Company
Inter-Company Rifle	Sp. Company	"D" Company
Inter-Company L.M.G.	"B" Company	"D" Company
W.Os. and N.C.Os. All Weapons	Sergt. McCready	L./Cpl. Mason
W.Os. and N.C.Os. Rifle	Sergt. Burnham	Cpl. Waugh
W.Os. and N.C.Os. L.M.G.	Sergt. McCready	L./Cpl. Mason
Battalion Champion-at-Arms	Sergt. McCready	L./Cpl. Mason
Battalion Champion Rifle	Lieut. Knox	Sergt. Burnham
Battalion Champion L.M.G.	Sergt. McCready	L./Cpl. Mason
Private Rifle Champion	Pte. Norman	

Individual Results were as follows:

CLASS "A":  
*All Weapons*.—1, Sergt. McCready; 2, Lieut. Knox; 3, Capt. Fell.  
*Rifle*.—1, Lieut. Knox; 2, Sergt. Burnham; 3, R.S.M. Kettle.  
*L.M.G.*.—1, Sergt. McCready; 2, Cpl. Watts; 3, Lieut. Barrow.

CLASS "B":  
*All Weapons*.—1, L./Cpl. Mason; 2, Pte. Norman; 3, Cpl. Freshwater.  
*Rifle*.—1, Cpl. Waugh; 2, Pte. Norman; 3, L./Cpl. Mason.  
*L.M.G.*.—1, L./Cpl. Mason; 2, Pte. Hill; 3, Pte. Charman.

CLASS "C":  
*All Weapons*.—1, Pte. Woodhouse; 2, Pte. Randall; 2, Cpl. Greenfield.  
*Rifle*.—1, Pte. Woodhouse; 2, Cpl. Greenfield; 3, Pte. Randall.  
*L.M.G.*.—1, Pte. Jupp; 2, Pte. Saunders; 3, Pte. Woodhouse.

#### SMALL BORE SHOOTING

Capt. A. J. Fell, O.C. H.Q. Company, became Individual Small Bore Champion of Great Britain in 1953 with a score of 599 out of a possible 600, and in the Inter-Service Small Bore Team Competition he did not drop a single point.

H.Q. Company again won the National Small Bore Rifle Association Cup for 1953.

#### CHAMPION COMPANY CUP

This year the Champion Company Competition was confined entirely to Camp and included shooting, digging of specimen defence works, discipline, battle order, daily lines inspection and inter-company football.

It was again won by "D" (Woking) Company, who set a uniformly high standard of execution as well as enthusiasm in everything they did.

#### OFFICERS

On 27th March a farewell party was held for Lieut.-Colonel J. R. Terry, who has now left the Battalion on posting to West Africa, from where we know that he still takes a keen interest in our activities.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. H. Ling, D.S.O., assumed command of the Battalion on 23rd March, 1954.

Major J. F. L. Clarke, M.B.E., T.D., who will shortly have completed thirty years' service with the T.A., is congratulated on the award of the M.B.E.

The following officers are congratulated on their recent promotion: Major J. Attenborough (R.A.M.C.), Capts. R. K. Asper, C. Scott, J. Mollo, W. D. J. Roscoe, J. S. Knox, P. N. Morshead; Lieuts. E. R. Paton, B. C. Stowe, D. S. Mair, R. H. Barrow, P. Dawnay, A. Newell. A further two National Service officers have been granted voluntary T.A. commissions, namely Lieut. D. S. Mair and Lieut. M. J. Drew.

Capt. P. J. Rodwell and J. D. Wade have been taken on strength as voluntary T.A. officers.

Our best wishes go to Capt. W. D. J. Roscoe, who was married at Merrow Church on 18th September.

Lieuts. E. R. Paton, M. J. Drew, D. S. Mair, B. C. Stowe, A. Newell, R. H. Barrow, R. L. Burnett, J. W. M. Blanch and J. C. Cleverley have joined the Battalion as National Service officers.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

The past year has been a very busy one for most members of the Mess. Although the Battalion continued to increase in numbers for the first half of the year, the second half saw the departure of the first of the National Service men to finish their period of service with us.

We were very pleased to entertain the members of the 1st Battalion on their visit to the town on the 18th of November and renew many old friendships.

We welcome the following new members and hope their stay will be a long and happy one: Sergts. Batchelor, Burnham, Read, Young, Hogsden, Robinson, Edgington, Fillery, Peers, Culton and Murrell.

We also welcome the return of ex-C.S.M. Homersham after a year of wandering in the wilderness of civilian life.

We congratulate R.Q.M.S. Pullen on the award of the M.B.E. and C.S.M. Turner and C./Sergt. Ell on their substantive promotion.

As is usual, the Mess has again been the mainstay of the Battalion shooting teams, which have done extremely well, thanks to the many week-ends sacrificed to the god of Practice.

We welcome the arrival of R.S.M. Kettle from the Depot, C.S.M. Waldron and Sergt. Burton from the 1st Battalion, and C.S.M. Sharman from the 6th Surreys. At the same time we have had to say farewell to C.S.M. Wickens, Sergts. Humphries and Wilson to the 1st Battalion and R.S.M. Fuller to civil life, where we wish them every success.

At Camp we held a very enjoyable social evening with officers and made the best of the Shorncliffe training area under canvas.

### **SPORTS**

A team was again entered for the T.A. Cross-Country Championship, held at Formby in Lancashire. The team would most probably have been placed third had it not been disqualified as one of the six members was unable to complete the course. Those running were: C./Sergt. Ell. Sergt. Burton, Cpl. Galloker, Cpl. Bradford, Pte. Edwards, and Pte. Lime.

The Inter-Company Football Competition which was played off at Camp was a very popular event and was won by "D" Company, who played "B" Company in the final.

## **6th BATTALION**

### **OFFICERS**

**W**E warmly welcome to the Mess: Major S. W. Peet, M.C., from Malaya; Lieut. H. K. Gawthrop, from the Depot; Lieut. R. S. Southern, from 1st Battalion; Lieut. P. W. Rogers, from 1st Battalion; Lieut. P. J. Dorey, from 1st East Surreys; Lieut. A. C. Hanlon, from 1st Border Regiment; Lieut. A. J. D. O'Sullivan on first commission.

Major Peet we know as a very old friend, almost Bermondsey born and bred, as he served in 1939 with our sister Battalion in what is now our "B" Company T.A. Centre at New Cross. All the others have soon become acclimatized to our somewhat uncountrified air (except at Croydon) and we hope their stay will be long and happy.

Alas, with arrivals we must also have departures, and it is with very great regret that, in October, we say "Au Revoir" to Major L. E. Stringer, T.D., and Major A. E. Reynolds, M.B.E., M.M., T.D. Both will be greatly missed, and with the departure of Arthur Reynolds after 39 years' service with the Regiment will be lost a living link with past traditions and a great sheet anchor in times of stress and strain.

Major Stringer has been appointed to H.Q. Commissioner at Boy Scouts Headquarters, and we all wish him success in his new appointment. We were sorry, too, to bid farewell to Major B. S. Burns, M.C., who has left us for the mountain air of Wales.

The "Glorious First of June" was celebrated with members of H.M.S. President as our guests, and after an excellent dinner and the appropriate toasts, we adjourned to the Sergeants' Mess.

### **TRAINING**

Our training season started with two week-ends for officers, organized and run by Brigade Headquarters. These were followed by successive rifle company week-ends on tactical training at the new W.E.T.C. at Crowborough, considerable impetus to the training being added by our new Training Major, Major Peet. The camp is a good hatted area and is very comfortable, and the training areas are adequate for minor tactical training. The weather, of course, is a major factor in the enjoyment of any form of training outdoors, and "B" Company were unfortunate on their week-end. On the last leg of a platoon attack, on the highest and barest portion of the ground, they ran into a severe storm which did a lot to dampen the attackers, both spiritually and physically.

All Companies classified on the rifle at Pirbright, and casualties, L.M.G. and Sten were fired at annual camp.

