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## 1st BATTALION

THE account in last year's JOURNAL finished on 31st August, 1955, with the first elements of the Battalion being deployed in South Johore, after retraining in Selarang Barracks.

The year since then can be summed up as a period of constant change, hard slogging work, with comparatively little visible results to show. Generally speaking, the Communist Terrorist (C.T.) policy in Malaya has been to lie low, create incidents against soft targets, but to maintain enough contact with the people to enable them to feed and clothe themselves. They are presumably awaiting the full results of self-government, which will be an accomplished fact in August, 1957.

Nevertheless, the Battalion has killed eight C.T.s. during the period, and in fact has killed more this year than any other unit in Johore.

Early in September "B" Company and "D" Company were deployed again in Malaya. "B" Company, under command 1st Bn. 2nd Gurkha Rifles, were based in new villages and estates in the Senai area, and "D" Company had a similar role under command 1st Bn. The East Yorkshire Regiment in the Rengam area.

On 9th September an amnesty was declared by the newly elected Government with the object of allowing C.T.s. to surrender under most favourable terms. Heavy restrictions were placed on military activity so that surrendering would be facilitated.

From the start the amnesty was received by the C.T.O. (Communist Terrorist Organization) with suspicion, and as a result of their very strict discipline few surrenders took place despite the most energetic psychological warfare campaign. In the Kluang and Rengam areas the C.T.O. appeared to increase their activities with a series of incidents, the most spectacular of which, the burning of twenty-six lorries on the Simpan Rengam Pineapple Estate, occurred the day after "D" Company's arrival in the area.

Late in September, with the arrival of the 1st Bn. The King's Own Scottish Borderers (1 K.O.S.B.) from England to relieve us of our Internal Security role in Singapore, it was the intention of 99th Gurkha Infantry Brigade to deploy the remainder of the Battalion in Southern Johore, and so between 18th and 20th September Battalion Headquarters, H.Q. Company, Support Company and "C" Company moved to Kenya Camp, near Kota Tinggi, and "A" Company was due to follow to the same area when 1 K.O.S.B. were firmly in the saddle.

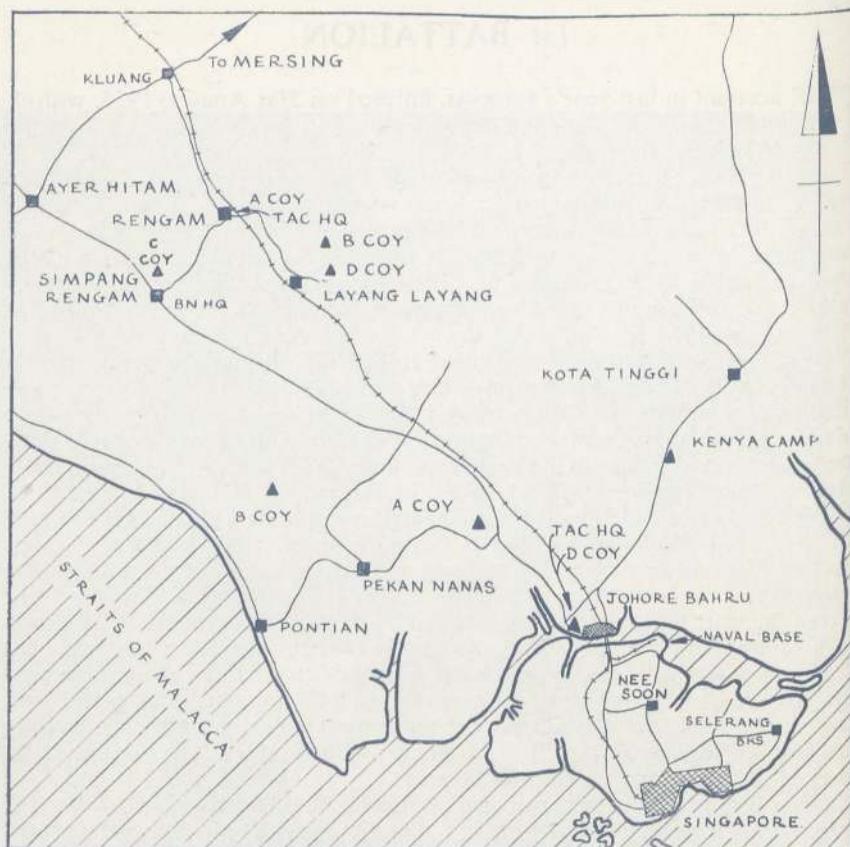
However, just as we were settling into the new area, the Director of Operations, Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Bourne, with the agreement of the Malayan Government, decided that C.T.s. in Southern Johore and particularly the Kluang and Rengam districts were openly flaunting the amnesty. He therefore ordered one of the largest concentrations of troops seen in one area for a long time; the Queen's (leaving H.Q. Company and the training organization in time; the Queen's (leaving H.Q. Company and the training organization in Kenya Camp) were concentrated in the Rengam Police District, with 1st Bn. The East Yorkshire Regiment to our north in the Kluang District, while the 1st Bn. The Royal Hampshire Regiment and 1st Bn. Northern Rhodesia Regiment were deployed in the jungle to the east, and two companies of 1st Bn. The Fiji Infantry Regiment were put into other areas of jungle for good measure.

Our role was not a spectacular one. We were responsible for five new villages and a vast number of estate lines. Our task was to ensure that food and other supplies did not get to the C.T.s. and at the same time to try to sever the links between the Masses Organization in the villages and the C.T.s. in the jungle. So far as the companies and platoons in isolated new villages were concerned, this



1st Battalion Patrol, 6th July, 1956

L/Cpl. Hughes, Sgt. Isaac, Pte. Trent, Pte. Cooper, Pte. Millhouse.



South Johore and Singapore Island  
(Not to scale)

entailed strenuous estate patrolling in the many rubber, palm oil and pineapple estates, checking workers both in the estates and when they left their houses in the morning, searching vehicles and assisting food control officials to carry out house-to-house searches for surplus food being stored away for the C.T.O.

Jungle operations were few and far between and provided a pleasant change from the fatigue of estate patrolling—in fact it was much preferred. Estate patrolling with its before-dawn starts and frequent after-dark conclusions, its alarms and excursions resulting from minor incidents both by day but more frequently at night, led to a great loss of sleep; in the jungle it is only in the most exceptional circumstances that movement takes place in darkness.

A typical day in Rengam went like this. First light disclosed ten spans of multiple telephone wire cut on the Kluang road; a small party plus police would go out and investigate with a dog and an Iban tracker.

At 1400 hrs. a latex lorry is reported burning in C.E.P., Rengam Estate<sup>2</sup>; a platoon plus dogs and trackers are turned out; they find the lorry has been burning for over one hour, the occupants having been told to do nothing for thirty

minutes after the C.T.s. left, thus giving the C.T.s. gang a good start. A track is found, but after a fast follow-up for 1,000 yards it is lost in a swamp—the patrol commander reports by wireless; the C.O. orders two or three platoons to be deployed on likely cut-off positions—they remain out all night and do a bit of searching the next day until the operation is called off; it may go on longer.

Darkness falls; at 2130 hrs. shots are fired in the night; a series of European planters telephone Tactical Headquarters in the Police Station at Rengam—they all give their theories of the direction of the shots. Eventually they are tracked down to an estate line near Layang Layang, the stand-by party of the nearest company has turned out again with dogs; it finds that the local Special Constable (S.C.) estate guards saw one or more lights approaching the wire—they opened fire first; sometimes the C.T.s. replied, sometimes it was ghosts or fireflies; the military party casts round for an hour or so, and if nothing is found and all appears well, they return to bed.

On top of all this there is the normal routine day and night estate patrolling worked out on a weekly programme, and frequent pre-planned night ambushes on likely C.T. routes.

On 11th October a patrol of 8 Platoon, "C" Company, flushed a party of C.T.s. talking to estate workers in the thick oil palm of Ulu Remis Estate. One of the estate managers, Mr. Stoner, who was near by with his S.C. escort, heard the firing and came quickly towards it; he fortunately came across two C.T.s. and managed to corner one (a female) in a cul-de-sac valley; there after a short fire fight he persuaded the lady to surrender. She turned out to be a most helpful person who not only gave us much useful information but helped us to recover a lot of reserve food dumps, thus naturally weakening the C.T.O. in the area. Her lover, the Branch Committee Member, a very "smooth" ex-schoolmaster, found love stronger than C.T. discipline and surrendered one month later, and this disaffection caused several more surrenders to follow. He in his turn helped in the recovery of two substantial arms dumps and more food caches.

This finally put paid to the Simpang Rengam Malayan Communist Party (M.C.P.) Branch and the remnants were absorbed into the Rengam M.C.P. Branch. Thus half our task was completed in the Rengam area. The Rengam Branch was a tougher egg to crack; it was led by a remarkably astute State District Committee Member, who succeeded in dodging both the Queen's and the Northern Rhodesia Regiment over the next four months. We did, however, successfully manage to reduce the number of incidents in the area during this period, while the C.T. links with the Masses Executives in the villages became more and more difficult to establish and food supplies through this source stopped altogether.

This forced the C.T. on to their last reserves, eating oil palm nuts and the shoots of Nibon trees in the jungle. We were unfortunately blessed with one of the largest areas of oil palm in Malaya; the vast Ulu Remis estates extended for eighteen miles across the southern part of the battalion area, the most vulnerable of which was the estate which jutted eight miles into the jungle to the north-east of Layang Layang. It was in this estate, by the use of M.M.Gs. firing on fixed lines at night down the jungle edge, mortars (both 3-inch and 4.2-inch) harassing the jungle and much day and night patrolling with searchlights and other aids, that we succeeded in all but denying them this reserve of food. By the time we left the area in April, 1955, the Rengam Branch were so short of food they had to employ 3 Platoon, Malayan Races Liberation Army (M.R.L.A.), to bring them food from outside their area; this was truly a reversal of roles as it is the aim of the Branch to mother the M.R.L.A. platoon when operating in their branch area and to supply them with food.

But here let us go back to the narrative of events before we left the Rengam area. On 18th October command of 99th Gurkha Infantry Brigade passed from Brigadier D. E. B. Talbot (late Royal West Kents) to Brigadier E. P. Townsend (late 6th Gurkha Rifles).

Christmas was a staggered festival, and rifle companies each had three days off operations. The traditional dinner was served by officers and sergeants, and the band visited each company. A most excellent pantomime entitled "Kampong Kapers" was written by Capt. A. Donaldson and staged by the Medical Officer, Lieut. J. Samuel, and the Padre in a joint role. The stars were Lieut. G. B. Redfern, Sgt. Wilmshurst, Sgt. Marshall, R.A.V.C., and the Padre. It is appropriate to mention the great help which the Rev. Peter Mallett has given to all ranks throughout his time with the Battalion. He joined us in March, 1954, and we hope he will return to England with the Battalion.

On 14th January Major S. W. Peet assumed the appointment of Second-in-Command *vice* Major J. U. Stobbs.

During January, 1956, a patrol of "A" Company, commanded by 2/Lieut. M. C. W. Credland, contacted and killed one C.T., identified as a courier. This was the first success since retraining in September, 1955, and heartened everyone. Particular credit in this small action is due to Pte. Flain for good shooting with a .300 carbine at a running target at 150 yards range.

At the end of January H.Q. Company moved from Kenya Camp to Simpang Rengam. Up to the time of this move the Battalion administrative machine had been sixty miles outside our operational area with only a Tactical Headquarters forward. The Battalion was deployed in ten different camps and the difficulties in administration and the heavy load on our none-too-young transport can be appreciated.

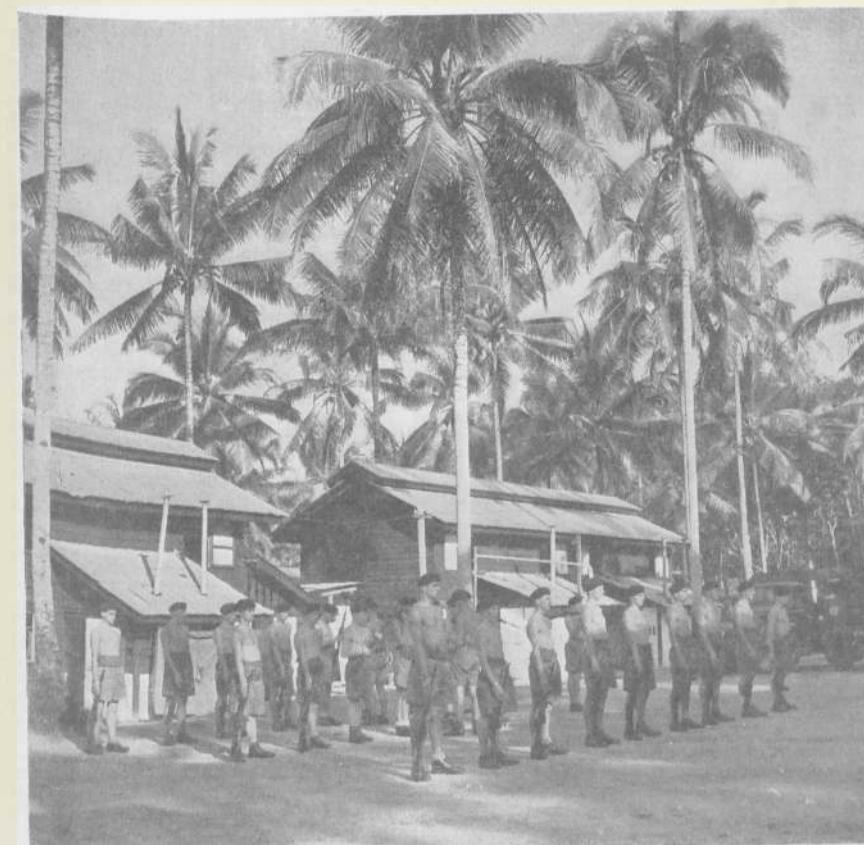
The move at the end of January made all this much easier, and although Simpang Rengam Pineapple Estate lines site was never designed to be a battalion base camp, the sterling hard work put into it by H.Q. Company soon put a definitely "Queen's Look" into the camp. At last we had a Battalion Officers' and W.Os. and Sergeants' Mess in which we were able to entertain again on a regimental basis.

During January and February four C.Ts. surrendered in the area, and on 28th February a patrol of "D" Company commanded by 2/Lieut. C. C. Surtees killed one C.T. in an ambush on Sembrong Estate; Pte. Penfold was wounded, luckily not seriously, in this action.

On 8th February the amnesty expired and all restrictions on security forces action were removed. The amnesty had been imposed with objects which have already been described. To this end, the new leader of the Federal Government, Tenku Abdul Rahman, had also had talks with the leader of the Malayan Communist Party, Chin Peng, but no agreement was reached and the struggle continued. In the battalion area patrolling of estates and jungle, and checking of workers, and food control measures continued until April, but without further result.

In April the Battalion was ordered to Singapore for internal security (I.S.) duties. The Rengam area, in which we had operated for six months, was handed over to 1st Bn. 2nd Gurkha Rifles, and the Battalion moved to Nee Soon Transit Camp. We left Rengam with the thanks and praise of the planting community there, with whom we had been on very good terms, and who were most appreciative of the work which had been done in controlling militant C.T. activity.

