



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



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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;

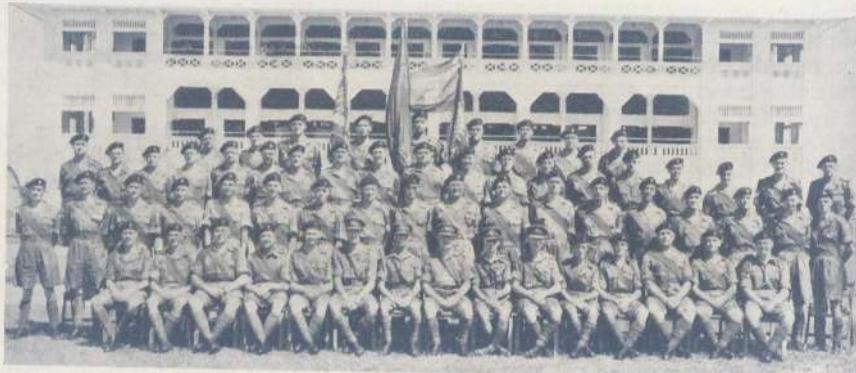
Capt. W. M. Turncock, E. C. S. Osborne (R.W.K.), W. J. F. Sutton, M. J. D. Perrett-Young); Capt. (now Major) N. E. Savage, K. McL. Douglas; Lieuts. N. Berry, P. S. Field, (now T./Capt.) Fearnside-Speed; 2/Lieuts. M. O. Rudkin, T. I. Perkins, M. J. Drew, R. C. Southern, E. R. Paton, J. C. Cleverly, D.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

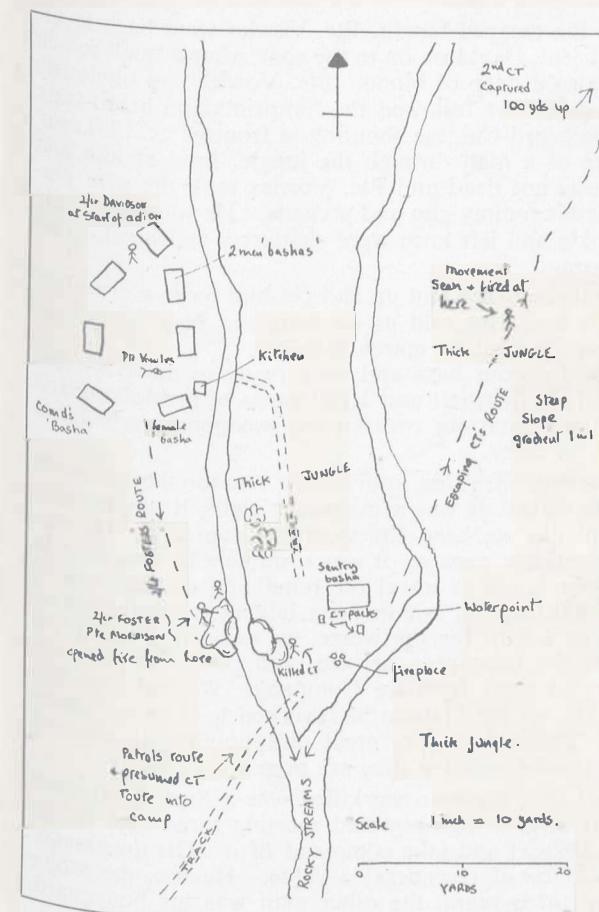
We entered a team for the 17th Gurkha Divisional Inter-Unit Team Competition, but did not succeed in getting through to the final. Pte. Hardy was fourth in the individual Brigade placing.