### **ANNUAL CAMP**

In this very wet summer we must count ourselves lucky that no training during the day was affected by rain. The same cannot be said for night training, and both our evenings out in the second week were spoiled, not without a certain amount of satisfaction from the soaking soldiery, as training was curtailed and most were brought back to barracks.

This year the Battalion was a guinea-pig for digging a defensive position. The chalk of the North Downs is considerably tougher than the dry soil of Sennelager, where the 1st Battalion did the same thing in 1950. In spite of this, in thirty-six hours everybody dug themselves in and provided splinter-proof head cover. Special mention should be made of Major Zehntner and the Assault Pioneer Platoon, who worked until 2300 hrs. the first day to build Battalion Headquarters, and Sergt. Wilson and his M.M.G. Section, who built and camouflaged a gun position that was unrecognizable at 70 yards' distance. Although there were a number of weary backs and blistered hands, we were rewarded by the congratulations of the Divisional Commander.

As the year was designated "A," training was carried out on the platoon and company level only.

The main object for the Signal Platoon training was classification, and the gratifying result of 20 passes out of 28 was obtained. H.Q. Company gained further laurels by their cooks, under Sgt. Turner, feeding a total of 850 at one sitting and giving the best meals we have had so far at any annual camp.

Support Company had a good camp. Not only did all platoons fire their specialist weapons, but the assault pioneers were able to blow holes, make bangs, and boat to their hearts' content.

The Anti-tank Platoon claim that they were more successful than any other platoon at Lydd on range firing, whereas the 3 inch Mortar Platoon swear that the range warden stated their firing was the best seen for many years.

### **EVENING TRAINING**

Now that Bermondsey drill-hall renovations are complete, New Cross in being, and Croydon flourishing, evening training has been carried out throughout the year under good conditions.

Attendance, except at "C" Company, however, has been disappointing, and lack of continuity has mitigated the efforts of the permanent staff and company staff to carry out a progressive programme.

By the time these notes appear we shall have wound up the season with a week-end for the Battalion volunteers. We hope to see the sea near Brighton in the course of an M.T. move.

#### SHOOTING

The Battalion shooting has flourished, but we were disappointed in not getting a high place in the China Cup Competition at Bisley.

At the Battalion Meeting, held at camp, the following results were obtained:

Bevington Cup (All Ranks) ...	Major D. R. G. Clement.
Parker Cup (Officers) ...	Major D. R. G. Clement.
Best Sergeant or W.O. ...	C.S.M. Dorey ("B" Company).
Best Corporal ...	L./Cpl. Seymour ("A" Company).
Best Private ...	Pte. Bridgeman (Sp. Company).
Morris Cup (rifle team match) ...	"C" Company.
Lilliput Cup (I.M.G. pairs) ...	"B" Company.
Best L.M.G. Shot ...	Major P. M. C. Zehntner.

At the Home Counties and 44th Division Rifle Meeting at Shorncliffe at the end of August, the Battalion team was 6th in the modified China Cup. Lieut. P. J. Dorey fired remarkably well to win the Challenge Cup for the best Territorial Army Shot in the Division.

#### "C" COMPANY

"C" Company, at Croydon, goes on from strength to strength, and has the great advantage of having a flourishing canteen and an exceptionally good social spirit. A highly successful Children's Party, followed by a coach outing to "Sinbad on Ice," were so much enjoyed by all that both these have come to stay on the calendar. The weather did its best (or worst) to spoil the summer outing to Bognor in June, but the spirit of all, especially the children, overcame the dampness.

Social evenings at Queen's House have been further improved by the purchase of a record player, and these evenings do much to "break the ice" with the National Service men just joining.

It is a proud fact to record that "C" Company have already become so well known that the Croydon Branch of the Motor Industry Social Club have presented them with a Shield; and this will be competed for annually on the Miniature Range.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

We were very disappointed when it became known that the long awaited official opening of our new Mess was cancelled. However, on 27th February members turned up in force with their friends for an informal opening. The Mayor and Mayoress of Bermondsey attended, and we were pleased to welcome our officers and many ex-members to the social evening, which was voted a success by all present.

This year our Annual Dinner took place in our own Mess, where Messrs. Slaters were our caterers and provided an excellent meal. We were very pleased to have with us the Brigade Commander, Brigade Major, the Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command, Quartermaster, Adjutant and Company Commanders. After dinner a dance was held to which members' ladies were invited. Although the orchestra made speech practically impossible, all those present seemed to enjoy themselves.

The "Glorious First of June" this year coincided with our normal training evening for the week and, following the custom of previous years, we invited the P.O.s.' Mess from H.M.S. *President* to a social evening. Later in the evening we were joined by our officers with their guests from H.M.S. *President*, and although we are not sure who throws the best dart, we had a first-class evening.

For annual camp this year we returned to St. Martin's Plain Camp at Shorncliffe. Although this year there were no airplane trips or short sea voyages, we did our best to make the fortnight as pleasant as possible. We shared our Mess with 47th Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C. On 30th June we were invited to the Officers' Mess for cocktails (or should it be pints?), and they returned the visit on 2nd July, when we were pleased to have with us the Divisional Commander, our Honorary Colonel, Asst. Director of Medical Services, the Brigade Commander and officers of both units. It was a very successful evening.

On Sunday, 4th July, the coach arrived at camp with the wives and families. They were greeted with a torrential downpour of rain, which fortunately moved away when it was time for us all to go to Folkestone. Although the afternoon was cold, the sun shone until it was time for the coach to return them to London.

The second week was too full of training commitments to allow any organized social activity. Our thanks are given to Sergt. Doyle for the very hard work he put in as caterer, and especial credit is due when we realize it is the first time he has performed this office.

We are now getting out a programme of social events to take place during the coming winter, and it seems certain that they will be well up to standard.

#### SPORT

*Football*.—We had a highly successful season last year, reaching the semi-finals of the T.A. Challenge Cup Competition, and this coming season we hope to enter both the T.A. Cup and the London F.A. Junior Cup.

*Basket-ball*.—Here again our first full season brought good results, and we have for the forthcoming winter months a full fixture list in the T.A. Basket-ball League.

*Rugby*.—Our playing members have restricted us to seven-a-side fixtures, but we had, and intend to have again, great fun in both the Kent and Middlesex Seven-a-side Competition.

*Boxing* and cross-country running also figure on our list of sporting activities, and, last but by no means least, our Social Club run a series of indoor sports at which we figure well in local leagues.

#### 2nd/5th CADET BATTALION THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT

DURING the period of camp at Colchester from 1st to 15th August, the Battalion, represented by "B" Company (Woking), won the Inter-Battalion Section Patrol Competition; and, represented by "D" Company (Guildford), came third in the Guard Mounting Competition.

## THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATING GHENT

BY CAPTAIN D. H. DE T. READE

ON 5th and 6th September, the City of Ghent in Belgium celebrated the tenth anniversary of its liberation by the 7th Armoured Division—the "Desert Rats."

The 1/6th Battalion of the Queen's Royal Regiment sent a special contingent to represent them at the celebrations, for they were the first British infantry to enter the city.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Bermondsey, Councillor and Mrs. P. J. Geoghegan, and the Town Clerk and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Freeman, attended, for this Territorial Battalion's Headquarters is in the borough of Bermondsey. They, along with all the British troops, amounting to some 150 officers and men, were the guests of the city of Ghent.

Leading the Queen's was their Commanding Officer at the time of the liberation, Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Mason, D.S.O., T.D., of Haddenham, Bucks, and Major C. H. Nice, T.D., of Surbiton, Surrey, and eleven warrant officers and non-commissioned officers.

Major-General G. L. Verney, D.S.O., M.V.O., now retired and living in Rathowen, Co. Westmeath, Ireland, who commanded the 7th Armoured Division at the time, led the British representatives.

It was a never-to-be-forgotten occasion for this party from the Regiment. With open arms the city received their liberators.