The Battalion was very crowded in Nee Soon, and the first two weeks were filled with the issue of I.S. stores and training for our new role. At the same



"D" Company Muster Parade, Sembrong Estate, March, 1956

time all steps were taken to smarten up everyone after the dispersed life in company and platoon bases. The expected trouble in Singapore failed to materialize, and although the constitutional delegation led by the Chief Minister, Mr. David Marshall, failed to obtain in London all they asked for, no disturbances took place, so that by mid-June certain troops were able to be withdrawn from I.S. duties.

The Battalion then took over from 1 K.O.S.B. in Selarang Barracks, and is still there (our sixth and, we hope, final move since May, 1955). Our first role is internal security in Singapore, and we are committed to keeping two companies in Selarang for this purpose. At present these are "C" Company (Major P. R. H. Kealy) and H.Q. Company (Major C. J. Grindley). Three companies are operating against the C.Ts. in Southern Johore, at short notice to return in case of emergency to Singapore. These are "A" Company, Linden Estate (near Scudai) (Major J. B. C. Palmer); "B" Company, Pekan Nanas (Major A. S. Lynch-Staunton); "D" Company, Tampoi (Major E. B. G. Clowes). Support Company (Major D. H. Foskett) is about to move from Kenya Camp, now that the last draft from the United Kingdom has arrived and completed training. Major J. U. Stobbs, who normally commands Support Company, is acting G.S.O.1, Federation Division, in Taiping.

The role of the three companies deployed in the Pontian and Geylang Patah Police Districts of Southern Johore is similar to our role in Rengam; it is to eliminate the M.C.P. Branches named after the Districts. The Pontian Road Branch had eight C.Ts. in it (it now has only three), and the Gelang Patah Branch has six. Occasionally 5 Platoon, M.R.L.A., numbering thirty, visit the area.

On 6th July a patrol led by Sgt. Isaac, "B" Company, numbering only six men, met and killed five C.Ts. of the Pontian Road Branch. This is the most outstanding action during the time the Battalion has been in Malaya. Satisfaction at this grand performance was marred by the death of Pte. J. A. Purves during the action. A fuller account of this action is given elsewhere in the JOURNAL.

Other events of importance have occurred, but have been omitted purposely from the main narrative.

On 9th September, 1955, in celebration of Salerno Day the massed Bands and Drums of the Queen's and the 1st Bn. The Northern Rhodesia Regiment (1 N.R.R.) beat "Retreat" at Selarang Barracks. 1 N.R.R. are allied to us and were then commanded by Lieut.-Colonel G. H. W. Goode, who we were glad to see was awarded a D.S.O. for his fine work in Malaya.

R.S.M. J. B. Simmons left us in July and was succeeded by R.S.M. N. Mew. Bandmaster E. Gaines was succeeded by Bandmaster W. Lynes (late Royal Leicestershire Regiment) in August.

The following V.I.Ps. have visited the Battalion during the past year: General Sir Charles Loewen, C.-in-C., FARELF; Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Bourne and, more recently, Lieutenant-General R. H. Bower, Director of Operations, Malaya and G.O.C., Malaya Command; Major-General R. N. Anderson, G.O.C., 17th Gurkha Infantry Division; and Major-General D. D. C. Tulloch, G.O.C., Singapore Base District.

Mr. Kenneth Henley, of the *Surrey Advertiser*, spent three weeks with the Battalion earlier this year and has written a series of articles which give a good idea of our life.

The Battalion is due to move from Malaya in December, and after leave to go to Luneburg in Germany. There will be no staging in England, and individuals will be sent on leave from the disembarkation port, with orders to report to Harwich for movement to B.A.O.R. on expiration of leave. The Suez crisis has affected trooping movements so that perhaps dates are not firm. However, the Quartermaster has already started returning stores and issuing crates for packing.

The Battalion will leave Malaya with mixed feelings. Satisfaction is felt that we have had a worth-while job to do in the world-wide struggle against militant Communism, and rifle companies have had a full and interesting time. On the other hand, living conditions up-country have often been primitive, and no one will regret leaving tents, Godolphin huts, hurricane lamps and estate lines in the monsoon. It has been a fine experience for all ranks and one which I doubt anybody in retrospect will regret.

The following awards have been received during the past twelve months:

Military Cross: Major M. A. Lowery. Military Medal: Sgt. F. Isaac. British Empire Medal: 22221392 Sgt. J. Saul. Meritorious Service Medal: R.S.M. J. B. Simmons, M.B.E., M.C. Mentioned in despatches: Lieut. J. G. W. Davidson, 6086600 W.O.II H. Atkins, 6285807 W.O.II W. Motton, 21127349 Sgt. K. Yonwin, 22797790 L./Cpl. P. Baines, and 22919523 Pte. J. Marsh.

#### SUCCESSFUL ACTION BY 5 PLATOON NEAR PEKAN NANAS

5 Platoon has a base at the Ulu Choh Reservoir in South Johore, twelve miles from "B" Company's main camp. On the afternoon of 6th July a small patrol was sent to search an area near the village of Pekan Nanas. The patrol may be termed a routine one. There was no information of the presence of Communist Terrorists (C.Ts.) in the area, but the patrol was to search, find C.Ts., if possible, and to check civilians who were working in the area and who might be making contact with the enemy.

The patrol was commanded by Sgt. F. C. Isaac, and consisted of L./Cpl. Hughes, the leading scout, Pte. Trent, the Bren-gunner, and Ptes. Purves, Cooper and Millhouse. They moved in M.T. from their camp, debussed and moved north through a rubber estate, which had thick undergrowth, on a line about twenty yards from the edge of a pineapple plantation.

After the patrol had moved in single file about 600 yards, L./Cpl. Hughes, in the lead, gave the signal to halt, and indicated silently that C.Ts. were in sight ahead. Sgt. Isaac looked and saw first one, then two C.Ts. some twenty to thirty yards away. They saw him at about the same time and started to run away eastwards. Sgt. Isaac quickly deployed his patrol into extended line and ordered them to charge. Almost immediately two more C.Ts. were seen, who ran off in the same direction as the others, firing rapidly as they went.

Sgt. Isaac kept firm control of this patrol and led them on, showing complete disregard of the fire directed at them. When within twenty yards of the four terrorists he halted the patrol and ordered them to fire. One C.T. fell and appeared to be about to throw a grenade, and so, leaving Pte. Cooper to deal with him, he ordered the patrol to charge again. After another fifteen yards they halted again and fired, killing the second C.T.

A further advance of twenty yards was made and a third terrorist fell, and L./Cpl. Hughes was told to remain. Finally Sgt. Isaac and Pte. Trent, the Bren-gunner, chased the fourth C.T., who took refuge behind a tree and opened fire on them at short range. Between them they killed this last terrorist, just as they heard a shout from Pte. Millhouse that Purves had been hit.

Ptes. Millhouse and Purves had become detached from the remainder of the patrol at the beginning of the action. They went after a C.T. who was fired at by Pte. Millhouse, and who then hid behind a tree and fired again before running away. He was chased by these two soldiers and was fired at and fell, apparently wounded. As he fell, however, he fired, wounding Pte. Purves, who shortly afterwards died.

Millhouse summoned Sgt. Isaac, who suspected that the C.T. who had hit Purves was a fifth terrorist. He therefore organised a search and after moving about twenty yards a shot was fired by the C.T., who must have been wounded earlier by Pte. Millhouse. Pte. Trent and Sgt. Isaac killed this man by well-aimed fire.

From the packs and weapons it was evident that 100 per cent. casualties were inflicted on the enemy. The action was a fine display of intelligent, resolute and courageous leadership shown by Sgt. Isaac and energy and determination shown by all the patrol. Sgt. Isaac has since been awarded the Military Medal for his part in the action.

The death of Pte. Purves overshadowed the natural feeling of success. He was buried with full military honours in Singapore on 7th July. The sympathy of the whole Battalion goes to his young wife.

## GLORIOUS FIRST OF JUNE CELEBRATIONS, 1956

NEE SOON, SINGAPORE

Once again the Battalion, with the exception of Support Company, found itself concentrated in one place for this year's celebrations. This time it was at Nee Soon Camp on Singapore Island. As a result it was possible to arrange a most entertaining sports programme, in spite of our heavy Internal Security commitments.

Perhaps the most important feature of this year's Glorious First was the establishment of a new naval liaison with the cruiser H.M.S. *Newcastle*, Flagship of the Far East Station. Shields were exchanged and throughout the day several most enjoyable sporting events took place. The Battalion cricket team acquitted themselves very well (179 for 9 wkts. declared) and managed to defeat H.M.S. *Newcastle* (43 all out). However, we lost the water polo to our visitors (2-6).

A special lunch was served for all other ranks, including a number of ratings from H.M.S. *Newcastle*, and the Band formed a first-class accompaniment. In the evening two Battalion soccer teams battled against *Newcastle*. The honours were even. Our first team lost and our second team won their game. The day was pleasantly concluded when the Commanding Officer and nine officers enjoyed the hospitality of H.M.S. *Newcastle* at dinner on board.

On Saturday, 2nd June, a cocktail party was held in the Officers' Mess. The guests included Rear-Admiral Edden, Flag Officer Second-in-Command, Far East Station, Capt. Kennedy, R.N., and twenty officers of H.M.S. *Newcastle*.

A special Commemoration Service was conducted by the Padre, the Rev. P. Mallett, C.F., on Sunday, 3rd June, at which the address was given by the Rev. Lloyd-Evans, Assistant Chaplain-General, Far East Land Forces. After the service the Commanding Officer took the salute as the Battalion marched past.

## SPORTING ACTIVITIES

It has not been easy for Battalion teams to function during the past year. Companies have been scattered most of the time, and key men on the sports field usually seem to be equally useful in their companies or departments and can only be spared reluctantly to take part in Battalion sports fixtures. However, teams have represented the Battalion in most games, and if outstanding results have not been achieved, the games have been enjoyed, and the teams will no doubt acquit themselves well when good facilities and opportunity to play exist next year in B.A.O.R.

## ATHLETICS

At the time of writing these notes, all the "Olympic hopes" within the Battalion have turned their efforts to other sports and pastimes.

Since the Battalion has been based on Singapore Island a small number of our athletes have competed in various athletic competitions, both civilian and military. The Battalion entered a team in the Singapore Base District Team Championships, held at Nee Soon on 7th July, and were finally placed fourth in a field of eleven units. As there was very little opportunity in which to train as a team, this was an extremely encouraging result.

In the Inter-Company Athletic Meeting held at Nee Soon on 30th May, Support Company were the winners. They produced a well-balanced team in both track and field events which enabled the Company to keep just ahead of H.Q. Company.

It would be extremely difficult to mention all the athletes by name in this account, but one worthy of mention is L./Cpl. Bromley, H.Q. Company, who ran the three miles and lapped several of the other competitors. Everyone will agree that the three miles is a most gruelling race at the best of times, but under a tropical sun it was indeed a herculean effort.

In the chain of command relay, won by H.Q. Company, many were the gasps and puffs ere the finishing line was reached. The Commanding Officer ran the last leg for H.Q. and just pipped Major J. B. C. Palmer on the post; the judges after much deliberation gave the verdict to H.Q. In the children's races the competition was keen and in some cases a howling success.

The detailed result was as follows: 1, Support Company; 2, H.Q. Company, 3; "A" Company.

At the conclusion of the meeting the prizes were presented by Mrs. H. R. D. Hill.

## SOCCER

The Battalion has played on the average one representative game per week since coming to Singapore Island, and the team have acquitted themselves extremely well, having beaten the current league champions of Singapore Services, the R.A.P.C., and drawn with what is considered to be the best Army soccer team this side of the world, 1 K.O.S.B.

The keenest games played were against the Royal Navy in the shape of H.M.S. *Newcastle* and H.M.S. *Newfoundland*. The game against the former was in conjunction with our Glorious First of June celebrations, on which we fielded two Battalion teams, winning one and losing one.

An Inter-Company Knock-out Competition was run during our stay at Nee Soon, which was won by "A" Company, who beat "D" Company 2-0 in the final.

During the Battalion's sojourn at Selarang Barracks the Battalion team went into training for the Malaya Cup Competition. A total of 15 players were drawn in from various departments and companies and underwent a three-week training session in preparation for the first game versus 1 S.W.B., but there our cup hopes finished, being beaten 1-2. It was an extremely hard game and we were fortunate in not forcing a draw.

At the time of writing these notes the Battalion is once more scattered over South Johore. However, it has been possible in July to organize an inter-platoon competition at Selarang, including platoons of H.Q. Company and "D" Company and the Mortar and M.M.G. Platoons. The final between the M.T. and Admin. Platoons produced good football, with M.T. the winners, 3-1.

## CRICKET

During our stay in Singapore we have had seven cricket matches. The record is one win, one loss and five draws. Unfortunately we have been hard hit by the weather, which cut short three matches and caused the cancellation of the only two 2nd XI fixtures we had arranged.

We had a strong side, particularly in batting; the fielding was also good. The bowling, however, was not up to last year's standard.

Our only victory was against H.M.S. *Newcastle* on the Glorious First of June. Against good and accurate bowling we batted well, particularly Pte. D'Eye, who retired hurt at 12 when badly hurt by a fast ball and returned later to score 42.

Our only loss was to H.M.S. *Newfoundland*, who avenged their heavy defeat on last year's "Glorious First." They took advantage of our sporting declaration

and won with three minutes to spare in an exciting finish.

Another exciting game was against the K.O.S.B., who set us 132 to get in 90 minutes. We threw our early wickets away, but very nearly won after a magnificent innings of 59 not out by Cpl. Osgood. We needed eight runs to win off the last over, but could only manage to get two.

The match against the R.A.S.C. side was spoiled by rain when we looked like giving them a sound thrashing. We dismissed them for 104, thanks to some good bowling backed up by magnificent fielding. Lieut. Sharpe holding four catches and Cpl. Osgood one, a brilliant diving catch at short leg, a catch of which even Tony Lock would have been proud.

This side, although not quite as good as last year's, was well above the standard of the average unit team.

#### SHOOTING

At the Malaya Command Rifle Meeting, 1956, the Battalion team put up a very good performance. The team, led by Lieut. G. C. Sharpe, proved to be the best the Battalion has produced in Malaya. For the first time the Battalion team was divided into two completely separate elements, an Open Range team and a Jungle Range team. The Jungle Range team, led by 2/Lieut. J. V. Warner-Johnson and provided by "D" Company, shot very well to take fourth place in their match. This was an excellent performance.

In the over-all competition for the Champion Unit the Battalion was third out of 30 major units competing. The Battalion won the Suffolk Cup for the Champion British Unit against strong opposition from 13 other teams. In other matches the team was fifth in the Rifle, second in the L.M.G., ninth in the Carbine, first in the G.H.Q. Team Revolver and first in the Open Invitation Falling Plate in a record time. In this match we represented 99th Gurkha Infantry Brigade.

These satisfactory results were very much a team effort, but mention should particularly be made of Sgts. Wilmshurst and Nickson, who were third in the



Battalion Shooting Team

Winners, Suffolk Cup, Malaya Command Meeting, 1956

L.M.G. pairs. It is rather a pity to note that another 20 points in the Rifle Match would have made us champion unit.

**A.R.A. Non-Central Match Results:** In the A.R.A. 1955 non-central matches abroad the Battalion did not do very well as operations did not allow long periods of training. The following results were obtained: The Queen Victoria Trophy, fourth; the Royal Irish Cup, fifth; and the Company Shield, third (H.Q. Company). In other matches we were unplaced.