### **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!

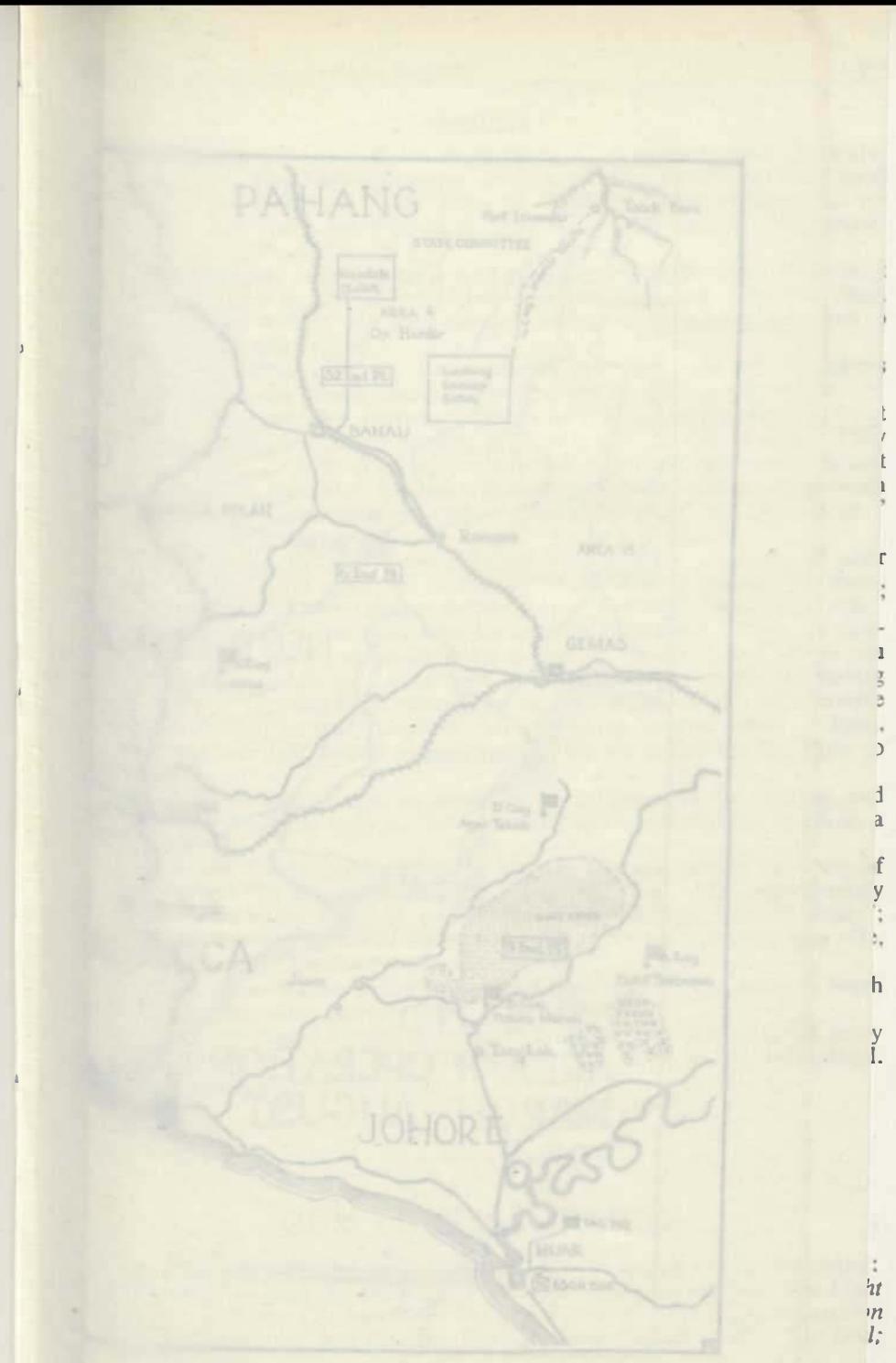
In order to find tracks of the escaped bandit, Pte. Vowles went back to his fire position and directed 2/Lieut. Davidson on to the spot; after a small search a footprint was found and also a drop of blood. Pte. Vowles had obviously scored a hit. With a small patrol we followed the