The following were in the Queen's party: C.S.M. D. Coles, M.M., 137 Washington Road, Worcester Park, Surrey; R.Q.M.S. J. Bryan, 126 Neckinger Estate, Bermondsey, who was accompanied by his wife; C.Q.M.S. A. Clowes, Bermondsey born and now living at 31 Harting Road, Mottingham, S.E.9; C.Q.M.S. A. Cowling, 21 Neston Street, Rotherhithe, S.E.16; Sergt. B. Fowler, 38 Glenthorne Gardens, Sutton, Surrey; Sergt. J. Leech, 4 Montgomery House, Mortlake, S.W.13; Sergt. H. Reeves, 60 Canadian Avenue, Catford, S.E.6; Sergt. A. Searle, 103 Brookdale Road, Catford, S.E.6; Sergt. F. Steele, 20 Waterloo Road, Romford, Essex; Sergt. R. Dale, Holly Cottage, Ivy Church, near Ashford, Kent; and Cpl. J. Chalker, 171 Lower Richmond Road, Mortlake, S.W.14.

All the Queen's representatives served with the Battalion throughout the African, Italian and North-West Europe campaigns, including the liberation of Ghent. Only C./Sergt. Cowling is now in the Army.

In the Ghent Town Hall speeches were made by the Burgomaster, who one day will probably be visiting the borough of Bermondsey, General Verney, and the leader of the Resistance Movement, Major Carlier. In this early sixteenth-century hall, called the Peace Hall, from the signing of a religious treaty there over 400 years ago, a plaque to the memory of the part played by the 7th Armoured Division was unveiled, and gathered round it at the unveiling were the contingent from the 1/6th Queen's. It bore the inscription: "In memory of the liberation of the City of Ghent on Sept. 6th, 1944, by the 7th Armoured Division with the assistance of the Resistance Movement."

At the side of the fifteenth-century arms of illustrious Ghent Knights at the head of the hall, the Regimental crests of the Queen's Royal Regiment and the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards were placed.

General Verney, in his speech, mentioned how his Division would never have achieved what they did but for the gallantry of the Resistance Movement.



The Regiment's contingent, including the C.O., Lieut.-Colonel Mason, and the Mayor of Bermondsey, Councillor P. J. Geoghegan



Memorial Plaque

He spoke of the part played so nobly by these famous regiments on their entry, and of the wonderful succour given to British casualties by the citizens of Ghent.

In the little town of Melle, adjoining Ghent, a stained glass window to the memory of the part played by the Queen's Regiment in the liberating of the town was visited by the contingent.

Thirteen men of the Regiment and General Verney visited the town, where they were greeted on the outskirts by the Burgomaster. As I walked along the town's main road at the head of the little procession, in company with the Colonel, the general and the Burgomaster and Town Council, it brought a lump to my throat to see every doorway thronged with well-wishers.

At the entrance to the little school, eight boys stood round a simple blackboard on which was chalked "Thank you for liberating our town." As Sergt. Fowler so aptly described it, "What greater tribute could we wish for?"

After a little meeting in the school, at which we were all given a toast of champagne, the party proceeded to the Church of St. Martin. In the bright sunlight the window stood out in striking relief. The figure is of Our Blessed Lord, and at the base are the words in Flemish "In gratitude to our liberators." Underneath this inscription are the crest of the Regiment and the simple words "The Queen's Royal Regiment."

Everywhere the British troops went in the city they were received with the hand of friendship. General Verney, speaking of the future, said that the bonds forged in blood ten years ago are "our shield for the future" and the sincere regard of the people of the city of Ghent showed that that hope is real and sincere.

Whilst sitting sipping champagne in the glorious old Town Hall after signing his name on a page of golden vellum, as did all the guests at the celebrations in the Town Hall, Sergt. Steele recounted to me the story of his entry ten years ago. "We were with the tanks and we lost quite a few men. As we joined the big battle on the canal there was a swing bridge pulled round and the tanks were going to tow it into position. Some of my men helped in the fixing of the tow ropes as bullets were flying and mortar bombs bursting. Then we ran across helter-skelter to engage the Germans in the nearby factory area. We combed these buildings and dug in outside them."

Cpl. Chalker, now 46, was Colonel Mason's driver at the time, and he recalls how his vehicle was one of the first in the city. Sergt. Reeves tells how he was too occupied during that tremendous forward surge from the Seine to Ghent in five days to feel tired. C.S.M. Coles, then C.S.M. of "A" Company, was only 24. "I remember the shelling all right." One of the first things C./Sergt. Cowling did was to visit the little cafe where, ten years ago, he was a medical sergeant treating casualties. "Fourteen of the first fifteen were women," he says.

The Mayor of Bermondsey told me: "It is wonderful to see how the people of Ghent are so grateful for the assistance of our 'Borough' Regiment . . . We have cemented a bond of friendship which will never be broken."

## NOTICE

**REGIMENTAL JOURNAL.**—Old copies of the JOURNAL can be obtained from the Editor, Stoughton Barracks, price 1s. per copy, post free. Copies of the following are out of print: 1926, May and November; 1927, May; 1928, May; 1930, May and November; 1931, May and November; 1951, May.

## OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

THE Annual Dinner was held at the Dorchester Hotel on 4th December, 1953. The following dined:

Lieut.-Colonel P. Adams, T.D.; Major N. B. Avery, M.C.; Major I. D. Beattie; Major C. P. Benton, M.C.; Major J. G. Bevington; Brigadier A. P. Block, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.; Capt. J. D. Blumsom; Capt. T. G. Blumsom; Lieut.-Colonel E. F. Bolton, D.S.O.; C. N. Bradnock, Esq.; Capt. C. J. Bright, Esq.; Major B. S. Burns, M.C.; Colonel B. E. L. Burton; Capt. D. E. Champion-Jones; L. M. Chandler, Esq.; Major J. F. L. Clarke, T.D.; Major E. B. G. Clowes, M.B.E.; Colonel J. B. Coates, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.; Capt. F. R. Collins; Capt. P. G. Collyer; Lieut.-Colonel H. Cook, M.C.; Capt. G. H. Courchee; J. G. W. Davidson, Esq.; A. Donaldson, Esq.; Capt. K. McL. Douglas; Capt. E. D. Drew; M. J. Drew, Esq.; Colonel H. G. Duncombe, D.S.O.; Major C. R. C. Elverson; A. B. S. Faris, Esq.; Capt. G. A. Fearnside-Speed; Lieut.-Colonel J. E. Flint; Lieut.-Colonel M. Forrester, D.S.O., M.C.; Major R. C. G. Foster, M.C.; Lieut.-Colonel J. A. R. Freeland; Lieut.-Colonel D. L. A. Gibbs, D.S.O.; General Sir George Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O.; Capt. H. R. Gill; J. R. Gill, Esq.; J. V. M. Gordon-Clark, Esq.; Capt. C. A. Haggard; Capt. J. F. Hancocks; M. J. Hart-Wilden, Esq.; Major H. R. D. Hill, M.B.E.; Major W. S. Hooker, M.B.E., T.D.; D. J. L. Hughes, Esq.; Major-General I. T. P. Hughes, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.L.; Brigadier H. N. A. Hunter, D.S.O.; Capt. E. V. L. Isaac; Major F. J. Jebens, M.C.; Major K. A. Jessup; Capt. A. G. Jones; Major G. B. Lane; Capt. G. S. Lee; Major N. T. Lennan, M.C.; Lieut.-Colonel F. A. H. Ling, D.S.O.; Lieut.-Colonel D. L. L. Lloyd-Owen, D.S.O., M.C.; Major A. C. Lynch-Staunton; J. W. M. Mansel, Esq.; Major F. P. Mawditt, M.C., D.C.M.; Brigadier J. F. Metcalfe; Brigadier-General F. C. More-Molyneux-Longbourne, C.M.G., D.S.O.; Lieut.-Colonel J. E. G. Moriarty; T. D. G. Mulady, Esq.; Major C. H. Nice; T. D. O'Leary, Esq.; Brigadier G. V. Palmer, C.B.E., T.D.; E. R. Paton, Esq.; M. N. D. Pereira, Esq.; T. I. Perkins, Esq.; Capt. M. J. D. Perrett-Young; Lieut.-Colonel J. B. P. Phillips; Brigadier R. E. Pickering, C.B.E.; Lieut.-Colonel Sir S. H. Pierssené; Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Lieut.-Colonel J. F. K. Ponsford; Major G. G. Reinhold, M.C.; M. F. Reynolds, Esq.; Colonel P. H. Richardson, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Major A. N. S. Roberts, O.B.E.; Capt. C. B. Rodger; P. W. Rogers, Esq.; R. C. Rolls, Esq.; Major E. G. Sandys, M.C.; Capt. R. C. H. Saunders; Capt. S. R. G. Scott-Gall; Capt. H. B. Secretan, M.C.; Brigadier R. H. Senior, D.S.O.; Capt. J. W. Sewell; Major S. W. J. Sharp; G. C. Sharpe, Esq.; Lieut.-Colonel L. S. Sheldon; R. C. Southern, Esq.; Capt. W. J. F. Sutton; Lieut.-Colonel J. R. Terry; Capt. W. M. Turnock; Brigadier H. G. Veasey, D.S.O.; Major W. Watford; Lieut.-Colonel H. de G. Warter, O.B.E., T.D.; Major H. B. Watson, T.D.; Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E.