The Pink Column returned to its more accustomed place in the Sergeants' Mess.

In August the Battalion entered two teams for the Singapore Rifle Association Bisley Meeting. The "A" team of Lieut. Sharpe, Sgt. Nickson, Sgt. Chadwick and Cpl. Seymour won the Inter-Service Team Competition and the "B" team were runners-up in the Falling Plate. Lieut. Sharpe won a Stage prize and was fourth in the Individual. In all, the eight members of the two teams carried off nineteen small cups in two days.

The Battalion seem to have the basis of a strong team for Bisley next year.

#### REGIMENTAL SERGEANT-MAJOR J. B. SIMMONS, M.B.E., M.C.

On 7th July, 1956, Mr. Simmons left the 1st Battalion, after spending ten years as Regimental Sergeant-Major, the last seven of which had been consecutive. The powers that be decided that it was time he moved on and so reluctantly the 1st Battalion has said good-bye to him.

R.S.M. Simmons joined the Army in 1926 in the Royal Sussex Regiment. He served with them at home and in India, until he was posted to the 1st Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment in that country in May, 1944.

He joined the Battalion at Delhi and saw action in May, at the battle of Jail Hill, Kohima. He was in all the fighting at Kohima and returned with the Battalion to Assam in September. He came back to Burma and fought again in the actions from April to July, including the Central Burma Oilfields, the Zalon Bridgehead, Paywa Village and Settang Bend, down to Pegu. He was promoted Regimental Sergeant-Major in June, 1945. He was awarded the Military Cross for the part he played as Company Sergeant-Major during an attack on a Japanese position at Yenanyang.

He served under Lieut.-Colonels G. S. Grimston, H. G. Duncombe and J. R. Terry until he was repatriated on termination of overseas tour in March, 1947. It is a coincidence that he said good-bye from Selarang Barracks, Singapore, whence he has left the Battalion again.

He spent some time with the Polish Forces in England, and then left the Army in the spring of 1949. Civilian life did not suit him, however, and he rejoined in August, 1949, coming to the 1st Battalion in Berlin.

It will be many years before the memory of R.S.M. Simmons fades. His gallantry and devotion to duty in Burma during the war, under the most trying of conditions, will be remembered by all those who served with him.

His presence as Regimental Sergeant-Major during the post-war years is fresh in the mind, and it is as such that he will be remembered by hundreds of young soldiers and dozens of officers. He had the highest sense of duty and was rarely away from barracks. No incident could occur at whatever hour of day or night but that he was on the spot, dealing with the situation, and available to tell the Commanding Officer at first hand what had happened.

A strict disciplinarian, demanding a high standard of turn-out and behaviour from all, he was always ready to give advice and encouragement to young soldiers and N.C.O.s.

Many a man who has been in front of the Commanding Officer has been helped by the fatherly advice which he has received from R.S.M. Simmons afterwards.

He has always known what has been going on in barracks and has been a most valued and trusted adviser to his Commanding Officers. His knowledge of personalities and names has been phenomenal.

Under his ægis, the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess has maintained an ever high standard. Not only has he enriched the dignity of his own office, but he has given to all the members of his Mess a true sense of the responsibility and importance of their rank.

He was probably seen at his best on Regimental Sergeant-Major's parade. His slim, erect figure, pace stick in hand, dominated the parade, and his powerful voice reached clearly to the farthest corners of the barrack square. His own standard of drill and turn-out was impeccable.

It can truthfully be said that R.S.M. Simmons was held in real esteem by all ranks in the Regiment. Before he left Singapore, the Corporals', Warrant Officers and Sergeants' and the Officers' Messes all entertained him and each presented him with a memento of his stay with the Battalion. We wish him the best of luck wherever he may be in the future.

#### BANDMASTER E. GAINES

In August, 1956, Bandmaster Gaines left the 1st Battalion in order to take up the appointment of Brigade Bandmaster at the Home Counties Brigade Depot. In this new appointment he will be responsible for training all band boys of the Home Counties Group.

Mr. Gaines joined the Buffs as a boy in 1932. He remained with them until 1945. During this time he saw service overseas in Palestine and with the B.E.F. in 1939-40. In 1940 he became Band Sergeant, and at the end of 1941 went to Kneller Hall, and in August, 1945, he was appointed Bandmaster.

Mr. Gaines has served the Regiment loyally and well for eleven years. Under his direction the reputation of the Band has invariably been high, and has received praise wherever it has performed.

Although the Band as a body is composed of long-serving soldiers, it has been through Mr. Gaines's personal efforts that recruits have been obtained. Ours is one of three bands that have been able to complete a three-year tour in Malaya.

A quiet personality, Mr. Gaines has maintained discipline by team spirit, and under him the Band has been a contented combination. It will be strange to see them performing without him.

All ranks wish him well in his new appointment.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

Once again we have to report that the Battalion is deployed to the far corners of Johore, with Battalion Headquarters, H.Q. Company and "D" Company located in Selarang Barracks, and in consequence four different Messes are operating.

The main Mess is fortunate now to the extent that it has taken over the Garrison Mess, lock, stock and barrel, and we have been able to erect our sign with some degree of permanency and have at last been able to repay some of the hospitality offered by units to whom we have been attached in the past.

At no time since the last publication have all companies been congregated

together, and this unfortunate state of affairs seems likely to continue until our tour expires, but the spirit of all remains high and on the odd occasion when we get visitors in from the company bases they are made very welcome.

Christmas found the Mess installed in Kenya Camp in not over-comfortable quarters, but the best was made of the meagre facilities available and the usual festive traditions were carried on. Likewise all companies reported quiet but enjoyable times, with one company making their Mess dinner a full-dress occasion under somewhat rugged conditions.

Various other moves have taken place and the "Glorious First" found us less Support Company, attached to Nee Soon Garrison. Endeavours were made to try and hold our usual celebrations and functions in the Mess, but due to the large membership we were not granted permission. Nevertheless, cricket, water-polo and football matches staged versus H.M.S. *Newcastle* gave members ample opportunity to entertain their naval opposites and their families at a very good buffet bar on the sports field.

In June we held a farewell party to R.S.M. J. B. Simmons, M.B.E., M.C., in Selarang Mess (which was kindly loaned and decorated for us by the 1st Bn. The King's Own Scottish Borderers) on his departure to U.K. on Regular Release after giving long and loyal service to the Regiment and the 1st Battalion in particular. The Commanding Officer and Mrs. Hill attended and we had the pleasure of seeing most of our members in for the evening from company bases.

We wish to congratulate the following on their promotions: To W.O.I, C.S.M. Mew; to W.O.II, C./Sgt. Adkins, C./Sgt. Poole and Sgt. Boseley; to Colour-Sergeants, Sgts. Westover, Wildgoose and Gould; to Sergeants, Cpl. Fertig, Boynton, Chadwick, Lane, Stevens A. and Probert.

We offer our congratulations to the following on their awards: R.S.M. Simmons, M.S.M.; Sgt. Isaac, M.M.; Sgt. Saul, B.E.M.; R.Q.M.S. Motton, C.S.M. Atkins and Sgt. Yonwin, Mentioned in Despatches.

#### CORPORALS' MESS

Since our last contribution the Corporals' Mess functions have been very few and far between. We ended last August in Selarang Barracks and we find ourselves here again at the latter end of this year. Our regret is that only H.Q. and "C" Companies with the Mortar and M.M.G. Platoons are here, the remainder being up-country at four different bases.

When the Battalion moved up-country in September, 1955, we were lucky enough to be given a tent in Kenya Camp for our own use. It was not a particularly homely place, but at least we were able to get away from the noises of private soldiers.

When companies left Kenya Camp, Corporals' Messes were split and it was not possible to hold any functions together.

On the return to Nee Soon in April we had the use of the well-built Corporals' Mess, but since we had to share it with the remainder of the garrison it was not possible to have any party of our own.

Since our return to Selarang we have had our own Mess and have had several functions. The most memorable was the one given to R.S.M. Simmons on his departure to civilian life, which we shall not forget for a long time. Corporals from up-country bases came down, and a silver cigarette box suitably inscribed from all corporals in the Battalion was presented to R.S.M. Simmons. L./Cpl. Bailey and other hard-working cooks provided a first-class buffet.

We are sorry to lose from our roll Sgts. Chadwick, Stevens and Lane. We con-

gratulate them on their promotion, but are sorry to see them go.

During the past year many corporals have left the Battalion. Those we well remember are Cpl. Ambrose (M.I. Room), Cpl. Kirk ("A" Company), Cpl. Lane (M.I. Room), Cpl. McDonnell ("C" Company) and Cpl. Nicholas of the Pay team. During October we say good-bye to the following National Service men who have been with the Battalion for the last eighteen months: Cpl. Beastall ("D" Company), Cpl. Williams ("A" Company), Cpl. Griffiths (Orderly Room) and Cpls. Shaw, Dunlop, and Tuck of the R.A.P.C.

#### REGIMENTAL BAND

As the Battalion has been split into small sections for operational purposes, the Band for the greater part of the year was based with various units in Singapore. We have, however, visited our companies and platoons as often as possible, and although the strain on M.T. and administrative arrangements during these visits was considerable, the pleasure given to the men was ample compensation for the trouble involved.

Christmas, 1955, and the New Year saw the Dance Band supplying the music for the pantomime and playing for each company's Christmas dinner. Sgt. Barker and Bandsman Attrée became "stars" and tried their hand in the pantomime cast. The pantomime toured for eight days and covered 700 miles, the final show being put on for our own married families in Selarang Barracks.

After a short period of leave we recommenced duties by being "Duty Band" in Singapore, and judging by the number of parades we did every unit in Singapore has seen the Band. These duties, intermingled with visits to the Battalion, has kept the Band extremely busy. We have also had a high share of engagements, playing at the Singapore Turf Club for several meetings, Singapore Swimming and Golf Clubs, and several concerts for the Municipal Council in their parks.

In the sporting field we have had representatives in the Battalion cricket and hockey teams, and have held our own in the platoon competitions.

Departures during the year have been: Sgt. Drayton after 25 years in the Regiment, Sgt. Jameson, Cpl. Stafford, our solo clarinet for the past six years, Bdsn. Nicholls and Bdsn. Chapman. May we wish them all the best in civil life.

The new arrivals are: Boys Rothwell and Haystead, Bdsn. Boyden, Cook, Hardman, Muzzlewhite, Reynolds and Difford.

We now look forward to our return to the United Kingdom at the end of the year, and playing perhaps at Scarborough, Brighton and other places we always visited before our present Malayan tour. As a point of interest, only three bands since 1948 have completed a three-year tour in Malaya.

We close these notes by saying good-bye to our Bandmaster, Mr. Gaines, who has been the Regimental Bandmaster for the past eleven years. He goes to Canterbury to be Brigade Bandmaster and we all wish him the very best, and he hopes that any Bandsman passing through Canterbury will pay him a visit. We would also like to welcome our new Bandmaster, Mr. Lynes, and we hope his stay will be a happy one.

#### CHAPEL OF THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT

PROGRESS in 1956 has been slower than was forecast and although the Chapel is by no means finished work has gone on throughout the year.

The four grilles each surmounted by one of the Regimental insignia have been completed and are productions of great beauty.

The altar rails are the gift of past and present gunnery officers of H.M.S. *Excellent* and are being carved by her shipwrights. It is anticipated that they will be in position shortly.

The lighting arrangements have been approved and construction is about to begin. They have been generously given by Capt. Leslie Gamage of the old 24th London Regiment.

The original design for the chairs proved unsatisfactory and a new pattern has been approved which it is hoped will be put into production in the immediate future. The cost will be about double that of the earlier one.

The pattern for the kneelers is now being redesigned to fit the new chairs and it is hoped that finality will shortly be reached and the way opened for the ladies of the Regiment who are willing to give their services in embroidery.

The response to the appeal for funds has been generous and sustained, and the sum received after allowing for the maturity of covenants is now within £500 of the revised figure.

#### CASSINO

THE Memorial to those who gave their lives in the Sicilian and Italian campaigns in World War II and have no known graves was unveiled by Field-Marshal Lord Alexander and dedicated by the Chaplain-General on Sunday, 30th September, 1956. The chief feature is a series of marble columns on which are inscribed the names of those commemorated. The list contains 94 names of the Regiment.

The Colonel of the Regiment was present at the ceremony, during which he laid the Regimental wreath.

The site, near the rebuilt town of Cassino and on the ground round which some of the fiercest fighting of the campaign took place, lies at the foot of the hill on which stands the rebuilt abbey of Montecassino. A few miles away the River Garigliano follows its course and the mountain feature in which the Monastery chapel of Monte Camino is situated, is plainly visible.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following Regimental Journals and Magazines: *The Dragon*; *The Lion and The Rose*; *The Royal Fusiliers Chronicle*; *The Light Bob Magazine*; *Ca Ira*; *Regimental News* *The East Surrey Regiment*; *The Roussillon Gazette*; *The Queen's Own Gazette*; *The Die Hard*; *Quis Separabit*; *The Owl*; *The Wish Stream*.

## THE QUEEN'S YORK RANGERS

(1ST AMERICAN REGIMENT)

THIS year the Queen's York Rangers celebrated their 200th anniversary, and to mark the occasion the Regiment has presented to them a stand of bayonet tips, a picture of which appears below. In a letter to the Commanding Officer, the Colonel of the Regiment wrote:

"I have been greatly interested in the detailed account which Colonel Francis Piggott gave me of his visit to your Regiment earlier this year. He could not tell me enough about the kindness and friendship which you and your officers showed him, and I would like to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to The Queen's York Rangers for giving such true and generous expression to the relationship which exists between us."

"We are anxious to mark your 200th Anniversary with a token of our regard, and I hope you will accept these silver bayonet tips for use by your Colour Party, with greetings from All Ranks of The Queen's Royal Regiment, coupled with our best wishes for your continued well-being."

An account of Colonel Piggott's visit to the Regiment in March appears elsewhere in this issue.



*[Photo: Gale & Polden Ltd., Aldershot]*

The warrant officers and sergeants of the Queen's Royal Regiment and the Green Howards (the two Regiments allied to the Queen's York Rangers) have also presented a Drum-Major's mace, and a photograph is shown below.



## THE 200th ANNIVERSARY

OF

## THE QUEEN'S YORK RANGERS

(1ST AMERICAN REGIMENT)

BY COLONEL F. J. C. PIGGOTT, D.S.O., O.B.E.

IT was my good fortune to have to visit Canada during March, 1956, and while the details of my visit were still being made I let it be known that I, as a Queen's officer, was anxious to visit our allied Regiment in Toronto, if this could be arranged. I suggested the week-end 23rd-25th March. It transpired that the visit was possible as far as Ottawa was concerned, and singularly appropriate for the Queen's York Rangers, since on that very weekend they were celebrating their 200th anniversary.

On arrival in Ottawa, I was told that my impending visit to Toronto had been announced on the previous night's television programme and it also received mention in the evening papers. In due course I flew from Ottawa to Toronto on the evening of Friday, 23rd March, and arrived (in a snowstorm) at about 6.30 p.m.

There I was met by Colonel W. J. Stewart, C.B.E., a member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario and Honorary Colonel of the Queen's York Rangers, and by Lieut.-Colonel W. E. Patterson, whose appointment as Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel had just been announced. We drove off at once to the King Edward Hotel in Toronto city. On the way Colonel Stewart said that he had been asked by the Prime Minister of Ontario to bid me welcome, and Lieut.-Colonel Patterson invited me to accompany him on his first inspection that same evening.