footprints and blood 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 Tangak 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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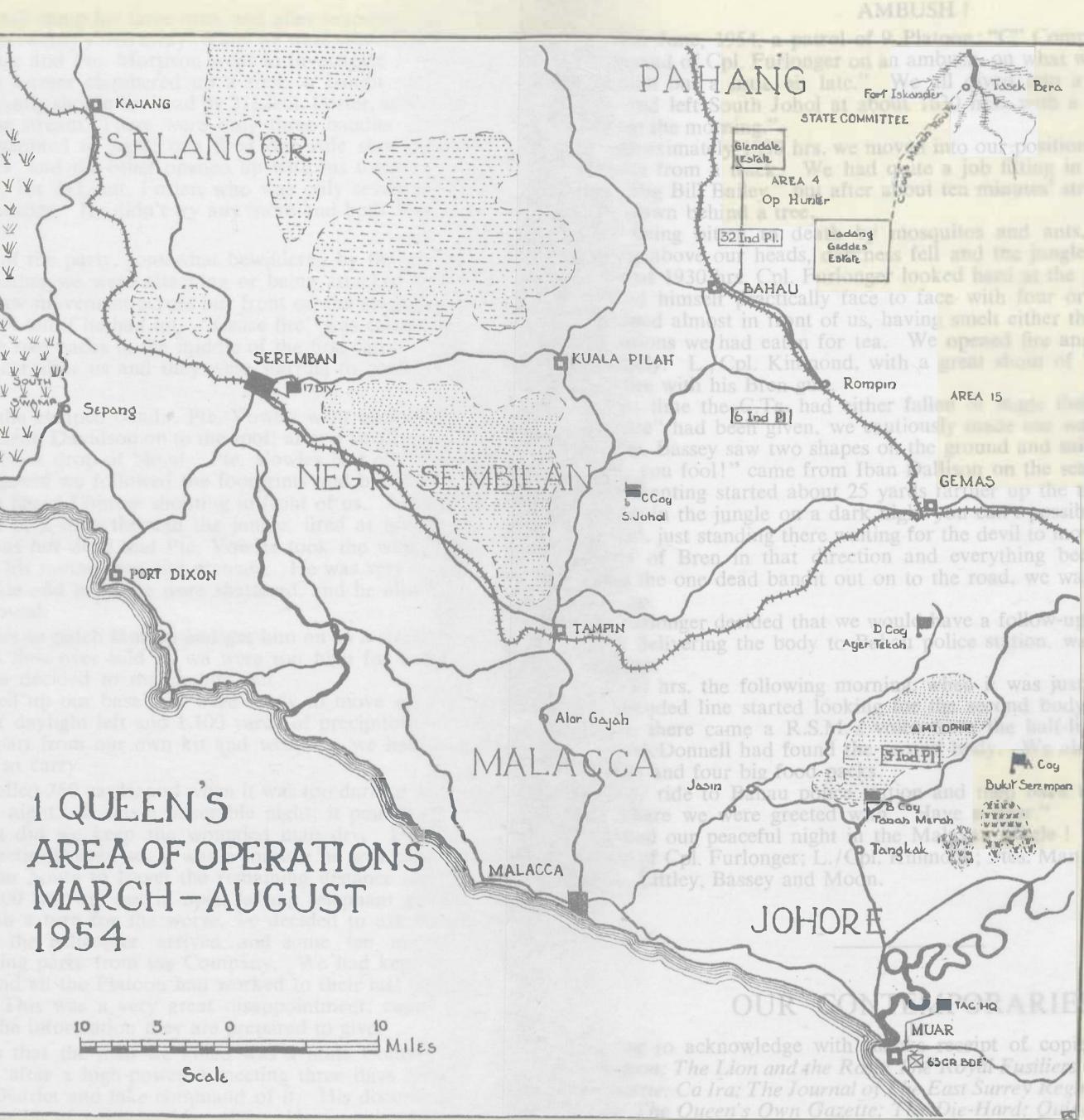
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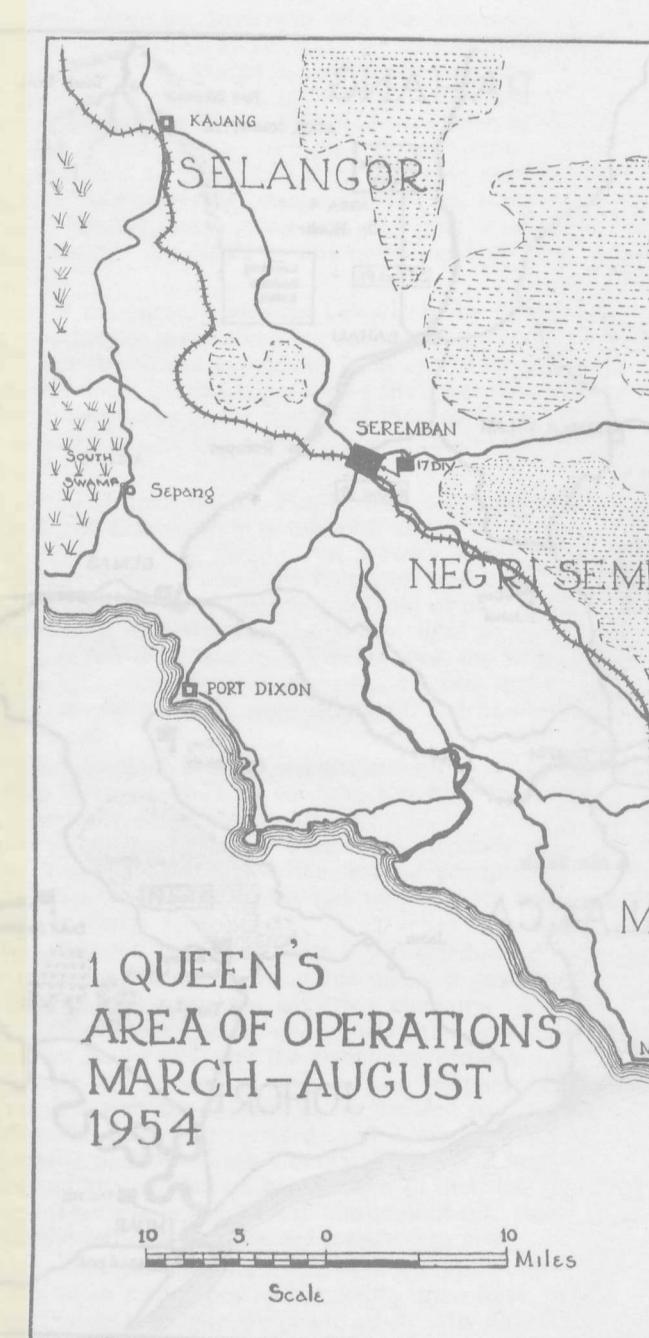
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### AMBUSH !