The Reunion Garden Party took place on Saturday, 17th July, at Stoughton Barracks. General Sir George and Lady Giffard received the guests, 120 in number. Although the afternoon was cold, no rain fell, but the unsettled weather decided a number of people against coming.

By kind permission of Lieut.-Colonel J. E. G. Moriarty, Officer Commanding, the Band of the 598 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (4th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment), T.A., played selections of music during the afternoon.

The membership of the Club is 430.

## REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

On 9th December, 1953, the Colonel of the Regiment opened a Regimental exhibition in Guildford House and at the same time handed to the Mayor of Guildford (Alderman Donald Wilkins, J.P.) an autographed copy of Volume VIII of the Regimental History for the Borough Library. The exhibition, which consisted of selected items from the Regimental Museum, lasted ten days, and at its close on 19th December, had been visited by 4,788 people.

Visitors to the Museum during the Regimental week-end, 17th-18th July, 1954, could see and examine at close range an exhibit unique in the history of the British Army which had been loaned to the Regiment for the period by General Sir Brian Robertson, Bart., G.C.B., G.B.E., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., D.S.O., M.C. The exhibit was the baton which was presented to his father, the late Field-Marshal Sir William Robert-

son, Bart., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., D.C.L., LL.D., who was the only soldier to rise, step by step, from the rank of private to that of Field-Marshal.

The following have recently been presented:

Martini-Henry rifle: Mr. (late Sergt.) R. Colman.

Four copies *Tripoli Times*, 1943: Lieut.-Colonel J. B. H. Kealy, D.S.O.

Photograph, Officers, 1/5th and 2/5th Battalions, 1939: Major E. B. G. Clowes, M.B.E.

Album of the late Lieut.-Colonel H. F. Warden, D.S.O.: Mrs. Warden (widow).

Framed photograph, personnel of 1/7th Battalion at Buckingham Palace, 1945: Shoulder flashes, Commonwealth Division in Korea: Cpl. Burbage.

British Army Water-bottle, 1862; Mr. (late Cpl.) J. Poulter.

Collection of maps, photographs, trench memoranda, 1914-18 and India 1920-21: Col. F. A. Jacob, O.B.E.

Set of cigarette cards, military head-dress: Mr. A. Munday.

Two copies of the Koran in satchels (taken by Capt. Wright, V.C., in 1903).

Service Dress cap of the late Brig.-General W. D. Wright, V.C., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.: Mrs. Wallace Wright (widow).

Show case containing Orders, Decorations and Medals of the late Colonel A. D. Burton, V.C., D.S.O.: On loan from 6th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment.

Hand painting of a private of the Regiment, circa 1742: Miss Susan Butt.

Ten dollar Japanese note used in Singapore: Mrs. B. E. L. Burton.

Officers' Full Dress cap-badge 1902-14—1919-26; Other Ranks' helmet plate, Queen Victoria's reign; print, Sergeant, 2nd Foot (Queen's Royal), 1833: Mr. A. Catley.

Copy of Rules, 2nd V. Bn. The Queen's, 1894; copy, Certificate of Efficiency; Other Ranks' helmet plate: Mr. J. Ward.

Mauser carbine owned by Daniel Eloff, Kruger's son-in-law: Capt. E. R. Napper. Insignia of the Victorian Order: Mr. R. H. Hawkins.

Pamphlet, "Sidelights on Guildford History": Mrs. J. K. Green.

German Officer's pocket-book: Mr. (late Lieut, 2/7th Battalion) R. H. Skeets. China Medal, 1860, two clasps: Mr. F. A. Lott.

A shot mould—ammunition for M.L. weapons: Capt. A. W. G. Fenner.

Other Ranks' tunic, 2nd V. Bn. The Queen's (R.W.S. Regiment), 1914: Mr. (late Sergt., 2nd V. Battalion) G. E. Smith.

Flag made and used by 7th (S.) Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, 1914-18: Mrs. M. E. Tortise (widow of the late Colonel H. J. Tortise, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D.).

Mess Dress, 4th V. Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment: Curator, R.M.A. Sandhurst.

Scarlet serge tunic (sealed pattern) in wear 1894-1902: Curator, Scottish United Services Museum.

Etching of Francis Grose; painting, 2nd (Queen's Royal) Regiment of Foot, 1830; print, "Pacification with the Maroon Negroes": Purchased.

Cutting from *Illustrated London News*, 17th June, 1854, Inspection of Second Surrey Militia: ex Army Schoolmaster J. C. Crisp.

Field Officers' Dress cap: Lieut.-Colonel D. E. Bathgate.

Collection of photographs: Capt. A. D. Foster.

Two metal badges worn by impressed Ukrainians in Germany armed forces, 1939-45; two pieces of German insignia: Sergt. R. Wildgoose.

German steel helmet, 1939-45: Mrs. D. Walker.

Collection of photographs, 1st Battalion, 1931-35: Sergt. H. Bingham.

Side drum carried in the Retreat from Mons (late Dmr. E. T. Butcher): Major F. W. H. Denton.

Two photographs, 2nd Battalion Drums, 1932-35; two letters from the Private Secretary to Her Late Majesty Queen Mary; one letter acknowledging receipt by H.R.H. The Duke of Windsor of letter of sympathy, March, 1953: Mr. (late Sergt. (Drums)) J. D. Newman.

Cap-badge, plaque and 1914/15 Star; British War and Victory Medals of the late G/22506 Pte. A. H. Mann: Mrs. A. Mann (sister).

Publication, "From Private to Field-Marshal": Purchased.

Collection of four swords (nineteenth century); a German flag, 6 ft. x 10½ ft.; a parade

sword and scabbard (V.R.); embroidered Lamb and Scroll; carved wooden shield, badged and dated 1661: F. A. Judd, A. & S. Highlanders.

Copy, "Historical Records of the 2nd Foot": Presented by The Scots Guards.

Plaque, the crest of The Queen's Royal Regiment: H.M.S. *Excellent*.

Plaque, the crest of 2nd Bn. City of Newcastle Regiment: City of Newcastle Regiment.

Publication, "Their Name Liveth for Ever," with pictures of Commonwealth War Cemeteries: Purchased.

A.R.A. (Non-Central Competition) Medals; photograph, Depot Shooting Teams, 1930: Mr. (late C.S.M.) R. J. Clark.

Framed and glazed Souvenir Detail of Engagements of Natal Field Force: Mr. W. F. Tabb.

Other Ranks' Regimental cane, 1897: Mr. (late C.Q.M.S.) A. Beyford.

Three glass show cases: Miss Lodge.

German medal and three German buttons denoting rank: Mr. (late C.S.M.) E. E. Elsey.

A Brown Bess flintlock musket; a flintlock musket converted to percussion; a percussion Enfield rifle; a Snider; a Martini-Henri rifle (each with bayonet): Loaned by the Master of the Armouries, H.M. Tower of London.