Accordingly, I changed rapidly into service dress, and we drove to Fort York Armoury. This is an immense building, similar in general design and function to one of our big T.A. Centres. Several Militia units regard Fort York Armoury as their home, and each have Officers', Sergeants' and Men's Messes.

The evening began by my meeting Lieut.-Colonel J. A. McGinnis and his Second-in-Command in the Mess. Meanwhile the Regiment was forming up on the huge Armoury floor. At the appropriate moment, Colonel Stewart and I followed Lieut.-Colonel Patterson on to the parade. The Regiment was formed up in line and was inspected; thereafter an abbreviated version of Trooping the Colour was executed. Before the final march past Lieut.-Colonel Patterson addressed the Regiment, and then I was also asked to do so. After saying, with feeling, that I regarded myself as singularly fortunate in being with them that evening, I went on to say that I had been instructed by the Colonel of the Regiment to read to them the following message:

"Please convey to the Queen's York Rangers (1st American Regiment) my greetings and best wishes, and those of The Queen's Royal Regiment, for their continued well-being."

"We value greatly our kinship with them as our Allied Regiment of the Canadian Army, and as the oldest English Regiment of the Line we want to offer our warmest congratulations on their two-hundredth anniversary."

"I hope that if any members of the Queen's York Rangers come to England, or to B.A.O.R., they will make contact with us and come down and spend a day or two at our Regimental Depot at Guildford. They can be assured of a very warm welcome."

"May God speed the future enterprises of the Queen's York Rangers."

(Signed) J. Y. WHITFIELD, Major-General,  
Colonel, *The Queen's Royal Regiment*."

I finished up by saying that in five years we would be celebrating a similar centenary, and that while someone would be asked to represent them officially, others also might consider it a good reason to visit England that year.

After the parade I was led to the Officers' Mess, where I was introduced to ladies and gentlemen too numerous to mention individually. At the risk of being invidious, however, I will mention Major Sharp, whom I had last met in early 1940. He had come over with H.Q., 1 Canadian Division, and from Aldershot had called upon the Depot. He recalled details of the hospitality which, apparently, I and others had extended to him; the details were amusing, gratifying and almost certainly exaggerated.

A Ladies' Dinner then followed, at which I found myself placed in a position of greater honour than I deserved. However, I had to pay for it with another speech, at the conclusion of which I considered that I was keeping my end up adequately if not brilliantly. But this complacency was shattered by the arrival of an officer who presented me with a most handsome silver tankard, suitably engraved, to commemorate my visit on their 200th anniversary. I could think of nothing to say except "thank you."

The following day I was the guest of the Officers' Association at a luncheon party, and I was placed next to Capt. D. M. Findlay; he was wounded serving with the 1/6th Battalion of the Regiment, and was, I think, the only Queen's York Ranger to serve with us. At the end my old friend Sharp, in his capacity as Chairman of the Officers' Association, presented me with a membership card of his Association, and also with copies of their Regimental History. I thanked the company as best I could, and with this new audience I was able to re-use much of General Whitfield's message. This time I also made reference to the moose's head in the Depot Officers' Mess, given us by the Queen's York Rangers.

That evening we all forgathered in the Armoury for an All Ranks' Reunion Dinner. I was once more called upon to make a speech, and proposed the toast of the Regiment. In reply, representatives of all the component parts which have, over the years, been fused into the Queen's York Rangers spoke; and I found it a moving experience to listen to them all. Lieut.-Colonel McGinnis, the present Commanding Officer, spoke last; as a distinguished historian in his own right (despite his youth), and as an obviously energetic Commanding Officer, he struck everybody present as unusually well fitted to uphold his Regimental motto, "Pristinae virtutis memor."

The following morning my visit ended, when Colonel Patterson saw me emplane for Montreal and England. The foregoing is woefully inadequate in describing the atmosphere of welcome and honour in which I moved.

## DEPOT

OVER the past year the Depot has seen a considerable amount of changes and a varied number of activities. On 27th June, before opening Burpham Playing Fields, His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh inspected a guard of honour drawn up by the Depot and commanded by the Adjutant. Capt. A. G. Jones. The annual Army "At Home" day was held on 1st September. Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., Colonel of the Regiment, came down to inspect recruits of the 40th Intake. In spite of bad weather there were about 1,500 visitors to the Depot. Events included the Band of the Royal Marines, Portsmouth Command, a P.T. display, and a short sketch taken from the 1st Battalion activities in Malaya. From the static displays the two most popular, certainly amongst the children, proved to be an Airborne Forces tower and a Centurion tank lent to us by the A.V.R.D.E., Chertsey.

The traditional 1st June celebrations took place this year at Whale Island. Amongst other social functions, twenty-five officers attended the guest night, while thirty warrant officers, sergeants and other ranks were entertained on the Saturday. The cricket match against H.M.S. *Excellent* was lost. On 6th June the Officers' Club cocktail party was held in the Officers' Mess due to the poor weather. We were glad to welcome as our chief guest the Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey. The following day the Old Comrades' garden party followed a church parade taken by the Rev. D. A. R. Keen, M.A., F.S.A., R.N., Chaplain of H.M.S. *Excellent*.

We are glad to welcome Major C. B. Rodger from the 1st Battalion, who has taken over from Capt. M. F. Reynolds as Officer Commanding Training Company, and Capt. A. G. Jones, of the 1st Battalion, who has relieved Capt. P. S. Field as Adjutant. Also we welcome R.S.M. Cheeseman to the Depot on the retirement of R.S.M. Noke, who has been with us for many years.

The following permanent staff are now serving at the Depot: Lieut.-Colonel D. L. Lloyd Owen, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Major C. B. Rodger, Capt. A. G. Jones, Lieut. A. B. Faris, Lieut. M. J. Doyle, Lieut. (Q.M.) J. W. Kemp, 2/Lieut. C. J. Guerrier, R.S.M. C. W. Cheeseman, C.S.M. F. Bohm, C.Q.M.S. W. Scott, C.Q.M.S. C. Reynolds and Sgts. Piper, Taylor and Lee.

The new cookhouse is now well under way and will probably be completed by the end of the year. Tangier and Peterborough Blocks have been completely redecorated and are joined together by an annexe containing modern showers, bathrooms and blanco rooms. There are reading rooms upstairs, and a section of Tangier Block has been converted into an education centre.

For the passing-out parades of the 33rd to the 40th Intakes the following inspecting officers have taken the parade: Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E.; Brigadier Sir John Hunt, C.B.E., D.S.O.; Brigadier G. Rimbault, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.; Brigadier G. R. P. Roupell, V.C.; General Sir Robert Haining, K.C.B., D.S.O.; Colonel Erling Ulltveit, Chaplain-General to the Norwegian Army; and Capt. R. Casement, O.B.E., R.N.

The standard of boxing has improved and a great deal of enthusiasm among the recruits has produced some good bouts, both Regimental and inter-platoon. Matches against Depot, East Surrey Regiment, 5th Bn. The Queen's and Depot Royal Fusiliers, were all won, but the return match against the East Surreys was lost. Both the cricket and hockey seasons were disappointing this year, but the football season ended in a blaze of success: Played 28, won 15, drawn 5, lost 8. Final position in the West Surrey Mid-Week League: fifth. Goals scored: For, 99; against, 68.

Shooting proved successful, when we won the Inter-Depot Recruits' Match at the Home Counties Brigade Meeting on 29th May.

## REGIMENTAL CRICKET

## THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT v. H.M.S. EXCELLENT

Played at Whale Island on 1st and 2nd June.

Result: H.M.S. *Excellent* won by 8 wickets.

## THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT

	1st Innings	2nd Innings	
Capt. D. J. Wright, b Naylor	13	Capt. D. J. Wright, c and b Charman	32
S. Hoare, b Bevan	4	S. Hoare, b Charman	3
P. G. Foster, b Charman	13	P. G. Foster, c Charman b Haines	50
Major T. Rowney, c Charman b Bevan	41	Major T. Rowney, c Harvey-Samuel b Spridgen	27
P. W. Dorey, c Hammond b Haines	36	P. W. Dorey, c Bevan b Haines	7
Major M. A. Lowrey, lbw Harvey-Samuel	33	Major M. A. Lowrey, c Bevan b Harvey-Samuel	6
N. Napier-Ford, lbw Bevan	0	N. Napier-Ford, not out	8
M. J. Doyle, c and b Haines	0	M. J. Doyle, b Naylor	17
Lt.-Col. F. Ling, lbw Charman	3	Lt.-Col. F. Ling, b Harvey-Samuel	6
Lt.-Col. P. Flint, b Naylor	5	Lt.-Col. P. Flint, c Haines b Naylor	9
C. F. Greenwood, not out	0	C. F. Greenwood, not out	0
Extras	5	Extras	10
Total	153	Total (for 9 wkts. dec.)	175

*Bowling.*—1st innings: Charman, 2 for 57; Naylor, 2 for 50; Haines, 2 for 15; Spridgen, 1 for 12; Harvey-Samuel, 2 for 13, 2nd innings: Charman, 2 for 40; Bevan, 3 for 22; Naylor, 2 for 44; Haines, 2 for 22; Harvey-Samuel, 2 for 22.

## H.M.S. EXCELLENT

	1st Innings	2nd Innings	
M. A. Bevan, c Doyle b Rowney	11	R. J. Hammond, not out	91
R. J. Hammond, b Greenwood	59	H. Spridgen, c and b Foster	11
H. Spridgen, b Greenwood	0	S. A. Stuart, not out	47
S. A. Stuart, b Rowney	18		
P. Haines, b Rowney	5		
J. Harvey-Samuel, lbw Foster	1		
A. Davies, not out	43	A. Davies, c Flint b Rowney	12
G. E. Naylor, b Napier-Ford	1		
I. C. Begg, not out	24		
Extras	3	Extras	4
Total (for 7 wkts. dec.)	165	Total (for 2 wkts.)	165

*Bowling.*—1st innings: Greenwood, 2 for 79; Napier-Ford, 1 for 27; Rowney, 3 for 37; Foster, 1 for 19, 2nd innings: Greenwood, 0 for 53; Rowney, 1 for 20; Foster, 1 for 61; Napier-Ford, 0 for 19; Doyle, 0 for 8.

Other matches were:

23rd June, v. The Blues, played at Stoughton, lost by 32 runs. The Blues, 140 (Oxton, 43; Napier-Ford, 4 for 52; A. B. Faris, 3 for 10). The Queen's Royal Regiment, 108 (L./Cpl. Croydon, 29; M. J. Doyle, 25).

24th June v. The Grasshoppers, played at Stoughton, lost by 145 runs. The Grasshoppers, 211 for 5 declared (Walker, 85). The Queen's Royal Regiment, 66 (M. J. Doyle, 42; Strachen, 5 for 9).

5th July v. Charterhouse Masters was cancelled.

29th July v. Royal West Kent Regiment, played at Maidstone, match abandoned at 3 p.m. The Queen's Royal Regiment, 41 for 1 (rain stopped play).

In addition to those who played in the *Excellent* match, the following represented the Regiment: Lieut.-Colonel Jennings, Capt. Field, Lieut. Faris, 2/Lieut. Silley, J. S. Wyatt, Esq., J. G. A. Varley, Esq., J. G. Cleverly, Esq., C.Q.M.S. Scott, L./Cpls. Dean, Keen, Croydon and Debelle, and Ptes. Young, Farrar and Archer.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Mr. Bernard Wright, of New Malden, some time of the Mortar Platoon of the 1st Battalion in Germany, has exhibited two models of British Railways locomotives at the Model Engineering Exhibition held in London in August. *The Times*, in its notice of the exhibition, devotes a paragraph to Mr. Wright and his handicraft.

Lieut.-Colonel C. R. K. Bacon, O.B.E., and Major F. W. H. Denton visited the Depot in June and September respectively.

Brigadier T. H. Dyke has been appointed Brigadier, General Staff, Western Command.

Colonel F. J. C. Piggott has been appointed Commander of the 161st Infantry Brigade (T.A.) and promoted to the temporary rank of Brigadier.

Major M. A. Lowry is Officer Commanding a troopship.

2/Lieut. T. L. Trotman has joined from the R.M.A. Sandhurst.

M. T. N. Jennings has been promoted Lieutenant-Colonel on the Employed List (I.).

## 5th BATTALION

THE year has been so full of interest both in training and social events that it is difficult to pick out the chief features. The season opened with the Salerno Ball, which all ranks thoroughly enjoyed. We have regretfully said good-bye to Colonel C. R. Wigan, M.C., T.D., D.L., who has retired as Honorary Colonel; he has given us on leaving a magnificent silver statuette of a Queen's soldier which is to be known as the *Wigan Award*; it will be awarded annually to the best all-round volunteer rank-and-file member of the Battalion. In Colonel Wigan's place we have welcomed a past Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel J. B. H. Kealy, D.S.O.

### TRAINING

The emphasis this year has been in training for our new Civil Defence role. In March the second day of the N.C.Os.' Cadre was devoted to the subject and we were given an introductory talk by the County Civil Defence Officer and lectures and demonstrations by the Guildford Civil Defence Corps. Several officers and N.C.Os. attended courses during the summer, including our Chief Instructor, Major P. J. Rodwell, who went to the Civil Defence Staff College.

At annual camp, held this year at Fingringhoe, Essex, everyone received instruction in elementary first-aid, and many of the officers and N.C.Os. attended a Light Rescue Course. The culmination of the training was an amusing and instructive light rescue demonstration, watched by the Divisional Commander, given in a "bomb-damaged" house in Fingringhoe village.

Ordinary training, however, has not been neglected. In April an interesting week-end was spent in pitting our wits against Commandos of the R.M.V.R. during an exercise held in the Elstead area. At camp most of the Battalion moved up to the Stanford Practical Training Area for two days and took part in an advance against a retreating but vigorous "A" Company.

At camp, in spite of the distance involved, several distinguished visitors came to see us, including the Colonel of the Regiment, our Divisional and Brigade Commanders and the B.G.S., Eastern Command. During the Divisional Commander's visit a Battalion parade was held at which Territorial Decorations were presented to Major M. H. Prescott and Major A. C. Overington.

The Champion Company Cup has again been won by "D" (Woking) Company. At shooting, the shooting team, and not forgetting the Quartermaster, Capt. H. W. Johnson, are to be congratulated on having provided one of the most successful years on record.

### SHOOTING

#### T.A.R.A. (DECENTRALIZED) COMPETITIONS

The Battalion maintained its position among the leading T.A. shooting battalions in the country. We were 9th out of 41 teams entered for the Lord Lieutenant's Challenge Shield, 8th out of 71 entries in the Light Machine Gun Cup, 18th out of 41 in the Young Soldiers' Match and 7th in the Imperial Tobacco Grand Aggregate Challenge Cup. In the Inter-Divisional Kolar Cup, in which the Division was placed second, the Battalion had six representatives in the team of sixteen.

### BISLEY

At the Central Meeting, Bisley, the Battalion achieved its best results ever. Three members of the Battalion, C.S.M. Guest, L./Cpl. Smith and Pte. Hubbard, reached the T.A. twenty-five, C.S.M. Guest and L./Cpl. Smith being selected as reserves for the T.A. eight in the United Services Competition. L./Cpl. Smith was also placed seventh in the Queen's Medal Competition for the best shot in the T.A. It was most encouraging to see L./Cpl. Smith and Pte. Hubbard, two of the youngest members of the Battalion, gain such high places.