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 Town, 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	2	25	Cash at Bank
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	59	14	10	—	Cash in Hand
—	—	—	—	25	
59	85	8	0	85	
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	—	—	—	—	
34	—	—	—	—	
—	25	85	0	85	
£25	—	£85	0	£25	

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	£	£	EXPENDITURE	£	£
176 Printing of Journal	...	...	168	12	0
55 Printing of News Letters	...	...	59	18	4
2 Stationery and Postage	...	...	1	11	4
<b>—</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>225</b>
<b>£233</b>			<b>£231</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1953

1952			1953		
£	£	£	£	£	£
CAPITAL ACCOUNT			CURRENT ASSETS		
10 Balance as at 1st January, 1953	1	9	1	1	Cash at Bank
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	1	4	10	—	Cash in Hand
—	—	—	—	2	
10	8	Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	...	—	
—	2	—	—	—	
—	2	SUNDRY CREDITOR	...	—	
—	2		...	—	
£231	—		168	12	0
£233	—		£171	5	11

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

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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 H.G.	1940-1944 1928-1945
154616	Pte. J. Young	2nd Vol.	1905-1926	2. 9.54 3. 9.54 27. 9.54
4224	Pte. H. W. Stemp	Battalion		
240091	R.S.M. G. E. Holt	5th Battalion		
7814277	Sergt. E. A. Grant	1st & 2nd		
6077338	L/Cpl. A. Anderson	2nd		

### 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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