Pay Book, Clothing and Savings Bank A/C, No. 828 L/Cpl. A. Crompton: O.C. 6th Bn., The North Staffordshire Regiment, T.A.

Collection of buttons and badges: Major S. R. G. Scott-Gall.

Snapshot of 14 Queen's men in Epagne Cemetery: Major R. C. G. Foster, M.C.

Twelve snapshots of Waziristan: Brigadier A. P. Block, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. An Italian Beretta automatic rifle, brass and iron; badged and engraved firescreen (3rd V. Bn. The Queen's); painting of Sgt.-Major M. Lynch; side drum as letter-box; Detail of Volunteers reviewed in Hyde Park, 1803; German rifle bolt (High Wood, 1914-18); four helmet badges: 6th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment.

A Queen Victoria Box of Chocolate (1900), eight leaves from acacia tree at General Gordon's House, Khartoum, 1898; identity card issued by Transvaal Branch, Red Cross, 1900; Lieut. I. L. B. Vesey's Diary, August, 1900-July, 1901; eight photographs, 2nd Battalion in South Africa; photograph, Officers, 2nd Battalion, Shorncliffe, 1904: General Sir Ivo L. B. Vesey, K.C.B., K.R.E., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Copy of *The Jogger* and *The Suez Canal*, Lieut.-Colonel F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E.; War Diaries and Digest of Service, 1st, 2nd, 2/4th, 3/4th, 1/5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th and 11th Battalions; Extracts, Gibraltar Garrison Orders, 1740-89, 1802-05; Diary of Events, 2nd Battalion, 1939: The War Office.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

*Editor and Hon. Treasurer*: LIEUT.-COLONEL D. E. BATHGATE.

*Office*: STOUGHTON BARRACKS, GUILDFORD.

1. The JOURNAL will be issued once a year, in November. It is hoped that it will contain a complete history of the activities of each battalion during the year, and it is recommended that battalions keep accounts of all events as they occur, which will assist in writing up this account. Articles of Regimental interest will still be most welcome for the JOURNAL.
2. In addition, brief news-letters will be sent out periodically during the year.
3. Contributions should be written on one side of the paper only, and should, if possible, be typewritten, but this is not essential.
4. Photographs should be marked on the back with the title, and, in the case of groups, names should invariably be given. In this connection, readers are invited to send all photographs likely to be of interest.

The inclusive rates of subscription for the JOURNAL and news-letters are:

\*Officers.—5s. 0d. per annum. Single copies JOURNAL, 5s. 0d. each.

Other Ranks.—3s. per annum. Single copies JOURNAL, 2s. each.

All Ranks.—Single copies news-letters, 6d. each.

Subscribers are requested to notify at once any change of address. Unless this is done, the safe delivery of the JOURNAL cannot be guaranteed.

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\*This subscription rate applies only to officers who are not members of the Officers' Club.

THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT MUSEUM FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1953

EXPENDITURE			1952			1953				
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		
Maintenance and Repairs (including Curator's emoluments)	...	...	44	17	3	103	Subscriptions	...		
Postages	...	...	2	11	...	34	Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	...		
<b>136</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>£104</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>£104</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>£137</b>					<b>£137</b>					

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1953

1952			1953					
£	£	£	£	£	£			
CAPITAL ACCOUNT			CURRENT ASSETS					
59 Balance as at 1st January, 1953	25	13	25 Cash at Bank	...	...			
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	...	59	14	10	85 3 4			
—	...	85	8	0	...			
<b>59</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	
<i>Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	
<b>34</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>25</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>£85</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>£25</b>			
<b>£25</b>						<b>£85</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.—We have examined the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the Books of Account. We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given us, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Museum Fund as at 31st December, 1953, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the surplus for the year ended at that date.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 1954

1 & 2 Holy Trinity Churchyard,  
GUILDFORD.

THURLOW, BOYCE & CO.  
Chartered Accountants.

JOURNAL ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1953			1952		
EXPENDITURE	£	£	INCOME	£	£
176 Printing of Journal	...	...	168 12 0	186	
55 Printing of News Letters	...	...	59 18 4	39	Subscriptions
2 Stationery and Postage	...	...	1 11 4	—	Grants—Officer Commanding, Depot
<b>233</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>1 8</b>	<b>225</b>	Trustees, 2nd Battalion ...
<i>Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>1 4 10</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year</i>
<b>10</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>£231</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>£233</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>£233</b>					

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1953

1952			1953		
£	£	£	£	£	£
CAPITAL ACCOUNT			CURRENT ASSETS		
10 Balance as at 1st January, 1953	1	9	1 Cash at Bank	...	...
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ...	1	4	10	—	...
<b>10</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>171</b>
<i>Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>
<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>171</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>SUNDRY CREDITOR</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>168 12 0</b>	<b>5 11</b>
<b>£2</b>				<b>£171</b>	<b>5 11</b>

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.—We have examined the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the Books of Account. We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given us, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Museum Fund as at 31st December, 1953, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the surplus for the year ended at that date.

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Chartered Accountants.

## OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATIONS

## THE REGIMENTAL O.C.A.

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1953.

## ASSOCIATION

*Membership.*—Life members, 1,648; annual subscribers, 526. Total, 2,174, compared with a total of 2,183 for 1953. We should welcome more members who served in the 1939-1945 war in the Regiment, whose service helped to make the wonderful reading recorded in the latest volume of the Regiment's history in Volume VIII, now on sale at £2 2s. per copy, from the Depot.

*Loans.*—Loans to the total of £201 have been made during the year. The sum of £470 0s. 2d. is still due from members for loans made.

*Employment.*—The Association has been assisted in many cases of employment during the year by ex-members of the Regiment. Housing is still the main problem which confronts men on returning to civil life, and any assistance or advice that can be given is most welcome. The Regular Forces Employment Association have again been most helpful during the year. In addition to much advice, they have been instrumental in placing 54 men in employment.

*Local Representatives* have again proved most helpful, and they, together with Secretaries of other Associations connected with the Regiment, are most co-operative in the work of the Old Comrades Association.

## THE CHARITABLE FUND

The sum of £900 was received from the Army Benevolent Fund during the year. The Forces help Society, S.S. & A.F.A., and other Associations have given us valuable assistance during the year in the investigation of cases, etc. We are most grateful to all for their continued assistance and co-operation.

## GRANTS

The sum of £1,397 18s. 6d. was expended in aid, in 238 cases, as compared with £1,587 15s. 7d. in 255 cases during 1952. Details of cases assisted were: Disabled, 19; sickness, self, wife and/or family, 75; T.B. cases, 15; ex-prisoner of war, sickness, 4; employment difficulty—result of war wounds, 3; domestic problems, 11; funeral expenses, 5; employment problems, 6; blind, or nearly so, 3; husband in prison, wife with large family to care for, 6; rail fare to take up employment, 1; East Coast flood victim, 1; aged man, clothing, 5; ex-prisoner of war (D.C.M.) dying from cancer, 1; wife—deserted man left with five children, 1; housing problems, 17; widower ill 3 months, son to care for, 1; old age, sickness, etc., 15; accident at work, 4; resettlement problems, 6; tools for son of disabled man, 1; Chelsea Pensioners' Christmas grant, 2; mother of son killed in action, 1; school clothing for sons of disabled man, 1; move to Australia, health reasons, 1; S. African War Veterans, 2; *Widows*: education of child, 2; ex-prisoner of war, 1; housing problem, 3; blind, 2; sickness, 5; clothing, 2; war, general difficulty, 16.