Out of the sixteen members of the Battalion who attended Bisley, eight succeeded in winning cash prizes. The Battalion again headed all the teams in the Division in the China Cup. A word of thanks must be expressed to Q.M.S.I. Atkinson, Small Arms School Corps, who coached the Battalion during the season and helped to make these results possible.

### OFFICERS' MESS

During the period covered, the following officers have joined the Battalion: Lieuts. C. M. Wigan, A. T. M. Elliott, J. S. Mackenzie, C. C. Surtees and M. J. Blinkhorn. Those who have left are Capts. J. S. Knox and C. Scott, and Lieuts. C. G. C. Wigan and N. Clark.

Dinner Nights are now being held quarterly in the Officers' Mess at Sandfield Terrace and have proved a very successful innovation.

The Mess has held two dances during the past year. The first, at Christmas time, was held as usual at Sandfield Terrace and was much enjoyed by the

eighty or so members and their friends present. The second, which was launched on an "experimental basis," was held after camp at the Wanborough Manor Country Club. We were pleased to welcome as guests Brigadier and Mrs. G. A. Rimbault and Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. D. L. L. Lloyd Owen. The evening was a great success and it is to be hoped that the dance will become a permanent feature in the summer programme.

At camp, in spite of the great distance involved, many distinguished guests accepted invitations to our Dinner Night, amongst them being the Colonel of the Regiment, the Brigade Commander, the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, the Chairman and Assistant Secretary of Surrey T. and A.F. Association, the G.I. and the A.A. and Q.M.G. of 44th Infantry Division (T.A.), and Majors Jack Clarke and Dennis Evans.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

With another training year nearly ended, we can look back on a year of changes of one sort and another, which have affected the Mess very little.

Everything turns a full circle in time, they say, but with Civil Defence Training the accepted duty of the soldier certainly has, and now not only does he kill but saves as well.

This year's camp was not the most comfortable, mainly due to the weather, but with all our mass of experience we made the best of it.

We started entertaining on our second night in camp and spent an enjoyable evening with the officers in the Mess. This was followed later in the week by a visit to the corporals, which was marred by the failure of the electric light early in the evening. We were honoured by a visit to the Mess of the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., and later Major-General R. C. King, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., Commander of 44th (H.C.) Infantry Division, came to say farewell.

Due to the wide dispersal of the Battalion, it is impossible to run a central Mess out of camp; we are looking forward, none the less, to a Mess dance to be held at Guildford on 13th October, 1956.

We congratulate C.S.M. Moxon on his promotion and extend a hearty welcome to the following new members: C./Sgt. Saxby and Sgts. Register and Briggs. We bid farewell to C.S.M. Harding on his rejoining the Regular Army.

### NEWS FROM T.A. CENTRES

#### REIGATE ("A" COMPANY)

During the year shooting on the miniature range gradually improved and we have at last started winning matches again, finishing second in the Battalion Competition.

Monday nights at the drill hall are now used for sport, mainly badminton, but it is hoped to introduce other sports shortly.

Annual camp was a great success, and although we did not win the Champion Company Competition we were the leading company on the Field Firing Range. In the Seven-a-Side Soccer Competition, after a very exciting replay, we were beaten in the final by "D" Company.

#### CAMBERLEY ("B" COMPANY)

The Company held an All Ranks' Dinner in November last; this was very well attended by Volunteer members of the Company, and they were pleased

to welcome as their guests Major J. D. Wade, Major F. E. Edwards, Major A. C. Henley, R.S.M. Kettle and Messrs. Bunhill and Daws (late Colour-Sergeants of 2/5th Queen's). So successful was this function that it has been decided to repeat it this year and, we hope, annually.

A Reunion was held at the drill hall at Camberley in February for all those who were serving with the Company on 27th August, 1939, when the Company mobilized and split into "A" and "B" Companies of the 2/5th Queen's. Major J. W. Mansel, T.D., presided over the proceedings, assisted by Major F. C. Edwards, Capt. Eggar, Capt. M. J. Marson and Capt. F. C. Street. Major M. H. Prescott, T.D., the present Company Commander, also attended, and three pre-war members who are still serving with the Company, namely C.S.M. C. W. Turner, C.S.M. L. C. A. Moxon and Sgt. L. E. R. Watts. There will be another similar reunion early in 1957. Any old members of the Company who were serving on the appropriate date should get in touch with the Company Commander at the T.A. Centre, Camberley.

A most successful Glorious First of June Ball was held in the Camberley Drill Hall and was attended by over 200 guests. The Dance Band of the Royal Military Academy provided the music. This Ball has now become a very popular annual function, looked forward to by our many friends in Camberley and district.

The Annual Rifle Meeting and "At Home" was held on the R.M.A. Sandhurst range on Sunday, 26th August. The Company Championship Cup (Rifle) was won by Sgt. W. Burnham, A.C.C. (T.A.), the Battalion Cook Sergeant who is attached to the Company. Amongst the many guests we were particularly glad to welcome the Brigade Commander, Brigadier G. A. Rimbault, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., and Capt. and Mrs. P. Collyer. The two latter had a highly successful day, winning the visitors' shoots for gentlemen and ladies respectively.

The Company has started a Judo Club at the Centre. We are very fortunate in having the assistance of Sgt. W. Steward of the A.P.T.C., one of the few "black belts" in the British Army. A judo mat has been bought and has been set up behind the stage by the P.S.I., C.S.M. Sharman. On Monday nights members of the Company attired in Judogis may be seen throwing each other around with ever-increasing skill.

#### WOKING ("D" COMPANY)

The Company won the Champion Company Cup for the fifth year running. We also won at Annual Camp this year the Inter-Company Football and Inter-Company Tug-of-war Competitions.

We welcomed during the year Lieut. J. S. Mackenzie and Sgt. J. Last as P.S.I. We were also very pleased that C./Sgt. Saxby joined the T.A. immediately on completing his engagement with the Regular Army.

The Company Commander and Mrs. Pappin are to be congratulated on the birth of a son.

We congratulate C.S.M. Guest and L./Cpl. Smith on being selected as reserves for the T.A. eight at Bisley this year, and Sgt. Macready and Sgt. Gardner on winning cash prizes at the same meeting.

It is hoped to run .22 shooting competitions against local teams during the coming winter and we are hoping to persuade old members of the Company to join us again. We were very pleased that Cpl. Humphries has now become a T.A. Volunteer on completion of his National Service commitment.

## GUILDFORD (H.Q. COMPANY)

After last camp because of the shortage of personnel, H.Q. Company and Support Company were amalgamated, thus anticipating future events.

We went to camp strongest of all the companies with sixty-eight. In the first week a visit was paid to the off-shore minesweepers at Harwick, by courtesy of Commodore Lee-Barber, D.S.O., whose flagship, H.M.S. *Mull of Galloway*, is now somewhere in the Mediterranean as a result of present troubles out there. The Navy, true to form, provided magnificent hospitality, but unfortunately could not control the weather which was almost a gale-force wind. The only consolation was that the R.N.V.R., who manned the vessels on which our men sailed, shared our suffering. Our shaken return to camp was an unwelcome prelude to a Battalion scheme which was enjoyed after the effects of the trip had worn off.

In the sport world, H.Q. Company beat "A" Company and got into the final of the tug-of-war, but were beaten by "D" Company.

L./Cpl. Simmonds is offered our congratulations in winning the 44th Infantry Division T.A. Championships at his own weight, light-welter, and we condole with him that he was unable to win the T.A. Championship.

In March a boxing display was put on by Major P. J. Rodwell at Guildford in which the Depot participated and in which the A.P.T.C. put on a very good "Black and White" demonstration.

## 6th BATTALION FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH OF BERMONDSEY

**A**T a Special Council Meeting held at the Town Hall on the evening of Wednesday, 18th April, 1956, the Honorary Freedom of the Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey was conferred upon the Battalion.

In addition to many local civic representatives, the meeting was attended by the Deputy Lieutenant for Bermondsey, Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. J. Freemantle, T.D.; the Colonel of the Regiment; the Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the T. & A.F.A. of the County of London, Lieut.-Colonel W. W. Dove, C.B.E., T.D., D.L., F.S.A., and Brigadier K. Horwood, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L., respectively; the Director of the Territorial Army, Major-General M. M. A. R. West, C.B., D.S.O.; the G.O.C., 44th (H.C.) Infantry Division; Major-General R. C. M. King, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E.; the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, Major J. G. Bevington, T.D.; the Commander, 131st Infantry Brigade (T.A.), Brigadier G. Rimbault, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.; members of the O.C.A. and 19 officers and 52 other ranks of the Battalion.

After speeches by the leader of the Council, Councillors and the Director of the Territorial Army, the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion received an illuminated Certificate of Admission to the Freedom from the Mayor and, having signed the Roll of Honorary Freedom, returned thanks on behalf of the Battalion. The meeting was then adjourned and guests, including members of the Battalion, were entertained to light refreshments by the Mayor and Council.

To commemorate the granting of the Freedom, a Thanksgiving Service was held in Bermondsey Parish Church on Sunday, 29th April, and a contingent from the Battalion of six officers and approximately 50 other ranks, comprising the colour party, right and left guards and the Drums, exercised our new

privileges by marching to the church with "bayonets fixed, colours flying and drums beating." On the return march, the salute was taken by the Mayor of Bermondsey, who, together with members of the Council, the Colonel of the Regiment, Commander 131st Infantry Brigade (T.A.), the Honorary Colonel and other civic and military guests, were afterwards entertained to sherry in the Officers' Mess.

## CHANGE OF COMMAND

Under the recent reorganization of the Territorial Army, we passed, on 1st August, 1956, from under command of 131st Infantry Brigade to 47th Infantry Brigade. It was, after our close association with 131st (Queen's) Brigade both during and since the last war, a disappointment to many of the older members of the Battalion that this should be necessary. However, we look forward to getting to know, and working with 7th and 8th Middlesex and the supporting arms of our new Brigade.

## OFFICERS' MESS

During last winter, the custom of dining formally once each month was reintroduced at Jamaica Road. This has proved very popular and, of those who can attend regularly, thirteen officers now possess mess kit.

During the year the following have left the Battalion: Majors Homer and Perry, Capt. Mendl, Rodgers and Armstrong, and Lieuts. O'Sullivan, Foster and Bembridge. We, however, welcome Capt. Fitzmaurice (R.A.M.C.), Lieuts. Varley, Windsor, Gibbens, Ferrier, Parkhouse, Goodrich, Martin and Hoskins.

## SERGEANTS' MESS

In common with the rest of the Battalion, the Mess has devoted its fair share of time and energy to the various activities, both training and social. There can be no doubt that the Freedom of the Borough of Bermondsey high-lighted the opening of the summer season, and Mess members were very much in evidence in their newly acquired No. 1 Dress.

Week-end camps which were held at Crowborough and Hythe were well supported by us and our thanks are due to our hosts at Hythe—27 Field Regiment, R.A., for their hospitality, not the least of which was "Double Diamond" draught ale at 1s. 5d. per pint! Annual camp this year, after the usual teething troubles, settled down into a pleasant period. The high-light of the fortnight there must have been the guest night at which the C.O. and Officers' Mess were regaled with refreshments (liquid and otherwise), including a buffet devised and prepared by the Mess caterer, Sgt. F. Gibbins.

Following hard upon our return from camp, a visit to the Royal Tournament at Olympia was arranged and a coach-load of members and their families spent a most enjoyable evening. Our finale to the summer period was the Mess Ball, held on Saturday, 25th August, at which the guest of honour was R.S.M. Davis, who is leaving the Army shortly for "Civvy Street" (Chief Clerk, 6th Battalion). A suitable presentation was made to R.S.M. Davis in token of our esteem and respect, and we are glad his presence will not be entirely lost to the Battalion.

Finally we welcome our new members—Sgts. E. Baker, F. Gibbins, Conruoy (A.C.C.) and Evans (P.S.), who relieves Sgt. Todd, who has left us to join the 1st Battalion. We wish him the best of luck.

## TRAINING

With the accent on Civil Defence Training during the past year, much of last winter's training was devoted to developing a sufficiency of instructors to teach the National Service men at Annual Camp. In this respect, "C" Company

at Croydon were particularly enterprising in arranging for four officers and six other ranks to complete a Light Rescue Course under civilian instructors at the Civil Defence Headquarters, Upper Norwood.

### ANNUAL CAMP

Annual Camp was held this year from 2nd to 16th June at Fingringhoe, near Colchester, and was attended by 23 officers and 234 other ranks. Unfortunately, after five weeks of unbroken sunshine, the rain began to fall the evening after the Battalion settled in and throughout the fortnight the weather was cold and wet. However, in spite of this we were well-found and the general concensus of opinion was that it was a good camp.

For the main, training was devoted to instructing the National Service men in Civil Defence techniques, but patrolling and other forms of minor unit training were also carried out on neighbouring training areas.

Although the weather rather curtailed the scope of shooting and sport, a Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on 14th June and Inter-Company Football, Tug-of-War and Basket-ball Competitions were completed. Results are given below.

Unfortunately, the Colonel of the Regiment was unable to visit us, but we were privileged to receive the G.O.C.-in-C., Eastern Command, Lieut.-General C. F. C. Coleman, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., O.B.E.; G.O.C. 44th (H.C.) Infantry Division, Major-General R. C. M. King, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E.; Commanders, 47th and 131st Infantry Brigades (T.A.), Brigadier D. G. Moore and Brigadier G. Rimbault, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.; and Lieut.-Colonel D. S. Over, M.B.E., T.D., Secretary of the County of Surrey T. & A.F.A.—all of whom, after their inspections of camp, remained to lunch in the Officers' Mess. On the social side, a guest night was held in the Officers' Mess on Wednesday, 13th June, at which the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion and Brigadier G. Rimbault, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., were the principal guests; and on the previous Friday evening the Sergeants' Mess were entertained. We were also very glad that, in spite of a day of almost incessant rain, some 85 relations, friends and children were able to spend Sunday, 10th June, with the Battalion. We hope that they were as pleased to come as we were to see them.

Finally, on the last day of camp a Battalion Parade and Prize-giving was held. We were delighted that, as this was the last occasion on which we should parade as a Battalion of 131st Infantry Brigade (T.A.), Brigadier G. Rimbault could be present and distribute the prizes.

Competitions and cups for shooting were awarded as follows: Champion Company, "C" Company; Champion Shot, Major D. R. G. Clement; Officers' Cup, Major D. R. G. Clement; W.O. and Sergeants' Cup, W.O. II H. Dando; Corporals', Lance-Corporals' and Private Soldiers' Cup, Cpl. R. Wapshott; National Service Men's Cup, Pte. J. Nancy; Permanent Staff Cup, W.O. II F. Vance-Cotsford.

### SHOOTING

In addition to the Battalion Rifle Meeting, shooting has been very much on the increase this year. During the winter three teams were entered for the T.A. Small Bore League and finished 5th, 8th and 5th in their respective Divisions. On the open range we were unhappily unable to raise our strongest team for the T.A.R.A. Meeting at Bisley as this was followed close upon Annual Camp. However, four members of the Battalion entered as individuals, and Lieut. P. J. Dorey was unfortunate to fail to qualify for the T.A. Fifty by one point at his first attempt.