## DONATIONS TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Donations to other organizations, as under, were made during the year:

	£	s.	d.
The Regular Forces Employment Association ...	75	0	0
Royal Soldiers' Daughters Home ...	10	10	0
Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows ...	10	10	0

Headquarters, S.S. and A.F.A. ...	10	10	0
Headquarters, The Forces' Help Society ...	10	10	0
Star and Garter Home for Disabled ...	5	5	0
Sir Frederick Milner Fund for Village Settlements ...	3	3	0
Sir Beachcroft Towse ex-Service Fund for the Blind ...	2	2	0
British Legion Affiliation Fee ...	1	1	0
Surrey Convalescent Home for Men ...	1	1	0
Guildford Branch, Forces' Help Society ...	1	1	0
Guildford Branch, S.S. and A.F.A. ...	1	1	0

## ALL RANKS' DINNER CLUB

Life members, 383; annual subscribers, 265. Total, 648 as compared with 626 for 1953.

## ANNUAL DINNER, 1953

The Dinner was again held in the Porchester Hall, on Saturday, 5th December. General Giffard read greetings telegrams and gave us news of interest concerning the Regiment. It was held later this year in order that the 1st Battalion could be present, which resulted in a gathering of 310 as compared with 200 in 1953.

## THE WAR MEMORIAL HOLIDAY FUND

The sum of £309 17s. 3d. was expended in making grants to deserving cases, to assist them in having holidays, as follows: Illness, rest recommended, 11; widow, T.B. case, 1; war widows, 11; mother of son killed in war, 2; aged couple, 1; war widow to visit husband's grave, 1; disabled, 4; man and wife, T.B. cases, 3; accident at work, rest advised, 1; husband detention, B.A.O.R., wife and two children in need of rest, 1; to enable wife to escort unfit husband to dinner, 1; parents to visit grave of son, died in B.A.O.R. with 1st Battalion, 1; a total of 38 cases as compared with 39 cases in 1953 for £294 14s.

## ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE AND GARDEN PARTY, 1954

This Reunion was held on Sunday, 18th July, 1954, and about 1,000 attended during the day. This number was considerably smaller than in other years and was undoubtedly due to the unsettled and cold weather. The Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir George Giffard, was in command of the parade, which was headed by the band of the 598 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (4th Battalion, The Queen's Royal Regiment), T.A. The lesson was read by the Colonel of the Regiment and the address was given by the Rev. C. D. Widdicombe, Hon. C.F., B.D., one-time Chaplain of the 1/7th Battalion, The Queen's Royal Regiment. After the service the parade, under the command of Major General J. Y. Whitfield, marched past the Guildhall, where the salute was taken by the Colonel of the Regiment, who was accompanied by the Mayor of Guildford, Councillor L. Codd.

The Garden Party Reunion took place in the afternoon at the Depot, where the usual competitions were held and the Museum again attracted large numbers. The Band of the 598 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), played popular selections of music during the afternoon and in the evening beat "Retreat." We are indebted to the Officer Commanding this Regiment for so kindly lending the band for the occasion and to the Band itself for its excellent playing, both on the Church Parade and at the Garden Party.

## 24TH LONDON REGT./7TH QUEEN'S O.C.A.

Since our last report to *THE JOURNAL* there have been four organized meetings of our members, namely the Combined Parade and Service at the Memorial in Kennington Park with The Unit on Remembrance Sunday, the A.G.M. in February, the Reunion Dinner in March, and the Parade and Service of Homage under the auspices of the Federation of O.C.A.s. of the London T.A. Units in May. With one exception attendances were disappointing! But the Dinner was an unqualified success; 98 sat down under the Chairmanship of Brigadier R. H. Senior, D.S.O., T.D., Major Waspe interested all present with up-to-date news of The Regiment and a review of the work going on at the Depot, whilst "Absent Comrades" were feelingly remembered by Major P. C. Freeman, M.C. An encouraging feature was the larger attendance of serving members of The Unit including the Second-in-Command, R.S.M., and R.Q.M.S.

The Service of Homage to The Fallen of both World Wars attracted a very large congregation to St. Paul's Cathedral, prior to which the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Noel Bowater, unveiled the inscription commemorating those who fell in the Second World War added to the City's Memorial to London Territorials who died 1914-18.

## THE SOLDIERS', SAILORS' AND AIRMEN'S FAMILIES ASSOCIATION

(S.S.A.F.A.)

### S.S.A.F.A. CHAMPIONS THE CAUSE OF FORCES FAMILIES

ALTHOUGH it was in 1885 that Major (later Colonel Sir James) Gildea first formed what was to become the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association, it is surprising how few people realize the full scope of this now very large organization, which has been in continuous existence since that date. Even as far back as the Boer War the Association spent over a million pounds helping Service families. The expenditure both in the First and Second World Wars was many times as large.

In peace time how does S.S.A.F.A. try to help families?

- (a) By providing a welfare and advisory service for the families of serving and ex-Service men and women.
- (b) By helping them to obtain all benefits from statutory sources to which they may be entitled, and also from Service and Regimental funds.
- (c) By helping with temporary grants of money and clothing those who are in distress.
- (d) By representing the cause of these families to the appropriate Government Department when there is reason to do so.

As to the second object, the Association works in close co-operation with other organizations sharing in this work, and more than £250,000 a year is disbursed by the Association in grants to cases on behalf of other Service organizations. It will be particularly noted that the assistance from the Association is only given after the statutory sources of help have been used to the full. Where statutory help takes time to materialize, S.S.A.F.A. does much to bridge delays by giving that prompt help which emergency distress demands.

Except for a public funds grant in respect of specific work undertaken at the Government's request by the Overseas Service, and for the cost of the Nursing Service, which is now borne by the State under the terms of the National Health Act, S.S.A.F.A. is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. S.S.A.F.A., therefore, is first and last a voluntary welfare organization, and it is designed to look after every aspect of family welfare. S.S.A.F.A. tries, when the Service man is separated from his family, in some measures, to take his place, for we all know how difficult it is for the wife to deal with the many problems of present day living.

The Overseas Service of S.S.A.F.A., which was started during the last war, and which has representatives in the main Commands overseas, exists to help in all the many problems that arise through separation.

In its voluntary workers, S.S.A.F.A. has 15,000 representatives spread throughout the length and breadth of the British Isles and in many countries overseas. The Service man's wife whose husband is serving in some far-off land finds in the S.S.A.F.A. worker a real friend who can advise and help her in all her difficulties. The widow, who suffers more loneliness than most, knows that S.S.A.F.A. can not only provide the comfort she needs, but will help in her struggles to keep the home together, and see that her children are decently clad, for clothes are such an enormous item out of a tiny pension. So it is with many Service and ex-Service families—S.S.A.F.A. exists to help them, to provide comfort in time of distress, practical help in an emergency, and a friend when there is need.

The Association's own Clothing Branch provides most of the bedding, clothes and footwear which S.S.A.F.A. gives out to needy families. During the last war this Branch was issuing over a million garments a year, and is still issuing about a quarter of a million garments annually.

The problem often arises when father is away and mother falls ill as to who there is to look after the children. S.S.A.F.A. provides the answer in Springfield House, near Chelmsford, in Essex, which takes care of small boys and girls in happy, friendly surroundings.

S.S.A.F.A. administers and controls a Nursing Service, consisting of qualified hospital-trained nurses, which looks after the health of children and mothers in overseas stations.

There is always a demand for an inexpensive but properly conducted hostel where Service and ex-Service families can stay when visiting or passing through London. In Nevers Square, London, the S.S.A.F.A. Families' Club provides hotel amenities for families, with special facilities for children, and has frequently helped stranded families to find both shelter and advice. The Club operates without profit.

In 1886, a year after the Association was formed, the Officers' Branch was established. By its charter the Officers' Branch is precluded from drawing on the general funds of the Association, but has to rely entirely on donations especially earmarked for this Branch. In 1904 the Officers' Branch built a block of 79 flats at Wimbledon and named it Queen Alexandra's Court. These flats are occupied rent free by deceased officers' widows of the three Services and elderly unmarried daughters of limited means. This year alone there have been over 120 applications for help, and from those who wish to be considered for residence there. Rent grants to 48 of those who are unable to gain admittance are being paid.

These are some of S.S.A.F.A.'s more obvious activities, but most of the Association's work takes place behind the doors of modest-looking homes where families seek to hide their grief and trouble from the curious gaze of

the outside world. And because S.S.A.F.A.'s thousands of voluntary workers have scrupulously respected the myriad confidences they have received, much of the Association's most intimate work remains unknown. For, in fact, S.S.A.F.A. is more than just a large Service Fund. It is a flexible and experienced welfare organization, designed and equipped to help the Service and ex-Service family in all its difficulties, however personal and however varied.

## OBITUARY

List of those known and reported to have died since last publication :

### DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE IN MALAYA

No.	Rank and Name	Battalion	Service	Date of Death
	2/Lieut. A. V. Palmer	1st	—	12. 4.54
	2/Lieut. R. M. Townsend	1st	—	25. 7.54
22747699	Pte. D. Braybrooks	1st	1953-1954	16. 4.54
22822642	Sergt. R. Jones	15th, 70th & 1st	1940-1954	18. 5.54
22890762	Pte. R. Fisher	1st	1953-1954	18. 5.54
* * *				
	Colonel W. S. Cave, D.S.O., T.D.	5th	1924-1938	25.12.53
	Major-General R. A. M. Bassett, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.	—	1911-1946	7. 1.54
	Captain (Q.M.) W. Routley, O.B.E., D.C.M.	1st & 2nd	1893-1929	5. 2.54
	Colonel A. J. Tortise, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D.	7th	1914-1918	13. 2.54
	Colonel A. H. Farley	3rd V.B. 22nd London Regt. (The Queen's)	1903-1908	
	Lieut. G. C. Oldham	1908-1916	15. 3.54	
	Major Sir C. W. M. Price	1st & 2nd	1918-1931	4. 6.54
	The Revd. R. T. Brode (Royal Army Chaplain's Dept.)	7th	1914-1918	6. 7.54
	Captain W. H. Stacey, O.B.E.	1/5th	1931-1943	3. 8.54
	Lieutenant-Colonel G. A. Buxton-Carr, D.S.O., T.D.	1st 8th 1/4th 4th	1890-1911 1914-1915 1916-1919 1920-1927	10. 8.54
12001	Cpl. E. Clarkson	1/24th London Regt. (The Queen's)	1914-1918	21. 8.54
5835	R.S.M. A. West, M.M.	—	1905-1920	9.12.52
56579	Pte. J. Callaghan (Chelsea Pensioner)	1st	1900-1919	11.10.53
42005	Pte. D. H. Love	2nd	1888-1906	12.10.53
6078474	Sergt. R. B. Churcher	2nd	1920-1939	6.11.53
6084949	Sergt. A. J. Edge	1st, 2nd & 13th	1933-1941	—.11.53
6077907	Cpl. G. Peach	5th	1914-1919	
6076140	R.S.M. C. H. Simmonds	1st, 2nd & 4th	1899-1923	22. 2.54
6076212	Pte. E. T. Streeter, M.M.	1st & 2nd	1908-1931	28. 2.54
75980	Pte. C. Stroud	—	1915-1919	20. 3.54
6104153	C/Sergt. E. Brewer, B.E.M., D.C.M.	5th	—	23. 3.54
10046	Pte. G. B. Kirrage	2nd & 4th	1911-1919	2. 4.54
10858	Pte. H. Sheffield	1st	1915-1922	24. 4.54
5816	Drm. E. Constable	1st	1898-1918	16. 6.54
6077673	Cpl. J. Poulter	5th 2nd	1914-1918 1919-1941	1. 7.54

5939	Sergt. H. J. Usher	1st & 2nd	1899-1903 1914-1916 1915-1945 —	3. 7.54 5. 7.54 18. 7.54 13. 8.54
6077021	C.S.M. C. E. Scott	1st & 2nd	1916-1919 —	1914-1917 30. 8.54
40249	Pte. T. S. Brooker	5th Battalion	1883-1908 1908-1919	1940-1944
154616	Pte. J. Young	2nd Vol. Battalion	1928-1945	2. 9.54
4224	Pte. H. W. Stemp	5th Battalion	1905-1926	3. 9.54
240091	R.S.M. G. E. Holt	2nd	1905-1926	27. 9.54
7814277	Sergt. E. A. Grant	MAJOR-GENERAL R. A. M. BASSET, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.		
6077338	L/Cpl. A. Anderson			

### MAJOR-GENERAL R. A. M. BASSET, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.

Since his retirement in 1946, Major-General R. A. M. Bassett had not enjoyed good health and his death occurred on 7th January, 1954. Richard Augustin Marriott Bassett was born on 10th February, 1891, at Frimley, where his father was Rector. He was educated at Marlborough, and privately, before entering the Infantry Company of the R.M.A., Woolwich, in September, 1909. He passed out of "The Shop" the following year, and joined the 1st Battalion at Warley on 28th January, 1911, on appointment as Second-Lieutenant to The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment—as the Regiment was then known. He served continuously with the Battalion, most of the time as Signalling Officer, at Warley and Bordon until the outbreak of war in 1914, when he was sent immediately as Adjutant of the 6th Queen's. He served with this Battalion until April, 1916, having been promoted Temporary Major in December, 1915. He left the Battalion in April, 1916, to become D.A.Q.M.G. of the 20th Division, but a few months later he moved to a similar appointment at Fifth Army Headquarters, where he remained until June, 1918, when he was sent as an instructor to the Senior Staff Course at Cambridge. In January, 1919, he returned overseas, first as D.A.Q.M.G. and then as A.Q.M.G. at G.H.Q., B.E.F.



MAJOR-GENERAL R. A. M. BASSET, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.

For his services during the 1914-18 war he received the Military Cross, the Croix de Guerre (French), was mentioned in despatches twice, and received the brevet of Major.

He was nominated to attend the second post-war course at the Staff College, Camberley, from January, 1920 to January, 1921, when he graduated and was appointed Staff Captain, Movements, at the War Office. He held this appointment for two years and then returned in 1923 to Regimental duty with the 1st Battalion at Aldershot. After commanding "B" Company for a few months, he took over Adjutant, first under Lieut.-Colonel H. C. Whinfield and subsequently under Lieut.-Colonel R. G. Clarke. In December, 1924, he was again on the Staff as D.A.A.G. (Recruiting), Scottish Command, an appointment he left in May, 1927, for Gibraltar, where he became G.S.O.2, under General Sir Charles Monro, then Colonel of the Regiment.

In 1927 he was promoted Major, and two years later relinquished his appointment in Gibraltar and returned once more for Regimental duty with the 2nd Battalion at Dover under Lieut.-Colonel H. N. A. Hunter. He assumed command of "D" Company and subsequently, with a composite company, carried out a most successful Company March in East Kent in 1930. In August of that year he was appointed D.A.A.G. (A.G. 1) at the War Office, and received the brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel on 1st January, 1931. He continued to hold this appointment until 1933, when he attended a course at the Senior Officers' School, Sheerness, shortly after which he was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel and took over command of the 2nd Battalion at Aldershot *vice* Lieut.-Colonel G. J. Giffard, D.S.O. During his tenure of command from 1933 to 1936, the latter half of which was at Parkhurst, Isle of Wight, the Battalion fully maintained the high reputation it had earned under his predecessor. Amongst other events, the Battalion took part with H.M.S. *Excellent* at the Royal Tournament at Olympia in a series of historical episodes designed to portray the traditional co-operation between the Services.

In October, 1936, he was promoted Colonel, and in the following April assumed duty as A.A. & Q.M.G., 5th Division, at Catterick. In June, 1939, his appointment as Brigadier in charge of Administration, Scottish Command, with effect from 1st April, 1940, was notified, but the war intervened and he never took it up. Instead he became D.A. & Q.M.G., 10 Corps, Home Forces, with the rank of Brigadier. This appointment he held until January, 1942. On 4th November, 1941, he had been appointed A.D.C. to the King.

His general ability, and particularly his powers of administration, had been duly noted, but increasing deafness precluded him from taking part in active operations. He was therefore sent to take command of the important No. 18 L. of C. Area at Moascar, under B.T.E., and with the acting rank of Major-General. He held this Command and the temporary rank until March, 1945, when he returned to the U.K. His deafness was continuing to prove an obstacle to further appointments, and he retired from the Army on 13th February, 1946, with the honorary rank of Major-General.