6th Battalion Cross-Country Running Team, 1956

*Standing*—Lieut. J. H. Goodrich, Lieut. M. C. Greenleaf, Capt. M. C. A. Mott, Lieut. A. J. D. O'Sullivan, Lieut. J. F. Storey.

*Sitting*—Lieut. P. W. Rogers, L/Cpl. J. Cleverly, L/Cpl. A. Hine, Lieut. T. K. Schrecker.

*Inset*—Pte. J. Lyne, Cpl. D. Tullett.

More recently a team of seven officers and nine other ranks competed in the London and Middlesex Rifle Association Meeting, also held at Bisley, and against strong Regular and T.A. opposition acquitted themselves well in obtaining the following results: The Parnell Trophy, 6th; the H.M.S. President Cup, 10th; the Battalion Match, 5th; the L.M.G. Match, 4th.

### SPORTS

In the 1955-6 competition for the Queen's Challenge Cup, awarded annually to the T.A. unit with the best all-round sporting record, the Battalion was placed 4th. The various activities in which the Battalion took part were:

**Athletics.**—A team of eight officers and four other ranks competed in the T.A. Athletics Championships, held at Aldershot on 16th June. Results: Pte. F. Davey 1st in 120 yards hurdles; Pte. J. Lyne 1st in three miles, 2nd in hop/step/jump; Capt. M. T. Teale 2nd in 100 yards, 2nd in 220 yards; Cpl. A. Hine 2nd in mile; Lieut. J. B. Gritton 3rd in javelin; Battalion team 3rd in mile medley.

**Boxing.**—In the 44th (H.C.) Infantry Division Boxing Championships, held on 23rd-24th March, Pte. J. Hennessey won the bantam-weight and C./Sgt. L. Smith was runner-up in the heavy-weight.

**Basket-ball.**—The Battalion team finished 5th in the T.A. London League. The following played regularly for the Battalion: Lieut. H. W. Gawthrop, Lieut. J. B. Gritton, W.O. II W. Edwards, Sgt. G. Mills; L./Cpl. L. Ware, L./Cpl. D. Bird, Pte. L. B. Cobbold.

**Cross-Country Running.**—After winning the 44th (H.C.) Infantry Division Championships and Eastern Command Championships, run concurrently in Richmond Park on 11th February, the Battalion team finished 5th in the T.A. Championships for the *Daily Telegraph* Cup, run at Melton Mowbray on 17th March. Best individual records are as follows: Eastern Command/44th (H.C.) Infantry Division T.A. Championships—Team Event: 1st, L./Cpl. J. Cleverly. L./Cpl. A. Hine, Pte. J. Lyne; 6th, Cpl. D. Tullett. T.A. Championships—Team Event: 1st, L./Cpl. A. Hine; 3rd, Pte. J. Lyne; 9th, L./Cpl. J. Cleverly.

## THE QUEEN'S BATTERIES, 570 L.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A. (T.A.)

THE most noticeable point this year has been the effect caused by the reduction of the National Service man's commitments in the T.A. Not only was he absent from our customary week-end training, but at Annual Camp our strength was half that of 1955. This has, of course, reduced The Queen's Batteries right back on to their real T.A. Volunteers.

It would, we think, be fair to say that it has been a successful year. Whilst the Regiment did not repeat its success in winning the *Sunday Times* Trophy at camp, we had our share of sleeves. We camped again at Weybourne, and from 14th to 28th July put in much hard training. Amongst other visitors we were pleased to welcome Colonel A. J. Page, T.D., the D.L. for Southwark, and Lieut.-Colonel G. Blewitt, D.S.O., M.C., D.L., a former Prime Warden of the Fishmongers' Company. The combined strength of The Queen's Batteries in camp was just about 100.

On the departure in the spring of Major L. B. Gibbins to command "P" (F.S.R.) Battery at Flodden Road, Capt. (now Major) J. Struthers took over "R" (Queen's) Battery. The other changes in officers have been the arrival of

Lieuts. J. R. Sykes, M. H. Avery, C. D. Cookman, J. E. P. Bishop, R. J. Cook and L. R. Milward. B.S.M. J. F. T. Bowyer completed his "T" type engagement as a P.S.I., but happily rejoined as a Volunteer; in his place as P.S.I. we have B.S.M. C. W. Wilson. We still have as our other P.S.I. B.S.M. R. A. White, who joined us at camp in 1955. Other events at Braganza Street have been that the exterior is now repainted, some of the interior is redecorated, and lastly, that a "Dome" is now installed in the drill hall; the latter is a L.A.A. training aid.

The officers have maintained their customary dinners in the Mess, and the one on 21st November when we entertained Mr. (now Earl) Attlee and Mr. George Isaacs, has already been reported in a News-Letter. A later one, on 23rd April, was a gathering of some of our former Adjutants as guests of the Mess. We had present Capt. L. C. Gamage, M.C. (1/24th), Capt. P. F. Wright, M.C. (2/24th), Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Bromhead, C.B.E. (3/24th), Brigadier A. P. Block, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. (24th—later retitled 7th Queen's), and Capt. S. A. W. Bush (622 Regiment); it was a most enjoyable evening.

The Sergeants' Mess have continued their social events, and we are very pleased to have the company of so many of our Old Comrades at these evenings. The last one was a gathering in the drill hall itself on 8th September, when over seventy were present.

The past year has in some ways been less hectic than previous ones. After the amalgamation in 1955 and the clarification of the National Service man's obligations we have settled down to a steadier tempo. The climax, of course, is Annual Camp, and other main events in the year are the Sundays on the ranges, our Service of Remembrance at the Memorial in Kennington Park, and the children's party at Christmas. In reviewing the past year's progress we are struck again by the loyalty and hard work put into the T.A. by such a small band of Volunteers. It is on this hard core that so much depends, not only for their support at the major events, but for their endeavours throughout the year. We are especially glad also for the help and support given by our Old Comrades and former members.

We are again very thankful to those who have helped The Queen's Batteries' Museum this year; a number of interesting items have been presented. Amongst other visitors have been Mr. and Mrs. W. Perkins; Mrs. Perkins (née Keyworth) is the sister of the late L./Cpl. L. J. Keyworth, V.C., and her visit to London was for the V.C. Centenary celebrations in June, to which as a next-of-kin she had been invited.

## OFFICER, PRIVATE, DESERTER AND HERO

AT the outbreak of the 1914-18 War Capt. Toby Smart, of the 53rd Sikhs, was serving on the North-West Frontier of India whilst attached to the Khyber Rifles. He did not relish the prospect of spending the war in India when great battles were being fought in France, so Smart applied for leave and left India for good in December, 1914. As soon as he arrived in England Smart decided to join up in the Queen's, and he was sent to the Depot at Guildford, where he was known as No. G/4034 Pte. Thomas Hardy.

He had not informed his unit in India that he had no intention of rejoining his regiment, and after exhaustive inquiries had been made and no trace found of him Capt. Smart's name was removed from the Army.

At Guildford Hardy had given his age as twenty-eight and went through the same training as the hundreds of others who were joining up with him. Very

quickly he proved himself to be a soldier of above average ability, but kept his identity to himself.

After the battle at Neuve Chapelle in 1915, Pte. Hardy joined the 2nd Battalion as a bomb-thrower and found himself in action at Festubert on 16th May. The Queen's were on the right of the Royal Welch Fusiliers in 22nd Brigade, which was one of the leading brigades in the 7th Division attack. Pte. Hardy must have been on the left flank of the Queen's, for he joined a party of eight volunteers which C.S.M. Barter of the Royal Welch Fusiliers had collected together in an attempt to clear the German trenches.

With these eight men Barter "proceeded to deal out death and annihilation on so wholesale a scale that in a very short time he had cleared five hundred yards of hostile trenches and captured three officers and one hundred and two men. He subsequently found and cut eleven of the enemy's mine leads situated about twenty yards apart."

For his gallantry C.S.M. Barter was awarded the V.C., and Hardy died of wounds that he received. In Barter's opinion Hardy would have been awarded the D.C.M. had he survived. In a newspaper interview Barter said later:

"Pte. Hardy was about ten yards from the first German trench when he got wounded. It was a terrible blow in the right shoulder. Some of our men bound up the wound, and I shouted 'Hardy, go back.' I could see, however, that he was determined to go at the enemy. Hardy answered, 'It's all right, for I am left-handed.' The next thing I saw was Hardy rushing off to our right, and, with a bravery that seemed his characteristic, he commenced to slam bombs at the enemy. He carried on like that for about twenty or thirty yards, and he was eventually shot through the head, half of which was blown off. He died a hero's death, and no one regretted his end more than I did, for I was probably attached to him more than anyone else, and was afforded opportunities of seeing his sterling worth. . . . Hardy was a man of splendid physique—I should say he was quite six feet high, and there can be no doubt of this, that he was six feet of real manhood. A more fearless fellow it would have been impossible to find. We all loved him. I have never seen a happier man. He seemed to live to beat the Germans."

In that action Hardy was just one of 454 all ranks of the 2nd Battalion who became casualties. It is strange that no mention is made of him in the Regimental History, for there is no doubt that his bravery is a gallant even if an unorthodox one. His Majesty The King was graciously pleased to restore to Capt. Smart the rank which he had forfeited when he deserted to become Pte. Hardy.

In July this year a Mrs. Rawson, whose husband served in the 3rd Battalion, visited the Depot. She was a cousin of Capt. Smart and had come to learn what facts we knew so that she could tell her grandson something of the bravery that Pte. Hardy had displayed forty years ago.

D. L. L. O.

## LONDON GAZETTE

### EXTRACTS FROM 14TH SEPTEMBER, 1955—18TH SEPTEMBER, 1956

#### REGULAR ARMY

Colonel (Temp. Brig.) R. C. Halse, C.B.E., Army Legal Services Staff List, to be Brigadier, 11th August, 1955.

Lieut. R. B. Johnson to be Captain, 16th December, 1955.

Major M. Forrester, D.S.O., M.C., Queen's, to be Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, 1st July, 1955.

Lieut.-Colonel (Temp. Col.) F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E., from Queen's, Emp. List, to be Colonel, 27th June, 1955.

2/Lieut. H. M. Hare to be Lieutenant, 12th February, 1956.

2/Lieut. M. C. W. Credland to be Lieutenant, 12th February, 1956.

Bertram Dennis Stuart Burton from R.M.A. Sandhurst to be Second-Lieutenant, 16th December, 1955.

Lieut. L. M. Chandler to be Captain, 26th March, 1955.

Major A. J. A. Watson retires on retired pay, 1st May, 1956. (Reserve Liability.)

Lieut. W. M. Turnock retires receiving a gratuity, 1st June, 1956. (Reserve Liability.)

Lieut. M. F. Reynolds to be Captain, 22nd July, 1956.

2/Lieut. G. B. Redfern to be Lieutenant, 6th August, 1956.

Lieut. M. N. O'D. Pereira to be Captain, 24th August, 1956.

#### SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

Capt. S. F. Harris (Emp. List 3) to be Major, 27th December, 1955.

Capt. A. T. Thomas (Emp. List 4) to be Major, 30th June, 1956.

Lieut. J. F. G. Hayes to be Captain, 2nd September, 1956.

#### TERRITORIAL ARMY

Lieut. S. C. Nolan from R.E. to be Lieutenant, 8th December, 1955, with seniority 16th June, 1949.

Joseph Boswell Windsor (late R.A.F.) to be Lieutenant, 29th December, 1955.

Lieut.-Colonel John Basley Hope Kealy, D.S.O., to be Honorary Colonel, 16th March, 1956.

Capt. W. K. Roadnight, M.B.E., retires 14th February, 1956, and is granted the honorary rank of Captain (Quartermaster).

Major K. W. Homer resigns his commission, 4th January, 1956.

Capt. (Actg. Maj.) F. E. Perry resigns his commission, 4th January, 1956.

Lieut. R. C. Davis to be Captain, 4th April, 1956.

Colonel Charles Richard Wigan, M.C., T.D., D.L., relinquishes the appointment of Honorary Colonel, 5th Battalion, 7th February, 1956, tenure expired.

Capt. W. H. C. Friend is seconded for service on the Staff, 1st July, 1956.

Capt. (Hon. Maj.) D. F. L. Evans, T.D., from T.A. Reserve of Officers, to be Captain, 12th April, 1956, with seniority 22nd March, 1953, and is seconded for service on the Staff.

#### TERRITORIAL EFFICIENCY DECORATION

Major A. C. Overington; Major M. H. Prescott; Lieut. B. L. S. Rich; 25th October, 1955.

Capt. L. G. C. Pook, 31st January, 1956.

#### FIRST CLASP

Major M. H. Prescott, 25th October, 1955.

Major H. B. Watson, T.D., 9th March, 1956.

#### SECOND CLASP

Major H. B. Watson, T.D., 9th March, 1956.

#### HONOURS AND AWARDS

For Service in Malaya.

D.S.O.

Lieut.-Colonel George Henry Wallace Goode, O.B.E., The Queen's Royal Regiment (Emp. List 1), period 1st July to 31st December, 1955.

## MILITARY CROSS

Major M. A. Lowry, 25th October, 1955.

## MILITARY MEDAL

6480617 Sgt. F. C. Isaac, 18th September, 1955.

## MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

Major C. F. Cole, T.D.; Capt. B. N. Hart; Lieut. J. G. W. Davidson; 22797790 A/L/Cpl. P. Baines, 25th October, 1955.

Brigadier (Temp.) J. F. Metcalfe, C.B.E.; Major I. P. Thomson, M.C.; 6086600 W.O. II H. Atkins; 6285807 W.O. II W. C. S. Motton; 22919523 Pte. J. E. Marsh; 21127349 Sgt. K. Yonwin; period 1st July to 31st December, 1955.

## For Services in Kenya.

## MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

22221566 W.O.II P. N. Jackson, period 21st October, 1955, to 20th April, 1956.

## NATIONAL SERVICE

The following National Service officers have joined during the above period:

P. M. Gibbons; D. W. Billingham; D. C. W. Perkins; R. J. Hein; J. M. H. Radford; R. C. Nelson-Jones; B. A. Blatch; N. R. D. Thomas; D. H. Beavers; W. F. Southern (all 1st Battalion); R. Willis; A. E. Joseph; J. C. Parry (all K.A.R.); P. H. Kent; P. A. Lyne; G. R. N. Wetton (all R.W.A.F.F.); C. S. Jackson (Somaliland Scouts); C. J. Guerrier; J. H. Silley; P. Last; H. A. R. Rattle; P. R. Grant (Depot; for duties in the U.K.).

## ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

The Army Benevolent Fund, instituted in 1944, is already established as the mainstay of almost all the Corps and Regimental Associations which are so fervidly busy with the task of alleviating the distress and hardship of old soldiers and their dependants.

During the past year the active service commitments of the Regular Army have been heavy, and general unrest in the Middle East has caused considerable disruption of family life. Though unemployment figures remain low, tending to reduce the number of individuals requiring assistance by Corps and Regimental Associations, this is offset by the continuing rise in the cost of living making it necessary to increase the size of the individual grant. Demands upon the Fund continue unabated. The objects of the Fund are:

- (a) To secure financial support for those organizations, particularly Corps and Regimental Associations, which deal direct with the individual needs of the soldier (and his dependants) who served or who is serving in Her Majesty's Army.
- (b) To receive subscriptions, donations, bequests or gifts of property given in aid of the Fund.

A simple subscription, cheque or postal order can be sent to the Army Benevolent Fund, 20 Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.

Further particulars regarding Annual Subscriptions and deed of Covenant can be obtained from the Secretary at the above address.

## OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

THE Annual Reunion Party took place at Stoughton Barracks on 16th June. Instead of the usual tea party a cocktail party was arranged as it had been represented to the Officers' Club Committee that many members favoured this form of entertainment and that numbers attending the tea party were falling each year. The Committee therefore decided to hold a cocktail party as an experiment. Owing to the cold weather the party was held in the Officers' Mess and proved to be most successful although space was necessarily somewhat limited.

Major-General J. Y. Whitfield and Mrs. Whitfield received the guests, who with members, their families and friends numbered 108.

The Annual Dinner was held at the Army and Navy Club on 5th October, and the following dined:

Lieut.-Colonel P. Adams, T.D., Major N. B. Avery, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel D. E. Bathgate, Major A. C. Beach, Major J. G. Bevington, T.D., Brigadier A. P. Block, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel E. F. Bolton, D.S.O., Colonel J. D. Boyd, D.S.O., Brigadier B. E. L. Burton, Major J. F. L. Clarke, M.B.E., T.D., Colonel R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., Major D. R. G. Clement, Colonel J. B. Coates, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Major C. F. Cole, Captain P. G. Collyer, Lieut.-Colonel H. Cook, M.C., Captain G. B. Curtis, M.C., Major F. W. H. Denton, M. J. Doyle, Esq., Colonel H. G. Duncombe, D.S.O., Colonel E. C. East, D.S.O., O.B.E., Captain D. F. L. Evans, Major L. V. Fane Gladwin, A. B. S. Faris, Esq., Captain G. A. Fearnside-Speed, Major W. D. Flower, T.D., Major R. C. G. Foster, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel D. L. A. Gibbs, D.S.O., General Sir George J. Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel Griffiths, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Colonel G. S. Grimston, Captain C. A. Haggard, Brigadier R. C. Halse, C.B.E., Major H. M. W. Harris, Major K. W. Homer, Major W. S. Hooker, M.B.E., T.D., Major-General I. T. P. Hughes, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.L., Captain E. V. L. Isaac, Major F. J. Jebens, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel M. T. N. Jennings, Major K. A. Jessup, Captain A. G. Jones, Lieut.-Colonel J. B. H. Kealy, D.S.O., Captain D. F. Kellie, Captain G. S. Lee, Major M. A. Lowry, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel M. E. M. MacWilliam, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Major R. P. Mangels, M.B.E., M.C., Major R. S. N. Mans, J. W. M. Mansel, Esq., Major W. Masterson, O.B.E., Captain H. C. Millman, Captain M. C. A. Moth, Major G. H. Nice, T.D., Brigadier G. V. Palmer, C.B.E., T.D., Captain J. C. Parrish, Brigadier R. E. Pickering, C.B.E., Brigadier F. J. C. Piggott, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major-General G. A. Pilleau, C.B.E., M.C., H. A. R. Rattle, Esq., Brigadier P. H. Richardson, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major A. N. S. Roberts, O.B.E., Major C. B. Rodger, Captain C. W. Roff, P. W. Rogers, Esq., Major E. G. Sandys, M.C., Brigadier R. H. Senior, D.S.O., Captain J. W. Sewell, B. A. Shattock, Esq., D.S.O., T.D., Lieut.-Colonel L. S. Sheldon, Major J. R. Terry, Brigadier H. G. Veasey, D.S.O., Major H. B. Watson, T.D., Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel N. A. Willis, O.B.E., Captain D. J. Wright, Major P. M. C. Zehnter.

The membership of the Club is 453.

## THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

NEARLY every reader of the JOURNAL will have visited the Regimental Museum at the Depot at some time during his service. They may have been surprised to see that it holds so much of interest and so much that is connected with the great history of our famous Regiment.

But the number who have had either the time or the inclination to browse in it are comparatively few. I count myself among the fortunates who have had both, and therefore I want to write a little about some of the main things that have been added to the Museum since the last edition of the JOURNAL was published.

We are within five years of our Tercentenary and it must be that, when we celebrate that great occasion, the Regiment will surely arrange some exhibition of its trophies, its relics and its traditions so that the public will be able to see for itself the tremendous part that the Regiment has played in the history of the British Army.

I think, therefore, that it is of interest to everyone in the Regiment to know the kind of things that are being acquired for the Museum, and it is also my hope that others will help us to acquire some of the many items of Regimental interest that must still be extant. There must be a wealth of papers, prints, uniforms, badges and other things connected with the Regiment, and I hope that anyone who finds them will not hesitate to let us know at once.

The following are among the more interesting items that have been recently acquired :

### THE DALHOUSIE PAPERS

Within a few weeks of arriving at the Depot, Colonel R. G. Clarke, who has given so much to the Regiment and its Museum, wrote to me and told me of his visit to Scotland in 1923. He went to reclaim the Sovereign's and the Regimental Colour which had been missing from the Regiment since 1802, and which now hang in the Museum.

While in Scotland he heard mention of some diary kept by the 9th Earl of Dalhousie during his tenure of command from 1783 to 1802. Colonel Clarke told me that a copy of this diary was "the one great thing I have always wanted to secure for the Regiment," as he assumed that it would contain much that concerned the Regiment. With Colonel Clarke's encouragement and assistance I endeavoured to trace this diary. After a few weeks I was in touch with the present Lord Dalhousie, who told me that he had many family papers but that he did not know exactly what existed as everything was at that moment being sorted and catalogued at the Scottish Record Office in Edinburgh.

Lord Dalhousie gave me an introduction to Sir James Fergusson, the Keeper of the Records in Scotland, and from him I learned that there were a mass of papers connected with the service of the 9th Earl in the Regiment. He told me that I would be very welcome to inspect them and, with the approval of the Colonel of the Regiment, I went to Edinburgh in February this year.

Thanks to the help which I was given by Sir James Fergusson and his staff, I was able to sort through a collection of fascinating documents concerning Dalhousie's time with the Regiment. These papers had never before been seen by any historian or other individual connected with the Regiment. Among them were :

- (a) A diary describing the voyage of a battalion of The Queen's to the West Indies in 1794.

- (b) A volume containing official letters which Lord Dalhousie wrote. 1797-8.
- (c) Journal of the Campaign in Holland, 1799.
- (d) Journal of the expedition to Egypt, 1800-1802.
- (e) Volume containing Standing Orders at Gibraltar, 1802, and nominal rolls of each of the ten companies.

The more interesting parts of these documents totalled nearly 320 pages, and the cost of obtaining photostatic copies would have been more than our slender Museum Funds could stand.

However, we applied to the Army Museums Ogilby Trust for assistance and the Trustees most generously agreed to pay the whole cost of photographing all the pages we required. All this material is now in the Regimental Museum and is of great interest.

While I was in Scotland I was also able to obtain a print of the 9th Earl of Dalhousie and a copy of a painting of Catherine of Braganza which is reputed to be by Lely and which hangs in Falkland Palace.

### THE SWORD OF THE KHAN OF KHELAT

The Regiment took part in the storming of Khelat in 1839 and bears the battle honour of "Khelat" on its Regimental Colour. We had the Khan's cloak in the Museum and have been able to purchase the curved sword which he had in his possession when shot by Pte. Maxwell of the Regiment.

### LETTERS WRITTEN BY KIRKE

We have obtained photostatic copies of original letters written by Kirke in 1685 in the West Country after Sedgemoor and in 1689 from Chester before the Regiment sailed for Ireland. These two letters are the oldest written by a member of the Regiment and in its possession.

### KOHIMA, 1944

A generous donor recently gave us an excellent collection of manuscripts, maps, flags, photographs and other items taken from the Japanese at Jail Hill in 1944.

\* \* \*

Space does not permit me to list the many other relics that have been given to or purchased for the Museum, but we are always collecting and are more than grateful to those who have helped us. I am certain that it is worth while trying to preserve the living evidence of the Regiment's history for posterity, and I am sure that there is still a lot more on which we can lay our hands.

The Museum is a repository for the things which tell the story of the Regiment. It is not a dumping ground for any unwanted military bauble found in attics or other glory-holes. The Curator is Major P. G. Smith, who was appointed five years ago and joined the Regiment in 1907. Please let him know at once if you should hear of anything that is directly connected with the Regiment and which you think may be of interest.

D. L. L. O.

## 1st BN. TROPHIES FROM ARAKAN AND ASSAM

BY MAJOR M. A. LOWRY, M.C.

DURING the Garden Party of 17th June the Regiment received a number of trophies captured by the 1st Battalion in the Burma Campaign. These had come into the hands of Mr. I. C. Berry and were presented by him. he had been serving with the Burmese Intelligence Corps during the time the 1st Battalion were in Arakan and Assam in 1943-4. Reading Mr. Berry's contemporary reports, one is reminded of our own initial introduction to the Kohima country on 6th May, 1944. Signposts warning all who approached up that muddy road (for the monsoon rains were upon us) that the hidden enemy could observe us; there was a carpet of coloured parachutes along the ridges looking like a shower of confetti at a distance. These parachutes had been dropped conveying the necessities to live and fight to the beleaguered garrison of Kohima. As one got closer it became obvious where the battles were being fought, more from the bareness on the hills astride the road than the noise.

By the time we left Jail Hill on 14th May there was neither leaf nor blade of grass; only a few tree stumps remained at chest high to remind one of the jungle that existed before the desolation, and of the small town itself not a building remained standing.

In spite of very heavy casualties to the Battalion during this period, as Mr. Berry says in his report on 20th May, 1944, ". . . the morale was excellent . . ." He also mentions that one of the largest collections of intelligence effects came from 1st Queen's.

The Japanese had paradoxical views on security. In their concealed positions and their noiseless presence they had few equals, but it is certain that they kept on their person all manner of photographs, charms, postcards (some of which it was considered could have put Port Said out of business). In the space of two days the writer can remember handing back to Battalion Headquarters some ten Japanese diaries. An interesting one that was recovered on 12th May was an entry in English, "Queen's 6," and was dated 11th May—that could have referred to the time of our attack on the previous day.

Mr. Berry has also contributed several Japanese flags: it always amazed one that our ex-enemy carried so many national flags into battle. One could say that all Japanese platoons, possibly sections, had one; they would be draped in their posts or worn on the person. The Japanese were great protagonists of front-line propaganda, not only as evidenced by the leaflet now in the Museum, but also during the time the Battalion had a company overlooking the Letwedet chaung in Arakan over Christmas, 1943. The enemy, who were barely 300 yards away, produced a gramophone and played amongst other tunes "Home, Sweet Home." This was very considerate of them and much appreciated by the troops as this was the only music they heard during the festive season.

These additions to the Museum are most welcome and are clear evidence that the efforts of the front-line soldier in searching his enemy are not wasted, and that the enemy's effects do find their way back to Headquarters in rear where their value is best judged.

## OBITUARY

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

## KILLED IN ACTION

No.	Rank and Name	Bn.	Service	Date of Death
22787514	Pte. L. Smith	1st	1955-1956	10. 2.56
23136481	Pte. J. Purves	1st	1955-1956	6. 7.56
	*	*	*	
	Major G. F. Camm	T.A.	1913-1918	13. 1.56
	Lieut.-Colonel J. B. Phillips		1917-48	17. 1.56
	Lieut.-Colonel The Lord Sysonby, D.S.O.	5th	1923-1945	21. 1.56
	Lieut.-Colonel E. C. Feneran	10th	1901-1922	25. 1.56
	Capt. F. W. Gilbert, M.B.E.		1914-1918	25. 4.56
	Major R. J. K. Mott, M.C.	*	1897-1902	10. 7.56
	*	*	*	
8349	Pte. W. A. Richardson	1st	1905-1917	15. 8.52
6076527	Bandmaster H. M. V. Roberts	2nd	1916-1933	1.11.54
D. 24821	Pte. E. P. Waite	2nd	1933-1947	
	6082 L./Cpl. W. J. Roberts	R. Scots. Fus.	1939-1940	9. 2.55
		1st	1901-1916	9.55
		2nd		
5338701	Pte. E. Hooker, M.M.	2/6th	1939-1946	23. 9.55
6075465	Pte. F. T. Johnson	2nd	1920-1927	11.55
9080	Sgt. W. Tyrell	2nd	1907-1917	6.11.55
5307	C.Q.M.S. A. Bayford	1st	1897-1919	9.11.55
	E. Martin	4th	1914-1918	14.11.55
54931	Pte. J. Penton	2nd	1914-1918	12.55
6086765	Pte. W. Ewens	1st	1936-1946	19.12.55
3072	Sgt. C. D. Bushell	2nd	1890-1902	
		1st	1914-1917	20.12.55
6076307	Pte. A. E. Hughes	2nd	1911-1920	22.12.55
6077001	C.S.M. W. Mearing	2nd		
		M.P.S.C.		
6073868	C./Sgt. M. L. Turner	R.A.F.	1915-1940	
2388	Pte. E. Greenhalf	1/6th	1942-1945	5. 1.56
8764	Sgt. W. T. Kent	6th	1940-1945	9. 1.56
		1st	1914-1919	10. 1.56
		2nd		
1009	Pte. W. Mortimer	3rd	1905-1920	11. 2.56
		Remounts		
		R.A.S.C.		
1808	Pte. F. G. Trimmer	7th	1914-1918	26. 2.56
9775	Pte. W. J. Neal	8th	1914-1918	26. 2.56
720795	Pte. A. C. Cooper	10th	1915-1920	28. 2.56
240654	Pte. W. Maull	1st	1914-1919	2. 3.56
	C./Sgt. W. Lias	5th	1914-1920	13. 3.56
	Pte. R. F. Collett	1/4th	1914-1918	
L/7997	Sgt. H. W. Cousins	2nd	1917-1919	16. 3.56
6088183	Sgt. E. D. Williams	2nd	1904-1919	6. 4.56
	S. W. Myles		1938-1945	9. 4.56
6082154	Pte. C. S. W. Reynolds	2nd		5. 5.56
5076059	R.Q.M.S. H. Veysey	1st V.B.	1924-1931	6. 5.56
		4/Queen's	1894-1908	
24082	Pte. J. Holmes	8th	1908-1923	9. 5.56
1693	C./Sgt. T. Hart, D.C.M.	2nd	1914-1918	10. 5.56
			1886-1907	
6077269	C.S.M. E. Wiggs	1st	1914-1918	15. 5.56
		2nd	1919-1948	16. 5.56
			1915-1928	5.56
	Bandmaster J. J. Buckle	1st	1916-1919	17. 6.56
59970	Pte. J. F. Hughes	1st	1884-1907	18. 8.56
	Sgt. E. Diss			
48/1514	R.S.M. F. Gostling	2nd	1880-1909	
		5th	1914-1919	3. 9.56

## OBITUARY

### MAJOR R. J. K. MOTT, M.C.

Major Roger John Kynaston Mott, who died on 10th July, 1956, at the age of 79, was educated at Wellington and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. He joined the 2nd Battalion in 1897, and after service in the South African War resigned his Commission in 1902. He took part in the First World War, in which he held several staff appointments. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1917.

He was a breeder and trainer of racehorses for five years after leaving the Army and an enthusiastic follower of otter hounds, and had been Master of several packs—Northern Counties in 1913, Dartmoor, 1930-3 and Culmstock, 1945-51.