For his services in the Second World War he was created C.B.E. in 1940, C.B. in 1945, and mentioned in despatches three times—1940, 1943 and 1944.

General Basset ("R.A.M." to his contemporaries) will be remembered, not only as an efficient Commanding Officer, but for his quick and ready wit. Whatever the circumstances, he never failed to see the humour of the situation, and he succeeded always in conveying it to those around him. No lecture, no T.E.W.T., no march or exercise was ever dull when he was present, yet no one was more meticulous in his efforts to see his soldiers through in every task, and to ensure that they had the best conditions for work and games

he could contrive. During the war, when he was at Moascar, many members of the Regiment were cheered and stimulated by a visit to him on their way through to Libya and Tripolitania.

Perhaps he was best known, both inside the Regiment and outside, on the hockey and cricket fields. There can be few members of the Regiment who have played for the Regiment on so many and varied occasions, and his left-arm bowling, apparently innocuous, but so full of guile to the unwary, was an annual institution for many years in the matches with H.M.S. *Excellent* on the "Glorious First of June." As a number 9 batsman he was no mean performer, and he delighted in playing a care-free innings—mainly of fours, sixes and misses—when things seemed to be going wrong. At hockey he was a tower of strength at back; few could get past him, and the few who did were almost immediately deceived by the same guile and forethought which made him such a deadly bowler on the cricket field. He played hockey both for the Army and for Beckenham for many years, while at cricket he played for Surrey Second Eleven and in many club matches.

To his widow and their son and daughter we extend our deepest sympathy.

#### COLONEL W. S. CAVE, D.S.O., T.D.

Colonel William Sturmy Cave died after a long illness on 25th December, 1953. He was born in 14th July, 1897, the son of Sir Thomas Sturmy Cave, K.C.B., C.B.E., and was educated at Haileybury, which he left in July, 1914, to join the 4th Bn. (T.A.) The Hampshire Regiment, his father's old regiment. He served in India, Palestine and France, was mentioned in despatches and was awarded the D.S.O. in 1918. He left the Army in 1919 to take up engineering.

In 1924 he joined the 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (T.A.) as a Company Commander, and in 1933 he succeeded to the command of the Battalion, which he held for five years until 1938. In 1938 he retired with the rank of Colonel and joined the Air Ministry as an Assistant Director. He was promoted Deputy Director early in 1939.

During his service with the 5th Battalion, Colonel Cave will be remembered by all those who served under him as a natural leader of men and a most popular officer, with an outstanding personality. He inherited from his father an intense enthusiasm and zeal for the Territorial Army, which played such an important part throughout his service. He was a natural games player and athlete, and it was his charm of manner and enthusiasm which made him such a delightful companion, whether it was on the cricket field, on the golf course or on the snows of Switzerland. His main relaxation in later years was skiing, and he had an impressive list of high Alpine tours to his credit, especially in the Bernese Oberland. He was also a former President of the Ski Club of Great Britain.

During the last war, in 1940, he was appointed to the Staff of the British Purchasing Commission in New York, and was later sent to Washington to represent British interests in aircraft production. He continued in this job until the end of the war, and was one of the few British civilians to be awarded the American Legion of Merit.

To his widow and daughter we offer our deepest sympathy.

#### CAPTAIN (QUARTERMASTER) W. ROUTLEY, O.B.E., D.C.M.

Capt. William Routley, who died on 5th February, 1954, aged 79, joined the Regiment in 1893 and served with the 2nd Battalion in the South African

War, in Gibraltar and Bermuda. At the outbreak of the 1914-18 war he was Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant of the 2nd Battalion, again serving in South Africa. He went to France with this battalion in October, 1914, and served with it for the greater part of that war, being promoted Regimental Sergeant-Major in November, 1914, and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the French Medaille Militaire.

He was commissioned in the rank of Lieutenant (Quartermaster) in November, 1918, and in 1919 joined the 1st Battalion, with which he remained until he retired in 1929, having served with it in Ireland, Hong Kong and Malta. He was promoted Captain in 1926 and awarded the O.B.E. in 1928.

An old officer of his day writes:

"The passing of Bob Routley will be sincerely felt by his brother officers and indeed by all members of the Regiment who ever served with him.

"Bob was undoubtedly a great character, endowed with soldierly wisdom and experience which only long years of service can produce. Many a young subaltern will remember with gratitude the fatherly advice given so readily or regimental and Service matters. One can recall the phrase, "Ask Bob—he'll know the answer." A strict disciplinarian, methodical and regimental to a degree, he ruled his department with great efficiency; his subordinates can testify to this, for they in their turn have reflected something of his training. In fact, the term "trained by Bob," whether as Colour-Sergeant, R.S.M. or Quartermaster, was an excellent hallmark.

"Many and varied are the stories told about Bob Routley; his quick repartee, often delivered in a soft voice, shattered many an argument. He did not suffer fools gladly and yet there was always that kindly helping hand for the young and inexperienced. He was, I think, happiest in the company of the subalterns, who were all devoted to him and who took him on many of their escapades.

"When he retired he lived at Ash Vale and became Secretary of the British Legion there. Writing this memoir of him has recalled a multitude of memories, none of them more warm than those we all felt for old Bob, and it is with great gratitude the Regiment will remember him as a fine soldier and a first class Quartermaster."

We regret to announce that Mrs. Routley died in May. To their family we offer our deepest sympathy.

#### CAPTAIN W. H. STACEY, O.B.E.

Capt. William Henry Stacey, who died on 10th August, 1954, aged 83, joined the 1st Battalion in 1890. Going to India with the Battalion in 1891, he saw service with it in the Tirah Campaign of 1897-98. On the return of the Battalion to England in 1910 only one officer and seven other ranks disembarked who, having embarked in 1891, had served with the Battalion throughout its period of foreign service; one of the other ranks was C/Sergt. W. H. Stacey; he was later promoted Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant and retired to pension in 1911.

At the outbreak of war in 1914 he rejoined and was commissioned almost immediately; he served with the 8th Battalion, of which he was for some time Adjutant, until wounded at the battle of Loos in 1915, and afterwards with the 1/4th Battalion in India. After the war he became Quartermaster of the 4th Battalion and remained with them until 1927. He was awarded the O.B.E. in 1922, and was also the holder of the Meritorious Service Medal.

In 1928 he joined the United Services Corps (Commissionaires) and for

many years was on duty in the Royal Enclosure at Ascot, the last occasion being in June, 1954. During the last war he was Security Officer at an Armaments Factory and a member of the Home Guard—not unremarkable considering that he was past his sixty-eighth year at the beginning of the war.

Capt. Stacey was an enthusiastic supporter of the Old Comrades' Association, and regularly attended the All Ranks' Dinner, and until this year his erect and trim figure was to be seen at the Annual Church Parade Service and the All Ranks' Garden Party.

To his widow and family we offer our deepest sympathy.

#### THE REVEREND R. T. BRODE

The Rev. R. T. Brode, who died at Darlington, Co. Durham, on 3rd August, 1954, joined the Territorial Army in 1931 in the Royal Army Chaplains' Department and was attached to the 5th Battalion and later to the 1/5th Battalion. One advantage Padre Brode had when he joined was that he had served in the ranks of the Artists Rifles in the First World War and so knew something of the Army and its ways.

He at once identified himself with the Battalion and became part of it, sharing in all its activities even to the extent of attending week-end T.E.W.Ts. when his parish duties permitted.

When war came he knew as much about the Battalion as anyone, and his work in getting the Welfare Organization running smoothly was invaluable. Later in France and Belgium he proved to be a tower of strength; his cheerfulness and courage during the retreat to Dunkirk was an example to all the Battalion, and for his services he received a mention in despatches. He continued serving with the 5th Battalion until 1943, when increasing ill-health caused him to be invalidated out of the Army, to the great regret of his many friends.

To his widow and son we offer our deepest sympathy.

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