He was the son of Major C. A. Mott, who served in the Regiment from 1865 until his death in 1886, and was the father of Major A. R. C. Mott, who joined the Regiment in 1933 and has served mainly with the 1st Battalion.

To his family we offer our deepest sympathy.

### LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. PHILLIPS

Lieut.-Colonel John Baron Phillips, who died on 17th January, 1956, was educated at St. Edward's School, Oxford, and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Shortly after joining the Regiment in 1917 he was seconded to the Royal Flying Corps and served with it and its successor, the Royal Air Force, until the end of the war as a pilot officer.

Service in the 1st Battalion in Ireland, Aldershot and Dover was followed by a tour of duty with the R.W.A.F.F. in Nigeria from 1926 to 1931, and from 1934 to 1938 he was Adjutant of the 5th Battalion. At the outbreak of the last war he was in India with the 1st Battalion, and after a period as Second-in-Command he was appointed to command the 2nd Battalion in Ceylon in 1942. He gave up this command in 1944 and returned to England, where he was employed as Deputy President of a War Office Selection Board. He retired in 1948 and in 1950 received an Administrative Appointment at the Research Station at Aldermaston, which he held at the time of his death. In his younger days he was a keen horseman and played most games. He was a good rugby football forward and appeared on a number of occasions for the Harlequins 1st XV.

He took a great interest in the game and was an excellent coach, devoting much of his time to training the 1st Battalion team in the early 1920's.

To his widow and his two sons we offer our deepest sympathy.

### LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LORD SYSONBY, D.S.O.

Lord Sysonby died on 21st January, 1956, in Kenya. Gaspard Ponsonby was the son of Sir Frederick Ponsonby, Keeper of the Privy Purse to King George V. who was created a Baron in 1935, and he succeeded his father in the same year.

He joined the 5th Battalion in 1922, but left as a Captain and was placed on the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers in 1927. He rejoined the Battalion in May, 1939, and was promoted to Major. For gallantry during the fighting in the retreat of the British Army to Dunkirk in May, 1940, he was awarded the D.S.O. In October, 1940, he left the 5th Battalion to join the Reconnaissance Corps, with whom he served for the remainder of the war, reaching the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

After the war he went to Africa and after a short stay in Rhodesia settled in Kenya, where he was farming.

To his widow and family we offer our deepest sympathy.

### LIEUT.-COLONEL E. C. FENERAN

Ernest Charles Feneran, who died in Paris on 25th January, 1956, aged 75, joined the 2nd Battalion from the Militia in 1901. For his services in the South African War he was awarded the Queen's Medal with three clasps and the King's Medal with two clasps.

For much of his service he was seconded to the West African Frontier Force, and during the First World War and for a period after it he commanded a battalion of the Nigeria Regiment. He retired in 1922.

For many years he had lived in France, and in the Second World War was interned when the German Forces invaded France.

### CAPTAIN (BANDMASTER) J. J. BUCKLE

Capt. Buckle died in Canada in May, 1956, at the age of 76. He joined the Royal Sussex Regiment in 1895 and on passing out at Kneller Hall became Bandmaster of the 1st Battalion in 1915.

Capt. Buckle was a character and was extremely popular with all ranks. He was a good musician and disciplinarian, and under him the Band gained a high reputation. In his youth he was a useful games player, and he took a large part in the training of the 1st Battalion football team when the Battalion won the Army Football Association Cup in 1925.

He left the Army in 1928 to become Director of Music to the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in Toronto and reached the rank of Captain. To his family we offer our deepest sympathy.

### R.S.M. F. GOSTLING, M.S.M.

R.S.M. F. Gostling, the Regiment's oldest surviving member, aged 94, died on 3rd September, 1956. His record of 58 years' service with the Regiment must be unique. Born in June, 1862, he joined the Regiment in June, 1880, and served in the 1st and 2nd Battalions and at the Depot prior to being posted as Colour-Sergeant Instructor to the 2nd Volunteer Battalion (now the 5th Battalion) at Reigate in January, 1897. In May, 1899, he was appointed R.S.M. of the Battalion and transferred to its Headquarters in Guildford. In November, 1909, he was discharged at his own request and was employed by the Battalion as its storekeeper and club steward.

In September, 1914, he re-enlisted and was immediately promoted R.S.M. and posted to the 2/5th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment, then being raised in Guildford, with whom he served until its disbandment in April, 1919. From this date until his final retirement in 1938 he was employed by the 5th Battalion as caretaker and storeman.

His services to the Regiment, 34 years as a serving member and 24 years as a civilian employee, will be long remembered by many. "Goose" or "Gossie," as he was affectionately called, was an ideal soldier by whose example and wise counsels all ranks benefited. Among his most treasured possessions were a gold watch presented to him by the officers and sergeants of the 5th Battalion in 1938 and an autograph book containing the signatures of over 70 officers and other ranks who had served with him, presented on Christmas Day, 1955.

R.S.M. Gostling was twice mentioned in despatches, was awarded the Burma Medal with two clasps, the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal with annuity.

**COLOUR-SERGEANT T. HART, D.C.M.**

C./Sgt. T. Hart, who died on 15th May, 1956, aged 92, joined the 2nd Battalion in 1886 and served for 21 years. He gained the Distinguished Conduct Medal whilst serving with the 2nd Battalion in the South African War. At the outbreak of the First World War he rejoined and served throughout from 1914 to 1918. He took the greatest interest in the Regiment all his life and was a regular subscriber to the Regimental JOURNAL.

**OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATIONS****THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1955****ASSOCIATION**

**Membership.**—Life members, 1,726; annual subscribers, 726; total, 2,542, as compared with a total of 2,190 for 1954. Many recruits at the Depot have joined and we wish them to keep in touch. It is felt that there are many ex-members of the Regiment who made historical records for Regimental history during the 1939-45 War who have not become members. They would be welcomed as members and at the reunions held annually. It would be appreciated if every subscribing member would do his best to "recruit" at least two members during 1956.

**Loans.**—The sum of £152 16s. 0d. was expended in loans made to assist members for various reasons. The sum of £157 17s. 6d. remains due for loans not yet cleared.

**Employment.**—Members of the Association have again been most helpful in advising the Association of employment vacancies that have been brought to their notice. The Regular Forces Employment Association have placed 28 members in employment during the year. Housing remains the main difficulty of members leaving the Regiment, and assistance in this direction has been given during the year. This assistance is appreciated by the Committee.

**Branch O.C.As.**—Much valuable work has again been given by other branches of O.C.As. of the Regiment and local representatives.

**THE CHARITABLE FUND**

A grant of £875 was received from the Army Benevolent Fund. Other donations were received from various sources connected with the Regiment. The Forces Help Society and S.S. & A.F.A. continue to assist in many ways. Our thanks are due to all concerned.

**Grants.**—The sum of £1,079 16s. 2d. was expended in assisting 192 cases as compared with £1,318 1s. 9d. in 224 cases in 1954. Brief details of cases so assisted are as follows—*Widows*: Education of war widow's children, 2; war widow, housing problem, 1; S.A. war widow, 1; disabled, 1; aged, 3; general aid, 8; officer's widow, removal problem, 1; blind, 1. *Others*: Disabled, 20; housing problem, 11; aged couples, 11; accidents at work, 6; T.B. cases, 8; general sickness, 65; employment difficulty, 1; funeral expenses, 7; husband in prison, aid for wife and family, 2; ex-prison resettlement, 2; mental cases, 2; aged men, 10; domestic problems, 4; assist mother of serving son, 1; ex-P.O.Ws., 2; National Service man, wife in difficulty, 1; daughter killed in accident, widowed mother to move from scene, 1; to visit dying father, 1; tools lost in trade, 1; mother of son killed in action, 1; Chelsea Pensioners, Christmas, 3.

**DONATIONS TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

	£	s.	d.
Royal Soldiers' Daughters' Home	10	10	0
Regimental Forces Employment Association	50	0	0
Guildford S.S. & A.F.A.	1	1	0
Surrey Convalescent Home for Men	1	1	0
Star and Garter Home	5	5	0
St. Dunstan's	10	10	0
Headquarters, S.S. & A.F.A.	10	10	0
Headquarters, Forces Help Society	10	10	0
Headquarters, British Legion	1	1	0
Sir Beachcroft Towse Ex-Service Fund for Blind	2	2	0
Sir Frederick Milner Fund for Village Settlements	2	2	0
Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows	10	10	0

**ALL RANKS' DINNER CLUB**

Life members, 389; annual subscribers, 276. Total, 665, as compared with 682 for 1954.

**THE WAR MEMORIAL HOLIDAY FUND**

The sum of £342 17s. 6d. was expended on holiday grants, as compared with £284 19s. 6d. in 1954, for the following cases: Disabled, 3; widows, 9; after illness, holiday suggested by doctor, 16; aged men, 3; aged mother of son killed in action, 1; ex-P.O.Ws., 2; officers' widows, 2; children needing holiday, 1; Chelsea Pensioners to attend garden party, 3.

**ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE AND GARDEN PARTY, 1956**

The church parade took place at Guildford on 17th June, 1956. The parade, some 200 strong, under command of the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, marched from the Tunsgate to Holy Trinity Church. The lesson was read by the Colonel of the Regiment and the address was given by the Rev. D. A. R. Keen, Chaplain, H.M.S. *Excellent*.

After the service the parade, under Brigadier B. E. L. Burton, marched past the Guildhall where the Colonel of the Regiment, accompanied by the Mayor of Guildford, Councillor H. H. Kimber, took the salute.

In the afternoon the garden party reunion was held at the Depot. The cold weather kept many people away and not more than 600 came. Popular centres of attraction were the Museum, the new, modern barrack blocks occupied by the recruits, and the N.A.A.F.I. tea tent.

By kind permission of Lieut.-Colonel R. J. Lewis, T.D., and the officers, the Band of 565 (M.) L.A.A./S.L. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.) marched the parade to church and in the afternoon played selections of music. We are most grateful for their services.

**THE ALL RANKS' DINNER, 1956**

The All Ranks' Dinner was held at the Victory Ex-Services Club, Seymour Street, W.2, on 6th October. Major-General J. Y. Whitfield, the Colonel of the Regiment, presided at a gathering of 240 all ranks. He read a greetings telegram from the 1st Battalion in Malaya and gave a résumé of the Regiment's activities during the past year.

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

Since the previous issue of the JOURNAL, opportunities for members to meet have presented themselves on lines established over the years, namely, in a combined service with the unit at the memorial in Kennington Park, London. S.E.11, on Remembrance Day (1955), at the Annual General Meeting in



[Photo: "Croydon Advertiser"]

**4th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment Old Comrades Association Dance, 17th March, 1956**  
 Lieut.-Colonel J. H. F. Johnson, T.D., J.P. (Chairman); Alderman Beres Price, J.P. (Mayor of Croydon);  
 Lieut.-Colonel W. J. Rowland (Commanding 3rd/4th Cadet Bn.); Major A. C. Beach (6th Queen's).

February, the Reunion Dinner in March, and, along with other members of the O.C.As. of the London T.A. and A. units, at a parade and service of homage to the fallen of both world wars in May.

It is worthy of note that in connection with the Victoria Cross centenary-year celebrations in June, to mark the occasion a framed enlargement of a photograph of the late L./Cpl. Leonard James Keyworth, V.C., appropriately inscribed, was presented to each of the five local (Southwark) county primary schools whose pupils are annually awarded prizes from the Keyworth V.C. Memorial Prize Fund.

## THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT

### MUSEUM FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1955		
EXPENDITURE	1954	1955
Purchases	£ 21 10 0	£ 109
Donation	10 0 0	14
Maintenance and Repairs (including Curator's Emoluments)	111 8 6	Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year
Postages	2 0 4	108 15 0
		36 3 10
	£144 18 10	£123
		£144 18 10

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1955

1954			1955		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
CAPITAL ACCOUNT			CURRENT ASSETS		
Balance as at 1st January, 1955	71	9	4	71	
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income	36	3	10	—	71
for the year	—	—	—	—	—
	71		£71		
	£35	5	6		
			£71		
			£35	5	6

**AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE.**—We have examined the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the Books of Account. We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Museum Fund as at 31st December, 1955, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the deficiency for the year ended at that date.

Dated this 5th day of March, 1956.

1 & 2 Holy Trinity Churchyard,  
 GUILDFORD.

THURLOW, BOYCE & CO.  
 Chartered Accountants.

JOURNAL ACCOUNT

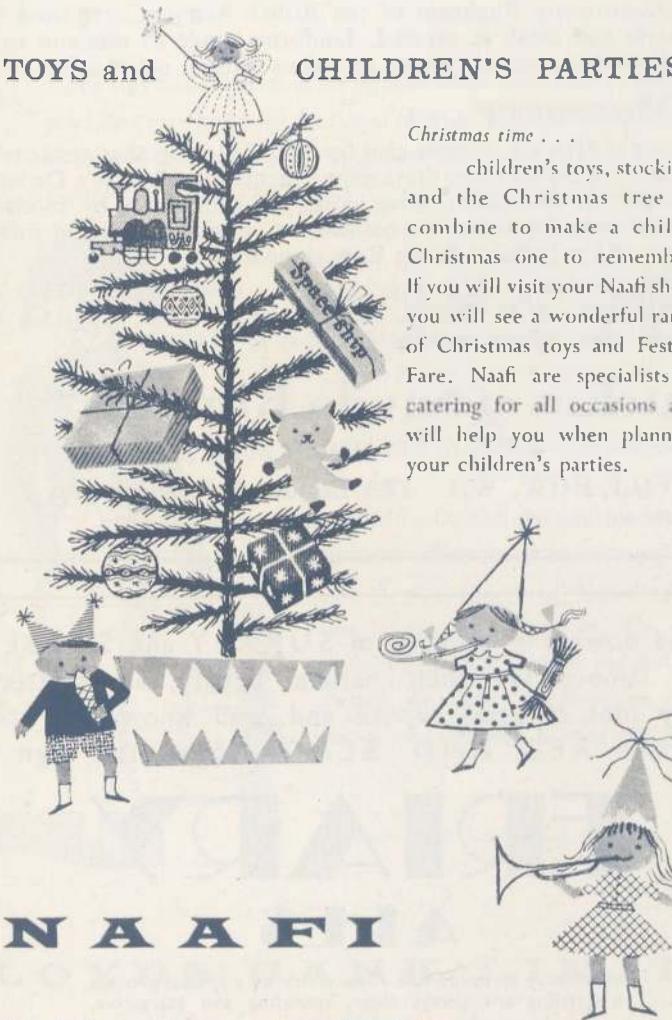
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1955**

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
1954	£	1954	£
Printing and Postage of JOURNAL	229 4 11	Subscriptions and Sales	183
Less Advertisement Revenue	80 9 8	Grants—	
		Officer Commanding, Depot	27 0 0
Printing and Postage of Newsletters	148 15 3	Trustees, 2nd Battalion	—
General Postages	54 8 9		27 0 0
	2 5 2		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
215	205 9 2	213	
— Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	1 0	2	Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£205 10 2	£215	£205 10 2

AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE.—We have examined the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the Books of Account. We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Journal Account as at 31st December, 1955, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the surplus for the year ended at that date.

THIBBOW BOYCE & CO

## TOYS and CHILDREN'S PARTIES



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